

TITLE 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER 4

STATUTORY MAINTENANCE

§91. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. Conflicting enactments. "Conflicting enactments" means multiple enactments, amendments, repeals, reallocations or reenactments, or any combination of these actions, that affect the same statutory unit and that have been adopted by multiple Acts passed within one legislative session or within a regular legislative session and any special sessions preceding the next regular legislative session that do not refer to each other.

2. Executive director. "Executive director" means the Executive Director of the Legislative Council appointed under Title 3, section 162.

3. Revisor. "Revisor" means the Revisor of Statutes, or the person under Title 3, section 162 who is responsible for the form and format of legislative instruments.

4. Revisor's change. "Revisor's change" means a change made in the course of update under the authority of section 93.

5. Revisor's report. "Revisor's report" means the post-update report made by the revisor pursuant to section 95. This report may be cited as Revisor's Report 19XX, c. X, §X, Revisor's Report 2XXX, c. X, §X, RR 19XX, c. X, §X or RR 2XXX, c. X, §X.

6. Revision clause. "Revision clause" means a section of a law that is not allocated to the Maine Revised Statutes and that changes a term throughout the laws and instructs the revisor to implement the revision as part of update.

7. Statutory unit. "Statutory unit" means a title, subtitle, part, subpart, chapter, subchapter, article, subarticle, section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, division or subdivision of the laws of Maine.

8. Update. "Update" means the process by which enactments, amendments, repeals, reallocations or reenactments from a legislative session or sessions are integrated into the statutory data base of the Maine Revised Statutes.

§92. Statutory data base; update

The executive director shall ensure that the legislative staff maintains a statutory data base that contains the text of the Maine Revised Statutes and the appropriate history of each statutory unit.

The revisor shall update the statutory data base at least annually after the close of each regular legislative session and may update the data base more frequently.

The Legislative Council shall adopt policies governing access to and publication of the data contained in the statutory data base.

§93. Administrative changes and corrections

The revisor may make the following changes or corrections, when the corrections do not

alter the sense or meaning of the laws, without specific legislative action as part of the statutory data base update.

1. **Misspellings.** Misspelled words may be corrected.
2. **Histories.** Erroneous amending clauses or statutory histories may be corrected.
3. **Cross-references.** Cross-references in statutory units may be changed to agree with new, amended, reenacted, renumbered, relettered, reallocated or corrected statutory units.
4. **Dates.** Obsolete temporal references may be removed and the appropriate calendar date for the phrase "effective date of this Act" or other phrases of similar meaning may be substituted.
5. **Capitalization.** Improper capitalization may be corrected.
6. **Headnotes.** Descriptive headings of titles, chapters, sections or subsections may be edited or added to briefly and clearly indicate the subject matter of the title, chapter, section or subsection.
7. **Renumbering; relettering.** The numbering or lettering of statutory units, including duplicative numbering or lettering created by conflicting enactments, may be corrected or properly arranged.
8. **Punctuation.** Punctuation, including hyphenization, may be corrected.
9. **Revision clauses.** Grammatical changes necessary for the proper implementation of changes in nomenclature or terminology enacted by a revision clause may be made.
10. **Errors.** Obvious clerical, typographical or grammatical errors may be corrected.
11. **Gender.** Gender-specific terms that occur in a statutory unit being corrected may be changed to gender-neutral terms and necessary grammatical changes to properly use the gender-neutral terms may be made.

Any change made by the revisor may not change the substantive meaning of any statutory unit. Any error or inadvertent substantive change made by the revisor must be construed as a clerical error and given no effect. If the revisor is in doubt whether a specific change is authorized by this section, the revisor may not make the change but shall incorporate the proposed change into the legislation authorized by section 94.

§94. Omnibus errors and inconsistencies bill

The revisor shall prepare legislation containing proposed changes and consolidations identified but not made under section 93. The legislation may also contain any other statutory errors or inconsistencies identified by the revisor. The legislation must be submitted to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters, with a copy to the executive director.

§95. Report and publication

The revisor shall submit an annual revisor's report containing a description of all changes made pursuant to section 93 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters by October 1st of the year in which the changes have been made and shall provide copies of the report to the Secretary of State, to the executive director and to the publisher of the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated. The publisher shall incorporate the changes made in the report in all subsequent publications of the laws. The revisor's report must be published annually in the Laws of Maine. Changes made in the revisor's report take effect on October 1st of the year in which the report is made unless otherwise indicated in

which case the changes take effect as specified.

If the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters disagrees with any change contained in the revisor's report, the committee may instruct the revisor to make appropriate corrections during the next update, may amend the legislation authorized by section 94 to reverse the change or may report out legislation overriding any revisor's change.

JOINT RULE 311

Rule 311. Errors and Inconsistencies Legislation.

The Revisor of Statutes shall prepare any necessary omnibus bill concerning errors and inconsistencies in the Laws of Maine, and the bill must be referred to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters. The committee shall, after giving notice and an opportunity to be heard, hear proposed amendments and direct the Revisor of Statutes to prepare those amendments that must be included in the bill reported out. A floor amendment may not be entertained in either chamber unless the amendment is printed and distributed at least 24 hours prior to introduction.

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