

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 17

S.P. 28

In Senate, January 8, 2025

**An Act to Designate the Warden of the Maine State Prison as Chief
Administrative Officer of the Bolduc Correctional Facility**

Submitted by the Department of Corrections pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Received by the Secretary of the Senate on January 6, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BEEBE-CENTER of Knox.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 34-A MRSA §3231, sub-§3, ¶A,** as repealed and replaced by PL 1999, c.
3 583, §18, is amended to read:

4 A. The warden may appoint deputy wardens, subject to the Civil Service Law. A
5 deputy warden designated by the warden has the powers, duties, obligations and
6 liabilities of the warden when the warden is absent ~~from the prison location~~ or is unable
7 to perform the duties of the office.

8 **Sec. 2. 34-A MRSA §4203,** as enacted by PL 2013, c. 508, §7, is amended to read:

9 **§4203. Director Warden**

10 **1. Chief administrative officer.** The chief administrative officer of the facility is
11 ~~called the director and the warden of the Maine State Prison, referred to in this subchapter~~
12 ~~as "the warden."~~ The warden is responsible to the commissioner.

13 **2. Duties.** In addition to other duties set out in this Title, the director warden has the
14 following duties.

15 A. The director warden shall exercise proper supervision over the employees, grounds,
16 buildings and equipment at the facility.

17 B. The director warden shall supervise and control the prisoners at the facility in
18 accordance with departmental rules.

19 ~~**3. Powers.** In addition to other powers granted in this Title, the director may appoint~~
20 ~~one assistant director, subject to the Civil Service Law; the assistant director has the~~
21 ~~powers, duties, obligations and liabilities of the director when the director is absent or~~
22 ~~unable to perform the director's duties.~~

23 **Sec. 3. 34-A MRSA §4204, sub-§2,** as enacted by PL 2013, c. 508, §7, is amended
24 to read:

25 **2. Education.** The director warden shall maintain suitable courses for academic and
26 career and technical education of the prisoners. The director warden shall maintain
27 necessary equipment and employ suitable qualified instructors as necessary to carry out the
28 objectives of the facility's programs.

29 **Sec. 4. 34-A MRSA §4205,** as enacted by PL 2015, c. 48, §2, is amended to read:

30 **§4205. Employees of the facility**

31 Employees of the facility have the same power as do deputy sheriffs in their respective
32 counties to search for and apprehend escapees from the facility when authorized to do so
33 by the director warden.

34 **SUMMARY**

35 This bill designates the warden of the Maine State Prison as the chief administrative
36 officer of the Bolduc Correctional Facility and removes the power to appoint an assistant
37 director.

38 The bill also changes the provision of law allowing the warden to appoint deputy
39 wardens to clarify that any deputies appointed by the warden are responsible when the

1 warden is absent or unable to perform the duties of the office rather than specifically absent
2 from the Maine State Prison or unable to perform the duties of the office.