

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1935

H.P. 1296

House of Representatives, May 6, 2025

An Act to Increase Penalties for Violations Related to Water Well Drilling

Reference to the Committee on Housing and Economic Development suggested and
ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FREDETTE of Newport.

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §4700-L, as corrected by RR 2021, c. 2, Pt. A, §115, is amended by amending the section headnote to read:

§4700-L. ~~Penalties~~ Violations

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §4700-L, sub-§1, as corrected by RR 2021, c. 2, Pt. A, §115, is amended to read:

1. Fine Penalties. A person, company, firm, partnership or corporation who installs, alters, repairs or replaces a water well, geothermal heat exchange well or pump system without being licensed as provided in this chapter or in violation of the code of performance adopted by the commission pursuant to section 4700-H, subsection 5, except for an apprentice well driller or an apprentice pump installer as set forth in this chapter, or a person, firm, partnership or corporation who procures a license as provided in this chapter wrongfully or by fraud commits a civil violation punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000 ~~\$25,000~~. Notwithstanding this subsection, a person, company, firm, partnership or corporation who drills, drives or bores a water well or geothermal heat exchange well without being licensed as provided in this chapter commits a Class D crime.

SUMMARY

This bill increases the maximum fine for licensing violations and certain code violations related to well drilling from \$1,000 to \$25,000. It also provides that a person, company, firm, partnership or corporation who drills, drives or bores a water well or geothermal heat exchange well without being licensed commits a Class D crime.