# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# **LAWS**

#### **OF THE**

# **STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED BY THE

#### ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION December 4, 2024 to March 21, 2025

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION March 25, 2025 to June 25, 2025

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FIRST REGULAR SESSION NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS JUNE 20, 2025

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FIRST SPECIAL SESSION NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS SEPTEMBER 24, 2025

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED, TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine 2025

**Sec. SS-1. 22 MRSA §4302-A, sub-§1,** as enacted by PL 2023, c. 575, §1, is amended to read:

1. Training required. No later than the 120th day after appointment or election, and annually thereafter, an overseer, municipal official designated by the overseers to administer this chapter and any municipal official appointed to administer this chapter shall complete training on the requirements of this chapter.

Sec. SS-2. 22 MRSA §4302-A, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Communication of program requirements. The department annually shall transmit to an overseer, municipal official designated by the overseers to administer this chapter and any municipal official appointed to administer this chapter information about the rules, requirements and compliance expectations of the municipal general assistance program.

Sec. SS-3. Cost-of-living adjustment for essential support workers. The Department of Health and Human Services shall submit the required methodology notice necessary to seek approval from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to implement a cost-of-living adjustment of 1.95% for reimbursement rates pursuant to rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Sections 2, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 28, 29, 65, 92, 96 and 97, Appendix C as originally scheduled for January 1, 2025. The Department of Health and Human Services shall submit the required methodology notice necessary to seek approval under this section to implement a cost-of-living adjustment as soon as practicable but no later than June 30, 2025, and, upon receipt of the approval, the department shall provide the cost-of-living adjustment of 1.95% for reimbursement rates for essential support workers pursuant to the MaineCare Benefits Manual sections referenced in this section retroactive to the effective date approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Notwithstanding any reduction in the availability of funding due to projected or actual MaineCare budget shortfalls, the department may not reduce or eliminate the cost-of-living adjustment of 1.95% implemented pursuant to this section.

#### **PART TT**

**Sec. TT-1. State Controller; post-closing.** The State Controller is authorized to keep open the official system of general accounts of State Government for fiscal year 2024-25 in order to make post-closing entries and adjustments to carry out the provisions of this Act.

**Sec. TT-2. Retroactivity.** This Part applies retroactively to June 30, 2025.

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 3 H.P. 179 - L.D. 275

An Act to Make Supplemental Allocations from the Highway Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025

**Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the 90-day period may not terminate until after the beginning of the next fiscal year; and

Whereas, certain obligations and expenses incident to the operation of state departments and institutions will become due and payable immediately; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

#### **PART A**

Sec. A-1. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF

#### State Police - Support 0981

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reclassification of one Office Associate II position to an Office Specialist I position, retroactive to February 28, 2024.

HIGHWAY FUND	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$10,984	\$0	\$0
All Other	\$132	\$0	\$0
HIGHWAY FUND	\$11,116	\$0	\$0

#### **Traffic Safety 0546**

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reorganization of one State Police Specialist position to a State Police Specialist Corporal position.

HIGHWAY FUND	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$13,019	\$0	\$0

HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL	\$13,019	\$0	\$0
PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
HIGHWAY FUND	\$24,135	\$0	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$24,135	\$0	\$0

### SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF

#### Administration - Motor Vehicles 0077

Initiative: Provides funding for increases in technology costs in accordance with Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology increases.

	2026-27
,808 \$0	\$0
,808 \$0	\$0

#### Administration - Motor Vehicles 0077

Initiative: Provides funding for the increase in postagerelated expenses.

HIGHWAY FUND	<b>2024-25</b> \$43,850	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
All Other		\$0	\$0
HIGHWAY FUND	\$43,850	\$0	\$0

#### **Administration - Motor Vehicles 0077**

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reclassification of 2 Senior Motor Vehicle Section Manager positions to 2 Regional Motor Vehicle Service Manager positions and provides funding for related All Other costs, retroactive to February 2024.

HIGHWAY FUND	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$16,664	\$0	\$0
All Other	\$721	\$0	\$0
HIGHWAY FUND	\$17,385	\$0	\$0
TOTAL			

#### Administration - Motor Vehicles 0077

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reclassification of one Secretary Specialist position to a Public Service Coordinator I position and provides funding for related All Other costs, retroactive to June 2024.

HIGHWAY FUND	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$14,504	\$0	\$0
All Other	\$628	\$0	\$0
HIGHWAY FUND	\$15,132	\$0	\$0

#### **Administration - Motor Vehicles 0077**

Initiative: Provides funding for increases in contract expenses for issuing driver's license and state identification credentials.

HIGHWAY FUND All Other	<b>2024-25</b> \$147,194	<b>2025-26</b> \$0	<b>2026-27</b> \$0
HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL	\$147,194	\$0	\$0
SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
HIGHWAY FUND	\$345,369	\$0	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$345,369	\$0	\$0

#### TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF

#### **Maintenance and Operations 0330**

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for Capital Expenditures in the Multimodal Transportation Fund, Highway Fund and offsets that increase with a one-time reduction in funding for Personal Services in the Maintenance and Operations, Highway Fund based on anticipated vacancies.

HIGHWAY FUND	<b>2024-25</b> (\$15,000,000)	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
Personal Services		\$0	\$0
HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL	(\$15,000,000)	\$0	\$0

#### **Multimodal Transportation Fund Z017**

Initiative: Adjusts funding to align with revenue projections from the December 1, 2024 revenue forecast.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	(\$138,121)	\$0	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	(\$138,121)	\$0	\$0

#### **Multimodal Transportation Fund Z017**

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for Capital Expenditures in the Multimodal Transportation Fund, Highway Fund and offsets that increase with a one-time reduction in funding for Personal Services in the Maintenance and Operations, Highway Fund based on anticipated vacancies.

HIGHWAY FUND Capital Expenditures	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
	\$15,000,000	\$0	\$0
HIGHWAY FUND	\$15,000,000	\$0	\$0

## TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
HIGHWAY FUND	\$0	\$0	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	(\$138,121)	\$0	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	(\$138,121)	\$0	\$0
SECTION TOTALS	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
HIGHWAY FUND	\$369,504	\$0	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	(\$138,121)	\$0	\$0
SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$231,383	\$0	\$0

#### PART B

Sec. B-1. Carrying provision; Department of Secretary of State, Administration - Motor Vehicles program. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State Controller shall carry forward up to \$9,000,000 in the All Other line category in the Department of Secretary of State, Administration -Motor Vehicles program, after all financial commitments for obligations and budgetary adjustments have been made, at the end of fiscal year 2024-25 to the next fiscal year to the All Other line category in the Department of Secretary of State, Administration - Motor Vehicles program, of which up to \$2,000,000 must be used for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles modernization project and up to \$7,000,000 must be used for the new license plate general issue project. These funds were previously authorized to be carried forward in Public Law 2023, chapter 50, Part B.

#### PART C

Sec. C-1. Carrying provision; Department of Secretary of State, Administration - Motor Vehicles program. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State Controller shall carry forward up to \$2,500,000 in unexpended balances in the Personal Services and All Other line categories in the Department of Secretary of State, Administration - Motor Vehicles program, after all financial commitments for obligations and budgetary adjustments have been made, at the end of fiscal year 2024-25 to the All Other line category in the Department of Secretary of State, Administration - Motor Vehicles program. These funds must be used to continue the modernization of systems and services at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective March 21, 2025.

### CHAPTER 4 S.P. 28 - L.D. 17

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

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

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

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

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

#### §4203. Director Warden

- 1. Chief administrative officer. The chief administrative officer of the facility is ealled the director and the warden of the Maine State Prison, referred to in this subchapter as "the warden." The warden is responsible to the commissioner.
- **2. Duties.** In addition to other duties set out in this Title, the <u>director warden</u> has the following duties.
  - A. The <u>director warden</u> shall exercise proper supervision over the <u>employees</u>, grounds, buildings and equipment at the facility.
  - B. The director warden shall supervise and control the prisoners at the facility in accordance with departmental rules.
- 3. Powers. In addition to other powers granted in this Title, the director may appoint one assistant director, subject to the Civil Service Law; the assistant director has the powers, duties, obligations and liabilities of the director when the director is absent or unable to perform the director's duties.
- **Sec. 3. 34-A MRSA §4204, sub-§2,** as enacted by PL 2013, c. 508, §7, is amended to read:
- **2. Education.** The <u>director warden</u> shall maintain suitable courses for academic and career and technical education of the prisoners. The <u>director warden</u> shall maintain necessary equipment and employ suitable qualified instructors as necessary to carry out the objectives of the facility's programs.
- **Sec. 4. 34-A MRSA §4205,** as enacted by PL 2015, c. 48, §2, is amended to read: