

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

CHAPTER 8
H.P. 165 - L.D. 262

**An Act to Amend the Laws
Governing the Taste Testing of
Wine and Malt Liquor to
Facilitate Marketing by
Wholesalers**

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

Whereas, in response to the economic hardship facing the State's restaurants, bars, grocery stores and beverage retailers; in response to the diversity and new product innovation in the beverage industry; and in support of local craft manufacturers' ability to showcase their products at taste-testing events, it is necessary to amend statutory language to allow wholesalers of wine and malt liquor products to hold taste-testing events at a greater number of locations; and

Whereas, unless this legislation is enacted as an emergency, interested parties will not be able to take advantage of this legislation until after the majority of the busy summer season has concluded; 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:

Sec. 1. 28-A MRSA §1402, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2021, c. 658, §236, is further amended to read:

2. Taste testing on retail licensee's premises or other venue. With the bureau's written permission, a wholesale licensee may rent or lease an area or room from an on-premises retail licensee or from any unlicensed venue for the purpose of inviting retail licensees to taste test wine or malt liquor products.

Sec. 2. 28-A MRSA §1402, sub-§3, ¶D, as amended by PL 2021, c. 658, §237, is further amended to read:

D. After the taste-testing event is concluded, the wholesale licensee shall remove all products supplied for the taste-testing event from the premises of the retail licensee's premises licensee or unlicensed venue.

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

Effective March 21, 2025.

CHAPTER 9
H.P. 178 - L.D. 274

**An Act Making Unified
Allocations from the Highway
Fund and Other Funds for the
Expenditures of State
Government and Changing
Certain Provisions of the Law
Necessary to the Proper
Operations of State
Government for the Fiscal
Years Ending June 30, 2025,
June 30, 2026 and June 30,
2027**

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.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL
SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

Budget - Bureau of the 0055

Initiative: BASELINE BUDGET

HIGHWAY FUND	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS -	1.000	1.000
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL		
Personal Services	\$143,429	\$149,203
All Other	\$9,073	\$9,073
HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL	\$152,502	\$158,276