

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

a license or certificate of approval is sought, including, but not limited to, profit sharing, revenue sharing or royalty payments.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 22

S.P. 269 - L.D. 586

An Act to Provide a Court Authority to Issue Proximity Restrictions in Protection from Abuse Orders

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

Sec. 1. 19-A MRSA §4110, sub-§3, ¶E-1 is enacted to read:

E-1. Directing the defendant to refrain from knowingly being within a specified distance of the plaintiff or prohibiting the defendant from being present at a specific location;

Sec. 2. Effective date. This Act takes effect January 1, 2026.

Effective January 1, 2026.

CHAPTER 23

H.P. 310 - L.D. 481

An Act to Allow a Water District Created by Special Act of the Legislature to Borrow Money and Issue a Warrant Prior to a Default

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §6103, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Issuance of warrant prior to default; commission review. A district that makes a determination regarding the district's anticipated revenues under this section may borrow money and issue a warrant in accordance with this subsection.

A. Notwithstanding subsection 1, if, prior to a default in the payment of the principal of or interest on a note, bond or other evidence of indebtedness issued by the water district, the district makes a reasonable determination that the district's anticipated revenues from the normal payment of water charges for services rendered for the period beginning on the date of the determination and ending on the last day of the then-current fiscal year will not

be sufficient to pay the district's anticipated operating expenses for the same period, the district may borrow money in an amount sufficient to make the payment of principal and interest and other transaction costs related to the borrowing, and the trustees, directors or managing board of the district may issue the district's warrant immediately to those portions of the municipality or municipalities that constitute the district to repay the amount borrowed, plus interest.

When making the determination under this paragraph, the district shall include:

(1) In its anticipated revenues, all other cash or funds held by or on behalf of the district that are available to pay its anticipated operating expenses and other expected or obligated expenditures; and

(2) In its anticipated operating expenses, all other expected or obligated expenditures, including any obligation to replenish a reserve fund established with respect to the note, bond or other evidence of indebtedness.

B. Within 30 days of the date the trustees, directors or managing board of the district issues the district's warrant pursuant to paragraph A, the district shall prepare and submit a financial management plan to the commission and each municipality that constitutes the district. The commission shall provide an opportunity for affected municipalities to provide input on the financial management plan, and the commission may in its discretion commence a proceeding to examine the financial management plan.

C. This subsection applies to a district when the municipality or municipalities that constitute the district have previously approved this section or former Title 35, section 3211. For any other district, this subsection applies when approval pursuant to subsection 6 is obtained.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 24

S.P. 120 - L.D. 254

An Act to Designate November as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month

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

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §150-V is enacted to read:

§150-V. Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month

The month of November of each year is designated as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month, and the Governor shall issue annually a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe the month through appropriate activities.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 25

H.P. 65 - L.D. 100

An Act to Increase the Expenditure Limit for the Informal Bidding Process for the Selection of Professional, Architect and Engineer Services

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §1742, sub-§6, as corrected by RR 2013, c. 1, §10, is amended by amending the 3rd blocked paragraph to read:

Notwithstanding this subsection, the bureau may select a person or persons to perform professional, architectural or engineering services from the list described in this subsection ~~without advertising or competitive selection~~ if the cost of the services does not exceed ~~\$25,000~~ \$50,000. The bureau shall solicit names for placement on a list by placing a general advertisement for professional, architectural or engineering services in newspapers that taken together have general circulation throughout the State. The bureau may substitute advertisement in professional journals or other publications that it finds equally effective in reaching the intended audience. The bureau may require persons responding to the advertisement to complete a qualifying questionnaire designed to address experience and expertise in performing the type of work advertised. The bureau shall prepare a list of respondents that it determines qualified and update the list at least every 2 years.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 26

H.P. 38 - L.D. 74

An Act to Update the System of Learning Results Review Timeline

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6209, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2019, c. 196, §2, is further amended to read:

4. Review cycle. The commissioner shall conduct a review of the content standards and performance indicators by content area on a ~~5-year cycle beginning in the 2015-2016~~ 7-year cycle beginning in the 2025-2026 school year. The review of the content standards and performance indicators for the content area of social studies, including student achievement of proficiency in personal finance, must be included in the commissioner's review ~~during the 2015-2016 school year~~. Any changes that are recommended must be approved through the same process used for establishment of the system of learning results. ~~Beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, the~~ The commissioner shall review and make recommendations for objective measures that may be used to substantiate school certifications of postsecondary readiness. The review of the content standards and performance indicators for the content area of health, physical education and wellness, including instruction on affirmative consent, communication and decision making regarding sexual activity and the effects of alcoholic drinks, stimulants and narcotics on the ability to give affirmative consent, communicate and make appropriate decisions, must be included in the commissioner's review ~~beginning in the 2019-2020 school year~~.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 27

H.P. 493 - L.D. 751

An Act to Amend the Hunting Laws Related to the Training of Dogs and Open Training Seasons

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

Whereas, a provision of law allowing for the training of dogs to hunt bear in portions of Washington County and Hancock County is due to be repealed on May 1, 2025; and

Whereas, allowing this provision to lapse could have implications for unwanted bear-landowner interactions; and

Whereas, enactment of this legislation would continue to authorize the training of dogs for bear hunting in portions of Washington County and Hancock County; 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,