

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

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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 30
H.P. 448 - L.D. 709

**An Act to Establish the Respite
for ME Program**

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §7308, as amended by PL 2001, c. 487, §1, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§7308. Respite for ME Program

The Respite for ME Program is established in the department. The department shall administer the Respite for ME Program for the purpose of providing respite care, as described in the federal Older Americans Act of 1965, 42 United States Code, Section 3030s-1(b)(4), and supplemental services, as described in 42 United States Code, Section 3030s-1(b)(5), for family caregivers as defined in 42 United States Code, Section 3022(3) and older relative caregivers as defined in 42 United States Code, Section 3030s(a)(4).

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 31
H.P. 36 - L.D. 72

**An Act to Designate the Spring
Peeper as the Official State
Amphibian**

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

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §232 is enacted to read:

§232. State amphibian

The spring peeper (*Pseudacris crucifer*) is the official state amphibian.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 32
H.P. 37 - L.D. 73

**An Act to Designate the Wood
Turtle as the Official State
Reptile**

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

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §232 is enacted to read:

§232. State reptile

The wood turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*) is the official state reptile.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 33
S.P. 29 - L.D. 1

**An Act to Increase Storm
Preparedness for Maine's
Communities, Homes and
Infrastructure**

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 winter storms of December 18, 2023, January 9, 2024 and January 13, 2024 caused an estimated \$90,000,000 of damage to public infrastructure and significant additional damage to private property, including homes, wharves and businesses; and

Whereas, the damage demonstrates an urgent need for increased preparedness for improved resiliency from future extreme weather events; and

Whereas, the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Emergency Management Agency has obligated the existing balance of the Disaster Recovery Fund to fund the state match for funding for previously declared disasters and requires additional funding to fully fund the state cost share for funding for current open disasters; and

Whereas, the Maine Emergency Management Agency currently lacks the capacity to apply for competitive hazard mitigation grant funds, improve much-needed statewide emergency systems and provide matching funds needed for United States Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster and hazard mitigation loan funds; and

Whereas, in its November report to the Governor, the State of Maine Infrastructure Rebuilding and Resilience Commission recommended a set of immediate actions to improve emergency communication, increase community resilience, prepare for future extreme weather events and increase public safety; and

Whereas, county, municipal and tribal leaders, regional planners, state agencies and emergency managers at the state, county and local level lack up-to-date hydrological and sea level rise modeling data and are operating with outdated Federal Emergency Management Agency maps; and

Whereas, only 1.3% of all homes and buildings in the State are covered under the National Flood Insurance Program, a number that has declined while people

in the State who do have flood insurance are filing more claims; 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. 24-A MRSA c. 101 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 101

HOME RESILIENCY PROGRAM

§7701. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. Administrator. "Administrator" means the bureau or an entity with which the bureau contracts for the administration of the program.

2. Fund. "Fund" means the Home Resiliency Fund established in section 7702.

3. Grant. "Grant" means the award of funds for an approved project.

4. Home resiliency project; project. "Home resiliency project" or "project" means a project designed to make a home more resistant to damage from extreme weather events.

5. Program. "Program" means the Home Resiliency Program established in section 7702.

§7702. Home Resiliency Program

1. Program established. The Home Resiliency Program is established within and under the direction of the bureau to provide grants to homeowners for the purpose of performing home resiliency projects.

2. Home Resiliency Fund. The Home Resiliency Fund is established as a nonlapsing Other Special Revenue Funds account administered by the bureau for the purposes of funding the program. The bureau may transfer available balances from other bureau accounts to the fund, and the fund may receive money from any gift, grant, contribution, legislative appropriation, allocation or transfer or bond proceeds. The money in the fund may be used only for the purpose of awarding grants under the program and paying the costs of the administration of the program.

3. Program administration. The bureau may contract with other entities for the administration of the program and other services, including, but not limited to:

A. Promotion of the program, including the creation and maintenance of a publicly accessible website containing information about the program;

B. Development of an application form;

C. Verification of applicant eligibility;

D. Determination and distribution of grants;

E. Establishment of standards for project completion, including contractor approval;

F. Verification of project completion;

G. Development of a mechanism for the return of unused grant money;

H. Development of a list of home resiliency projects that would be eligible for a grant; and

I. Development of standards to be used to determine whether a home resiliency project has been completed satisfactorily.

4. Program eligibility. An individual is eligible for a grant if the individual:

A. Has not previously received a grant under the program;

B. Submits an application on a form approved by the administrator;

C. In the application submitted under paragraph B, designates a home resiliency project from the list approved pursuant to subsection 5 to be performed on a home:

(1) Owned by the applicant;

(2) In which the applicant resides as the applicant's permanent residence; and

(3) That was not the subject of a previous home resiliency project; and

D. Submits all information regarding the individual, the individual's home and the proposed home resiliency project as required by the bureau and the administrator.

5. Home resiliency projects; list. The bureau and the administrator of the project shall approve a list of prospective projects eligible for grants under the program. The administrator shall publish the list of approved prospective home resiliency projects in the promotional materials for the program and on the publicly accessible website maintained to promote the program.

6. Grant determination. The bureau may establish 2 or more tiers of eligibility based on factors that reflect the income or financial means of the applicant. The bureau shall set maximum grant amounts and, if income or financial means tiers are established, shall set the maximum grant amounts for each tier. The administrator shall make grants under the program to eligible persons. The administrator shall review applications in

the order in which they are received. An application is considered received when all required information has been submitted. The administrator shall award grants under the program until funds in the fund are exhausted.

7. Post-grant verification. The recipient of a grant under the program shall provide to the administrator information that is required by the administrator and that is sufficient to allow the administrator to verify that the home resiliency project has been completed within the standards developed under subsection 3 for home resiliency project completion within 2 years of the grant. The recipient of a grant shall return to the administrator any funds provided to the recipient but not used for the approved project.

8. No private right of action. This chapter does not provide an express or implied private right of action.

9. Rulemaking. The superintendent may adopt rules necessary to implement the program. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

§7703. Date of grants

The bureau and the administrator are not required to award a grant before May 1, 2026.

Sec. A-2. Transfers from available fiscal year 2024-25 Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Insurance - Bureau of, Other Special Revenue Funds balances to the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Home Resiliency Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before 90 days following the effective date of this Act, the State Controller shall transfer \$15,000,000 from available balances in the Insurance - Bureau of, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Home Resiliency Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account.

Sec. A-3. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION, DEPARTMENT OF

Home Resiliency Fund N964

Initiative: Provides an allocation for the Home Resiliency Fund to provide grants to homeowners to reduce their risks and losses in future storm events, including roof damage prevention, basement flooding risk reduction and targeted interventions that have been proven to reduce risks from extreme weather events.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE	\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000
FUNDS TOTAL		

PART B

Sec. B-1. 37-B MRSA §747 is enacted to read:

§747. Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Revolving Loan Fund

1. Fund established. The Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Revolving Loan Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established as a dedicated, nonlapsing fund administered by the agency for the purpose of providing a state match for United States Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster and hazard mitigation revolving low-interest loan funds to support county, municipal and tribal government infrastructure projects that reduce risks from extreme weather events and other natural hazards such as flooding and damaging winds to the extent allowed by federal laws and regulations.

2. Sources of funding. The fund consists of any money received from the following sources:

A. Contributions from private sources;

B. Federal funds and grant awards;

C. The proceeds of any bonds issued for the purposes for which the fund is established; and

D. Any other funds received in support of the purposes for which the fund is established.

3. Disbursements from fund. The agency shall apply the money in the fund to provide for grants and loans to support municipal and tribal government infrastructure projects that reduce risks from extreme weather events and other natural hazards such as flooding and damaging winds to the extent allowed by federal laws and regulations.

4. Rulemaking. The agency may adopt rules as necessary to accomplish the purpose of the fund and to meet state and federal requirements for the proper administration of this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. B-2. Transfers from available fiscal year 2024-25 Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Insurance - Bureau of, Other Special Revenue Funds balances to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency, Disaster Recovery Fund Other Special Revenue Funds account. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before 90 days following the effective date of this Act, the State Controller shall transfer \$10,000,000 from available balances in the Insurance - Bureau of, Other Special Revenue Funds account

within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency, Disaster Recovery Fund Other Special Revenue Funds account.

Sec. B-3. Transfers from available fiscal year 2024-25 Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Insurance - Bureau of, Other Special Revenue Funds balances to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency, Other Special Revenue Funds account. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before 90 days following the effective date of this Act, the State Controller shall transfer \$477,313 from available balances in the Insurance - Bureau of, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency, Other Special Revenue Funds account.

Sec. B-4. Transfers from available fiscal year 2024-25 Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Insurance - Bureau of, Other Special Revenue Funds balances to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency, Other Special Revenue Funds account. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before 90 days following the effective date of this Act, the State Controller shall transfer \$800,000 from available balances in the Insurance - Bureau of, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency, Other Special Revenue Funds account.

Sec. B-5. Transfers from available fiscal year 2024-25 Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Insurance - Bureau of, Other Special Revenue Funds balances to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Revolving Loan Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before 90 days following the effective date of this Act, the State Controller shall transfer \$750,000 from available balances in the Insurance - Bureau of, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Revolving Loan Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account.

Sec. B-6. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF

Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency 0214

Initiative: Establishes one limited-period Contract/Grant Specialist position through June 18, 2027 and provides allocation for related All Other costs to function as the State's first Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund administrator and to support county, municipal and tribal governments in applying for and receiving other United States Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency funding sources.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$96,275	\$103,555
All Other	\$7,605	\$7,711
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$103,880	\$111,266

Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency 0214

Initiative: Establishes one limited-period Communications System Manager position through June 18, 2027 and provides allocation for related All Other costs necessary to serve as the State's integrated public alert and warning coordinator.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$118,165	\$127,560
All Other	\$8,132	\$8,310
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$126,297	\$135,870

Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency 0214

Initiative: Provides allocation to support a 2-year initiative to update the Maine Emergency Management Agency's communications technology and warning systems statewide and provide for technology purchases, universal language systems, training and education in all counties to improve communications before, during and after emergency and disaster events.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$800,000	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$800,000	\$500

Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency 0214

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for the Disaster Recovery Fund to meet state funding requirements for emergency declarations.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$10,000,000	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$10,000,000	\$500

Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Revolving Loan Fund N500

Initiative: Provides allocation to provide for the state match for a federal grant from the federal Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund, which provides capital to states to establish revolving loan funds that provide hazard mitigation assistance to county, municipal and tribal governments to reduce risks from extreme weather events and other natural hazards such as flooding and damaging winds, as allowed by federal laws and regulations. The loans are meant to complement grant assistance and help advance county, municipal and tribal projects through low-interest loans.

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$500	\$500
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$500	\$500

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$750,000	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$750,000	\$500

DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$500	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$11,780,177	\$248,636
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$11,780,677	\$249,136

PART C

Sec. C-1. 5 MRSA §3109, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 412, Pt. OOOO, §1, is amended to read:

2. Program established; administration. The Community Resilience Partnership Program, referred to in this section as "the program," is established within the office to provide direction, assistance and grants to communities in the State to help the communities reduce carbon emissions, transition to clean energy and

become more resilient to the effects of climate change. ~~The office~~ State Resilience Office established in section 3211 shall administer the program to provide technical and financial assistance for local and regional planning and implementation projects consistent with the State's emissions reduction targets under Title 38, section 576-A and the state climate action plan under Title 38, section 577.

Sec. C-2. 5 MRSA c. 310-B, sub-c. 1 is enacted by adding before section 3201 the following to read:

SUBCHAPTER 1

MAINE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Sec. C-3. 5 MRSA c. 310-B, sub-c. 2 is enacted to read:

SUBCHAPTER 2

STATE RESILIENCE OFFICE

§3211. State Resilience Office

1. Establishment; duties; administration. The State Resilience Office is established within the office. The State Resilience Office shall coordinate and assist implementation of the State's resilience policies and activities designed to improve resistance to extreme weather events; collaborate with state agencies, county, municipal and tribal governments, regional councils and county, local and tribal emergency management agencies and other stakeholders to harmonize policy objectives and implementation of resilience policies and activities designed to improve resistance to extreme weather events across all levels of government; promote natural hazard risk management across all levels of government; assist county, municipal and tribal governments in this State to manage risks from extreme weather events and natural hazards, such as flooding and damaging winds, through planning, technical assistance and financial support; and prioritize and coordinate projects for federal funding.

2. Administration of certain programs. The State Resilience Office shall administer the Community Resilience Partnership Program established in section 3109, the floodplain management program established in Title 12, section 408 and the State Floodplain Mapping Fund established in Title 12, section 409.

3. Report. Annually, beginning October 1, 2026, the State Resilience Office shall report to the Bureau of Insurance within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over insurance matters on the uses, activities and outcomes supported by funds from the transfer made pursuant to Title 24-A, section 606.

4. Rulemaking. The State Resilience Office may adopt rules as necessary for the proper administration of

this subchapter. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

§3212. State Resilience Fund

1. Fund established. The State Resilience Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established as a dedicated, nonlapsing fund administered by the office for the purpose of providing funds for the mitigation of risk to communities, buildings and infrastructure from extreme weather events and other natural hazards such as flooding and damaging winds.

2. Sources of funding. The fund consists of any money received from the following sources:

- A. Contributions from private sources;
- B. Federal funds and grant awards;
- C. The proceeds of any bonds issued for the purposes for which the fund is established; and
- D. Any state or other funds received in support of the purposes for which the fund is established.

3. Disbursements from fund. The office shall apply funds in the fund to support data, planning tools, technical assistance and project funding designed to increase the resilience of county, municipal and tribal governments, state and local infrastructure, businesses and other state entities to risks from extreme weather events and natural hazards such as flooding and damaging winds.

Sec. C-4. 12 MRSA §408, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. HH, §1 and affected by §7 and amended by c. 657, Pt. W, §5, is further amended to read:

§408. Floodplain management

The floodplain management program is established within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and is administered by the State Resilience Office established in Title 5, section 3211. The ~~department~~ State Resilience Office shall serve as the state coordinating agency for the National Flood Insurance Program pursuant to 44 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60 and in that capacity shall oversee delivery of technical assistance and resources to municipalities for the purpose of floodplain management activities and shall administer the State Floodplain Mapping Fund under section 409.

Sec. C-5. 12 MRSA §409, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 655, Pt. HH, §2 and affected by §7 and amended by c. 657, Pt. W, §5, is further amended to read:

§409. State Floodplain Mapping Fund

1. Fund established. The State Floodplain Mapping Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is

established as a dedicated, nonlapsing fund ~~administered by~~ in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry for the purpose of providing funds for the mapping of floodplains in the State using light detection and ranging technology.

2. Sources of funding. The fund consists of any money received from the following sources:

- A. Contributions from private sources;
- B. Federal funds and awards;
- C. The proceeds of any bonds issued for the purposes for which the fund is established; and
- D. Any other funds received in support of the purposes for which the fund is established.

3. Disbursements from the fund. The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall apply the money in the fund toward the support of floodplain mapping in the State, including, but not limited to, the acquisition of light detection and ranging elevation data and the processing and production of floodplain maps.

4. Administration of the fund. The State Resilience Office established in Title 5, section 3211 shall administer the fund.

Sec. C-6. 24-A MRSA §606 is enacted to read:

§606. Annual transfer

Annually, beginning with the 2027-28 fiscal year, within 90 days following the end of the immediately prior fiscal year, and upon verification by the superintendent that sufficient surplus funds exist, the State Controller shall transfer \$1,755,000 from available balances in the bureau's Other Special Revenue Funds account to the State Resilience Fund established in Title 5, section 3212.

Sec. C-7. Transfers from available fiscal year 2024-25 Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Insurance - Bureau of, Other Special Revenue Funds balances to the Maine Office of Community Affairs, State Resilience Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before 90 days following the effective date of this Act, the State Controller shall transfer \$9,633,040 from available balances in the Insurance - Bureau of, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to the Maine Office of Community Affairs, State Resilience Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account.

Sec. C-8. Transition provisions; Community Resilience Partnership Program. The following provisions govern the transition of the administration of the Community Resilience Partnership Program, established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title

5, section 3109, from the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future to the Maine Office of Community Affairs, State Resilience Office.

1. All existing rules, regulations and procedures in effect, in operation or adopted for the Community Resilience Partnership Program in the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future or any of its administrative units or officers are hereby declared in effect and continue in effect until rescinded, revised or amended by the Maine Office of Community Affairs, State Resilience Office.

2. All existing contracts, agreements and compacts currently in effect in the Community Resilience Partnership Program continue in effect.

3. All records, property and equipment previously belonging to or allocated for the use of the Community Resilience Partnership Program in the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future become, on the effective date of this Act, part of the property of the Maine Office of Community Affairs, State Resilience Office.

4. All existing forms, licenses, letterheads and similar items bearing the name of or referring to the Community Resilience Partnership Program may be used by the Maine Office of Community Affairs, State Resilience Office until existing supplies of those items are exhausted.

5. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State Controller shall transfer any unobligated balances remaining in the Community Resilience Partnership Program Other Special Revenue Funds account and federal funds to the Maine Office of Community Affairs, State Resilience Office no later than October 1, 2025.

Sec. C-9. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

MAINE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

State Resilience Fund N965

Initiative: Establishes one Public Service Coordinator II position in the State Resilience Office to be the geospatial data science manager and provides allocation for related All Other costs, including data storage costs.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS -	1.000	1.000
LEGISLATIVE COUNT		
Personal Services	\$140,255	\$151,265
All Other	\$50,000	\$50,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$190,255	\$201,265

State Resilience Fund N965

Initiative: Provides one-time Other Special Revenue Funds allocation to the State Resilience Office to develop, as part of a so-called Flood-Ready Maine project, an inland, coastal and riverine hydrologic model, a new online community risk data hub of flood risk and other hazard information for public use and to update flood maps.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$5,750,000	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$5,750,000	\$0

State Resilience Fund N965

Initiative: Establishes one Public Service Coordinator II position in the State Resilience Office to be the coordinator of the certified floodplain regional program and provides allocation for related All Other costs and for the State Resilience Office, in partnership with the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance, to expand state and regional capacity to assist county, municipal and tribal governments through grants to regional service providers to employ regional certified floodplain managers and to provide technical assistance, public engagement and county, municipal and tribal government training to support flood risk reduction, reduced insurance rates and increased participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS -	1.000	1.000
LEGISLATIVE COUNT		
Personal Services	\$140,255	\$151,265
All Other	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$1,740,255	\$1,751,265

MAINE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT TOTALS

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$7,680,510	\$1,952,530

Sec. C-10. Contingent effective date; continuation of obligations. Those sections of this Part that amend the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 3109, subsection 2 and Title 12, sections 408 and 409 and that portion of this Part that enacts Title 5, section 3211, subsection 2 are contingent on the State Resilience Office established in Title 5, section 3211 receiving funds sufficient to administer the floodplain management program established in Title 12, section 408,

the State Floodplain Mapping Fund established in Title 12, section 409 and the Community Resilience Partnership Program established in Title 5, section 3109. Until that contingency is met, the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall continue to administer the floodplain management program and the State Floodplain Mapping Fund and the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future shall continue to administer the Community Resilience Partnership Program. The Director of the Maine Office of Community Affairs shall notify the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Revisor of Statutes when the State Resilience Office receives funds sufficient to administer the programs under this section.

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

Effective April 22, 2025, unless otherwise indicated.

CHAPTER 34

S.P. 14 - L.D. 5

An Act to Clarify the Law Regarding Prior Authorization for Air Ambulances

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

Whereas, Public Law 2023, chapter 591 prohibits a health insurance carrier from requiring an air ambulance service provider to obtain prior authorization before transporting an enrollee to a hospital or between hospitals for urgent care; and

Whereas, the Legislature intended to limit the application of that provision to air ambulance service providers that are nonprofit organizations; and

Whereas, the language clarifying that the provision applied to air ambulance service providers that are nonprofit organizations was inadvertently omitted from Public Law 2023, chapter 591; and

Whereas, this legislation corrects that omission and must take effect as soon as possible in order to effectuate the Legislature's intent; 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. 24-A MRSA §4303-F, sub-§1, ¶E, as amended by PL 2023, c. 591, §3, is further amended to read:

E. A carrier may not require a ground ambulance service provider to obtain prior authorization before transporting an enrollee to a hospital, between hospitals or from a hospital to a nursing home, hospice care facility or other health care facility, as defined in Title 22, section 328, subsection 8. A carrier may not require an air ambulance service provider that is a nonprofit organization to obtain prior authorization before transporting an enrollee to a hospital or between hospitals for urgent care.

Sec. 2. Retroactivity. This Act applies retroactively to August 9, 2024.

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

Effective April 22, 2025.

CHAPTER 35

S.P. 261 - L.D. 580

An Act to Protect Maine Consumers by Prohibiting Fees Charged for Receiving Paper Statements from Financial Institutions and Credit Card Issuers

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

Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §9420, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 226, §1, is repealed.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 36

H.P. 401 - L.D. 633

An Act Concerning the Restoration of Electricity During Emergencies for Certain Medically Vulnerable Individuals Who Rely on Electronic Medical Apparatuses

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3144, sub-§2, ¶E, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 120, §1, is amended to read:

E. Procedures for deployment of internal and external resources during an emergency, including