

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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

ecutive officer may establish limits to the number of deferments that may be granted to any recipient by rule of the authority.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 59

H.P. 746 - L.D. 1127

An Act to Establish Immunity for a Receiver Appointed by the Public Utilities Commission to Oversee the Operations of a Consumer-owned Water Utility

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §6410-A, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Liability. A receiver appointed by the commission pursuant to subsection 1 that is acting in good faith while exercising the authorities granted pursuant to subsection 1 must be treated in the same manner as an employee acting on behalf of a governmental entity under Title 14, chapter 741.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 60

H.P. 318 - L.D. 489

An Act to Provide for a Vessel Breakdown License Exception for Commercial Halibut Fishing License Holders

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

Whereas, this legislation must take effect before May 18, 2025, the beginning of the 2025 commercial halibut fishing season; 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. 12 MRSA §6506, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 627, §5, is amended to read:

2. Licensed activity; commercial license. The holder of a commercial halibut fishing license issued under subsection 1 may fish for, take, possess, ship,

transport or sell halibut that the holder has taken using the vessel named on the license. Crew members aboard a license holder's vessel may fish for, take, possess, ship or transport halibut only if the license provides for crew members.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6506, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:

2-A. Exception to using vessel named on license holder's license for commercial license holders. Notwithstanding subsection 2, the commissioner may temporarily authorize a holder of a commercial halibut fishing license to use a vessel other than the vessel named on that license holder's license to fish for, take, possess, ship or transport halibut if the license holder documents to the commissioner that the vessel named on that license holder's license has become temporarily inoperable because of an accident or a mechanical failure and requests in writing to the commissioner that the commissioner authorize the use of another vessel to fish for or take halibut. The commissioner's authorization may require the license holder to fish for, take, possess and land halibut separately from any halibut taken under another license listing the same vessel to ensure that harvest limits are not exceeded. An authorization granted by the commissioner to a license holder due to an accident or a mechanical failure may not exceed 2 weeks. The commissioner may authorize one 2-week extension per license holder during the commercial halibut fishing season. An authorization under this subsection may not be granted by the commissioner in 2 consecutive years.

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

Effective May 9, 2025.

CHAPTER 61

H.P. 252 - L.D. 398

An Act to Amend the Definition of "Transient Occupancy" in the Laws Governing the Maine Land Use Planning Commission

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 Legislature finds that it is desirable to extend principles of sound planning, zoning and development to the unorganized and deorganized townships of the State; and

Whereas, the Legislature desires to encourage appropriate use of these lands by the residents of Maine