# 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 direct share subdivision that receives funds pursuant to settlements described in section II.A of the Memoranda of Understanding shall submit a report to the Attorney General by January 15, 2026, and annually thereafter, detailing the amount of such funds received pursuant to section II.C.2 of each Memoranda of Understanding and expended in the prior calendar year, including a description of each such expenditure. The Attorney General shall compile these reports and submit them by February 15, 2026 and annually thereafter to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters.

As used in this section, "Memoranda of Understanding" has the same meaning as in section 203-C, subsection 1, paragraph C and "direct share subdivision" means a municipality or county that is a subdivision identified in Exhibit 3 of the Memoranda of Understanding.

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 80 S.P. 77 - L.D. 141

An Act to Provide Limited Immunity to Maine Human Rights Commission Mediators

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA  $\S4612$ , sub- $\S1$ ,  $\PC$  is enacted to read:

C. The commission shall contract with impartial mediators for the 3rd-party neutral mediation program under paragraph A. For the purposes of this section, while carrying out their official duties, mediators are considered state employees and are entitled to the immunity provided to state employees under the Maine Tort Claims Act.

See title page for effective date.

### CHAPTER 81 H.P. 221 - L.D. 321

An Act to Make May Progressive Supranuclear Palsy 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. Progressive Supranuclear Palsy Month

The month of May of each year is designated as Progressive Supranuclear Palsy 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 82 S.P. 80 - L.D. 144

#### An Act to Create a Limited Retail Seafood Harvester Certificate

**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 limited retail seafood harvester certificate, established in this legislation and attached to an already existing retail seafood license, would make it easier for shellfish harvesters, especially oyster growers, to sell their harvest directly to consumers without having the additional expense related to the operation of a fixed facility or selling their product through registered dealers; and

Whereas, it is important that this certificate be made available to seafood harvesters as soon as possible, so they may sell their harvest from a vehicle during the upcoming spring and summer seasons, including at farmers' markets; and

Whereas, the Department of Marine Resources has indicated that the department has the resources necessary to implement this certificate 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:

**Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6852,** as amended by PL 2023, c. 207, §§17 to 19, is further amended to read:

#### §6852. Retail seafood license

- 1. License required. A person may not engage in the activities authorized under subsection 2 without a retail seafood license or other license issued under this Part authorizing the activities.
- **2. License activity.** Except as provided in subsection subsections 2-A, 2-B and 2-C, the holder of a retail seafood license may, in the retail trade, buy, sell, transport, ship or serve:

- A. Shellstock, which must be purchased from a wholesale seafood license holder certified under section 6856;
- D. Crayfish;
- F. Lobsters: and
- G. Any marine organism that is purchased directly from a harvester licensed under this Part.

A holder of a retail seafood license when buying directly from a harvester may buy only from a harvester who possesses the license or permit for that species as required under this Part. The harvester shall make the applicable marine resources license or permit available for inspection upon the retail seafood license holder's request.

- **2-A.** Enhanced retail certificate authorized. The holder of a retail seafood license may obtain an enhanced retail certificate from the department. The holder of an enhanced retail certificate may, in the retail trade within the state limits, buy, sell, transport, ship or serve:
  - A. Shellstock bought from a commercial shellfish license holder licensed under section 6601;
  - B. Shellstock bought from a surf clam boat license holder licensed under section 6602;
  - C. Shellstock bought from a mahogany quahog license holder licensed under section 6731;
  - D. Shellstock bought from a hand-raking mussel license holder licensed under section 6745 or a mussel boat license holder licensed under section 6746; and
  - E. Shellstock bought from an aquaculture license holder licensed under section 6810-B.

For the purposes of inspection or collection of samples, the commissioner or the commissioner's agent may access an establishment or part thereof in which activities authorized under this certificate are conducted by a person holding a retail seafood license. Denial of access is grounds for suspension or revocation of a retail seafood license under the provisions of section 6372. The holder of an enhanced retail certificate may not designate a vehicle as that person's establishment.

- **2-B. Endorsements.** The holder of a retail seafood license buying directly from a harvester must obtain an endorsement from the department for the species being bought if the license to harvest that species requires the harvester to comply with an electronic reporting requirement. The department shall provide endorsements to license holders at no cost in accordance with rules adopted under subsection 6.
- 2-C. Limited retail seafood harvester certificate authorized. The holder of a retail seafood license may obtain a limited retail seafood harvester certificate from the department. The holder of a limited retail seafood

harvester certificate may, in the retail trade within state limits, sell, transport and serve shellstock taken by the primary owner listed on the retail seafood license as long as the primary owner is also a:

- A. Commercial shellfish license holder licensed under section 6601;
- B. Surf clam boat license holder licensed under section 6602;
- C. Mahogany quahog license holder licensed under section 6731;
- D. Hand-raking mussel license holder licensed under section 6745 or a mussel boat license holder licensed under section 6746; or
- E. Aquaculture license holder under section 6810-B.

For the purposes of inspection or collection of samples, the commissioner or the commissioner's agent may access the vehicle in which activities authorized under this certificate are conducted by a person holding a retail seafood license. Denial of access is grounds for suspension or revocation of a retail seafood license under the provisions of section 6372.

- **3. License limited.** A license authorizes activities pursuant to subsection 2 at only one establishment or with only one vehicle.
- **3-B.** Certificate limited. An enhanced retail certificate authorizes activities pursuant to subsection 2-A at only one establishment. A limited retail seafood harvester certificate authorizes activities pursuant to subsection 2-C with only one vehicle.
- **4. Fee.** The fee for a retail seafood license under subsection 1 is \$100. The fee for an enhanced retail certificate under subsection 2-A is \$100 and must be deposited in the Shellfish Fund under section 6651. The fee for a limited retail seafood harvester certificate under subsection 2-C is \$50 and must be deposited in the Shellfish Fund under section 6651.
- **5. Violation.** A person who violates this section commits a civil violation for which a forfeiture of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.
- **6. Rules.** The commissioner may adopt or amend rules that establish requirements for retail seafood license holders and, enhanced retail certificate holders and limited retail seafood harvester certificate holders concerning:
  - A. The minimum sanitation standards for establishments and vehicles;
  - B. The sanitation and quality control standards for shellfish and whole scallops and their products;
  - C. The methods for handling, shipping and transporting of shellfish and whole scallops;

- D. The records and reports of purchases, shipping and transporting of shellfish and whole scallops;
- E. The labeling or marking of shipments of shell-fish and wholesale scallops;
- F. The protection of public health; and
- G. Endorsements under subsection 2-B.

Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection must be based on the particular operational requirements of each activity, the most recently adopted federal sanitation standards and the most recent generally accepted research data and must be designed to protect the public health and safety while allowing reasonable use of shellfish and whole scallops. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

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

Effective May 23, 2025.

## CHAPTER 83 H.P. 513 - L.D. 806

#### An Act to Amend the Scope of Practice for Expanded Function Dental Assistants

**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 current licensing requirements for an expanded function dental assistant require passage of a separate dental radiologic technique and safety examination, which is the same examination required for licensure of dental radiographers; and

Whereas, this legislation eliminates the requirement that an expanded function dental assistant must be separately licensed as a dental radiographer and instead provides for exposing and processing radiographs under the assistant's scope of practice; and

Whereas, this legislation must be enacted immediately so that expanded function dental assistants are not required to pay an additional license fee; 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. 32 MRSA §9854, sub-§3, ¶A,** as amended by PL 2015, c. 429, §19, is further amended to read:
  - A. A dentist, dental hygienist, expanded function dental assistant or dental radiographer licensed under chapter 143;
- **Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §18373, sub-§1, ¶L,** as amended by PL 2021, c. 223, §10, is further amended to read:
  - L. Supragingival polishing using a slow-speed rotary instrument and rubber cup; and
- **Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §18373, sub-§1, ¶HH,** as enacted by PL 2021, c. 223, §10, is amended to read:
  - HH. Contour or finish restorative materials using a high-speed, power-driven handpiece or instrument-; and
- Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §18373, sub-§1, ¶II is enacted to read:
  - II. Expose and process radiographs.

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

Effective May 23, 2025.

## CHAPTER 84 S.P. 384 - L.D. 895

#### An Act to Support Immersive Outdoor Education by Establishing the Outdoor School for All Maine Students Program

**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 establishes an immersive outdoor education program that provides interdisciplinary and experiential education in an outdoor setting, and this legislation creates equitable opportunities for students across this State to have outdoor experiences; and

Whereas, many children in this State lack opportunities to enjoy and learn about the outdoors because of home circumstances, lack of access or transportation or a deficiency of suitable school or community-based programs; and

Whereas, the Outdoor School for All Maine Students Program will prepare children in this State for future success, will build self-awareness and confidence and will be an opportunity to instill the importance of