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

ployed <u>trained</u> by the State and identified by the department or the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife as a person who is qualified to properly conduct inspection activities.

Sec. 5. Study of watercraft inspection protocols and surface use restrictions on inland waters of the State known to be infested with invasive aquatic plants; review of protocols and re-strictions. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection and the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife jointly shall review watercraft inspection protocols and surface use restrictions on inland waters of the State known to be infested with invasive aquatic plants pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 1862, subsection 1 and make recommendations related to how these protocols and restrictions could be strengthened. The commissioners jointly shall also evaluate how information about restrictions is communicated to members of the public. By January 1, 2026, the commissioners shall submit a report, including any suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on their findings and recommendations with respect to watercraft inspection protocols and surface use restrictions on inland waters of the State known to be infested with invasive aquatic plants and how information on restrictions is communicated to members of the public. The committee may report out legislation based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 117 S.P. 310 - L.D. 693

An Act to Support the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions

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

Sec. 1. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

SECRETARY OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF

Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions 0692

Initiative: Establishes 3 Office Specialist II positions and provides funding for All Other.

OTHER SPECIAL	2025-26	2026-27
REVENUE FUNDS		
POSITIONS -	3.000	3.000
LEGISLATIVE COUNT		
Personal Services	\$350,430	\$363,045
All Other	\$29,647	\$8,602

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL

\$380,077

\$371,647

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 118 S.P. 370 - L.D. 837

An Act to Require Positions Taken by the Public Advocate to Be Consistent with the Costeffective Implementation of the State's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions Obligations

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

- **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §1702, sub-§10,** as enacted by PL 2011, c. 79, §2, is amended to read:
- 10. Independent representation of the interests of the using and consuming public. The Public Advocate, when taking a position on any matter in any proceeding or forum pursuant to the Public Advocate's authority under this chapter, shall exercise independent judgment to ensure the position:
 - A. Is consistent with the priorities established in section 1702-A and the requirements of this chapter; and
 - B. Promotes stabilization and lowering of prices paid by those members of the using and consuming public whose interests the Public Advocate is representing—; and
 - C. Is consistent with the cost-effective implementation for ratepayers of the greenhouse gas emissions reductions obligations established in Title 38, section 576-A.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 119 H.P. 536 - L.D. 850

An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws

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

Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §161, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 419, §1 and reallocated by PL 2023, c. 1, Pt. A, §25, is amended by enacting at the end a new paragraph to read:

The Secretary of State may adopt rules to administer this section. Rules adopted under this paragraph