

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

1311-A to protect such information or data from disclosure.

3. Data and information requests. In a proceeding before the commission, the Public Advocate has the same right to request data or information as an intervenor.

Sec. 3. Office of the Public Advocate to conduct study; prepare report. The Office of the Public Advocate, referred to in this section as "the office," shall conduct a study and prepare a report regarding rates and business practices of standard-offer service providers and competitive electricity providers. The study must take into account differences in products and services offered by standard-offer service providers and competitive electricity providers, including, but not limited to, value-added services, such as behind-the-meter services that may reduce a customer's electricity demand, and varying contract periods.

1. In conducting the study and preparing the report under this section, the office shall consult with and solicit recommendations from interested parties, including at least 3 competitive electricity providers and one current or former provider of standard-offer service to residential and small commercial customers, regarding the study methodology, the office's analysis, any recommendations developed by the office and the report. The office shall provide interested parties with the opportunity to review and provide comments on at least one draft report prior to submitting the final report pursuant to subsection 2.

2. The office shall submit a final report by December 3, 2025 to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. The final report must include all comments and recommendations the office received from interested parties in an appendix to the final report. After receiving the final report, the committee may report out legislation relating to the final report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

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

Effective May 29, 2025.

CHAPTER 124

S.P. 20 - L.D. 8

An Act Regarding the Term of Appointment of Judicial Officers

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

Sec. 1. 4 MRSA c. 2 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 2

GENERAL PROVISIONS

§71. Term start date for judicial officers

The term of appointment of a judicial officer appointed pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article V, Part First, Section 8 begins on the date that the judicial officer is sworn into office.

§72. Inapplicability of Title 5, section 6 qualification requirements

The provisions of Title 5, section 6 do not apply to judicial officers appointed pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article V, Part First, Section 8.

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §6, as amended by PL 1991, c. 837, Pt. A, §7, is further amended to read:

§6. Officials have 30 days to qualify

All public officers, other than judicial officers, appointed or renewed in accordance with law shall, within 30 days after being commissioned, qualify to perform the duties of their office and the certificate of qualification must be filed in the office of the Secretary of State. Any officer who fails to qualify within 30 days and file a certificate of qualification in the office of the Secretary of State within 45 days must be suspended by the Secretary of State until the defect is corrected. During this suspension, the officer may be deemed to have forfeited the appointment and the office may be declared vacant by the appointing authority and a new appointment made.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 125

S.P. 34 - L.D. 21

An Act to Update the Provision of Law Concerning Student Codes of Conduct in Order to Reflect Best Practices Regarding Behavioral Threat Assessment and Response

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1001, sub-§15, ¶F, as amended by PL 2005, c. 307, §1, is further amended to read:

F. Establish policies and procedures ~~concerning the removal of disruptive or violent students or students threatening death or bodily harm to others from a classroom or a school bus, as well as student disciplinary and placement decisions, when to identify, assess and intervene with students who may pose a threat of violence to themselves or others within the school community, including policies and procedures regarding student supports,~~