

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

licensed health care providers in the State; ~~or a community health center; or an urgent care facility licensed under section 1812-M.~~

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 130

H.P. 47 - L.D. 83

An Act Concerning the Filing of Marriage Licenses and the Recording of Intentions as Part of the Electronic Vital Records System

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

Sec. 1. 19-A MRSA §651, sub-§2, as repealed and replaced by PL 2021, c. 49, §1, is amended to read:

2. Application. The parties wishing to record notice of their intentions of marriage shall submit an application for recording notice of their intentions of marriage. The application may be issued to any 2 persons otherwise qualified under this chapter regardless of the sex of each person if the clerk or State Registrar of Vital Statistics is satisfied as to the identity of the applicants. The application must include a signed certification that the information recorded on the application is correct and that the applicant is free to marry according to the laws of this State. If either party intends to change that party's name upon marriage, the application must include the proposed new name of that party. The applicant's signature must be acknowledged before an official authorized to take oaths. An electronic copy of the completed application must be attached to the marriage record in the electronic system specified by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics. An application recording notice of intention to marry is not open for public inspection for 50 years from the date of the application except that:

A. The names of the parties for whom intentions to marry are filed and the intended date of marriage are public records and open for public inspection; and

B. A person with a researcher identification card under Title 22, section 2706, subsection 8 is permitted to inspect records and may be issued a non-certified copy of an application.

Sec. 2. 19-A MRSA §652, sub-§5, as amended by PL 2001, c. 354, §3 and PL 2003, c. 689, Pt. B, §6, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 19-A MRSA §653, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2019, c. 340, §12, is further amended to read:

1. Filing; enter notice. A person who believes that parties are about to contract marriage when either

of them ~~can not~~ cannot lawfully do so may file a caution and the reasons for the caution in the office of the clerk where notice of their intentions is required to be filed or with the State Registrar of Vital Statistics. If either party applies to enter notice of their intentions, the clerk or State Registrar of Vital Statistics shall withhold the license until the judge of probate from the county involved approves the marriage. If the license has already been issued and the parties have not yet been married, the office of the clerk or the State Registrar of Vital Statistics shall notify the parties that they may not marry until the judge of probate from the county involved approves the marriage.

Sec. 4. 19-A MRSA §654, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2019, c. 340, §13, is further amended to read:

2. Return of marriage license. The parties or the person who solemnized the marriage shall return the marriage license to the State Registrar of Vital Statistics or the clerk who issued the license within 7 15 working days following the date on which the marriage is solemnized ~~by that person~~. The clerk and the State Registrar of Vital Statistics each shall retain a copy of the license. If a marriage license is returned later than 15 working days following the date on which the marriage is solemnized, the marriage must be marked as a late filing.

Sec. 5. 19-A MRSA §654, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2019, c. 340, §13, is further amended to read:

4. Recorded by clerk or State Registrar of Vital Statistics. The clerk or State Registrar of Vital Statistics shall ~~record all~~ attach electronic copies of the completed marriage licenses returned under this section in the electronic system specified by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics.

Sec. 6. 19-A MRSA §656, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2021, c. 49, §2, is further amended to read:

2. Completed license; ceremony performed. Each marriage license issued must be completed and the certification statement signed by both parties to the intended marriage. The parties' signatures may be obtained at issuance or at the time the marriage is solemnized. The completed license or licenses must be delivered by the parties to the person solemnizing the marriage. Upon completion of the solemnization, which must be performed in the presence of at least 2 witnesses other than the person officiating, the person officiating and the 2 witnesses shall sign the license or licenses, which are then known as the marriage certificate or certificates, and the parties are considered legally married.

Sec. 7. 19-A MRSA §660, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 193, §1, is amended by amending the section headnote to read:

§660. ~~Late filed application for certificate of Delayed marriage registration~~

Sec. 8. 19-A MRSA §660, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 193, §1, is amended by enacting a new first paragraph to read:

In order to provide an official record of statements concerning marriages that have occurred in this State, the State Registrar of Vital Statistics must accept a registration of any marriage for which no record can be found in either the files of the State Registrar of Vital Statistics or the clerk of the municipality where the marriage license was issued or in the municipality where the marriage occurred, as long as such registration is filed in accordance with this section.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 131

H.P. 73 - L.D. 108

An Act to Authorize the Release of Military Records to the Office of Chief Medical Examiner for the Purposes of Suicide Reporting and Prevention

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

Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §509, sub-§7 is enacted to read:

7. Release of information about military status; suicide reporting and prevention. Upon request by an authorized representative of the Department of the Attorney General, Office of Chief Medical Examiner in the conduct of official duties, the bureau may release information regarding a deceased person's military service to the Office of Chief Medical Examiner for the purposes of suicide reporting and prevention.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 132

H.P. 90 - L.D. 157

An Act to Amend Certain Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10206, sub-§11, as amended by PL 2023, c. 228, §2, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §10268 is enacted to read:
§10268. Fish and Wildlife Management Education Fund

The department shall deposit \$1 of every hunting license and trapping license fee collected pursuant to sections 11109, 11109-A and 12201 in a separate account within the department, to be known as the Fish and Wildlife Management Education Fund. The fund is nonlapsing. The department shall use money in the fund on an annual basis to educate the public on the management of game species of fish and wildlife and to communicate with the public about department programs. The department may contract with a private entity to provide this education. Education provided pursuant to this section may include information about how hunting and fishing help to manage specific species. The department may continue its activities pursuant to this section during ballot initiative campaigns concerning fish and wildlife issues. The funds may also be used for education programs for youth or families that promote participation in hunting, fishing, trapping or other outdoor recreational activities.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §10902, sub-§6, ¶D, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

D. Discharging a firearm or archery equipment within 100 yards of a residential dwelling without owner permission, in violation of section 11209;

Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §11154, sub-§6, as amended by PL 2011, c. 370, §6, is further amended to read:

6. Application procedure. An eligible person wishing to apply for a permit must file ~~a written~~ an application for a permit on a form furnished by the commissioner. The application fee is nonrefundable. A person may not file ~~no~~ more than one application. A person who submits more than one application is disqualified from the selection of permittees. The application must be accompanied by an application fee of:

A. For a resident:

(1) Fifteen dollars for a one-chance application; or

B. For a nonresident:

(1) Fifteen dollars for a one-chance application;

(2) Twenty-five dollars for a 3-chance application;

(3) Thirty-five dollars for a 6-chance application; and

(4) Fifty-five dollars for a 10-chance application; multiple 10-chance options may be purchased.

A clerk or agent appointed by the commissioner under section 10801 may process an application under this subsection. The clerk or agent shall charge a fee of \$2 for each application under this subsection processed by that clerk or agent.