

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

issuance unless revoked sooner. Beginning January 1, 2026, a taxidermist license entitles a person to practice the art of taxidermy through the remainder of the calendar year in which the license was issued plus 2 calendar years unless revoked sooner. A taxidermist whose license is not suspended or revoked may renew the license every 3 years upon application by the licensee accompanied by a \$77 license fee.

Sec. 14. 12 MRSA §13068-A, sub-§14, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §380 and affected by §422, is amended to read:

14. Operating motorboat watercraft in bathing swim areas. The following provisions apply to operating a motorboat watercraft in a bathing swim area.

A. A person may not:

- (1) Operate a motorboat watercraft within a bathing swim area marked or buoyed for bathing swimming; or
- (2) Operate an airmobile on a beach adjacent to a bathing swim area marked or buoyed for bathing swimming.

B. The following penalties apply to violations of this subsection.

- (1) A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.
- (2) A person who violates this subsection after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 133

H.P. 91 - L.D. 158

An Act to Establish a Date to Begin Voting by Absentee Ballot in the Presence of the Clerk

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

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §753-B, sub-§8, as amended by PL 2021, c. 273, §21, is further amended to read:

8. Absentee voting in presence of clerk. A For the 30 days preceding an election, during the hours when the clerk's office is open, a person who wishes to vote by absentee ballot may, without completing an application, vote by absentee ballot in the presence of the

clerk, except as provided in subsection 2. Before issuing a ballot, the clerk shall verify that it is the voter who is requesting the ballot by confirming the voter's residence address and year of birth with the information in the voter's record. The method of voting is otherwise as prescribed in this article. After the person has voted, the clerk shall sign the affidavit on the return envelope as a witness, indicate on the envelope that the voter voted in the presence of a clerk and ensure that the affidavit on the return envelope is properly completed by the voter. ~~For the 45 days preceding an election, during the hours when the clerk's office is open and may be conducting absentee voting~~ During this 30-day period, the display or distribution of any advertising material intended to influence a voter's decision regarding a candidate or question on the ballot for that election is prohibited within the clerk's office and on public property within 250 feet of the entrance to the building in which the clerk's office is located.

This subsection does not apply to the display or distribution of any campaign advertising material on private property that is within 250 feet of the entrance to the building in which the clerk's office is located. For purposes of this section, "private property" includes privately owned property subject to a public right-of-way that is an easement right-of-way.

This subsection does not apply to campaign advertising material on automobiles traveling to and from the municipal office or parked on municipal property while the occupants are visiting the municipal office to conduct municipal business. It does not prohibit a person who is at the municipal office for the purpose of conducting municipal business or for absentee voting from wearing a campaign button when the longest dimension of the button does not exceed 3 inches.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 134

H.P. 92 - L.D. 159

An Act to Require Motor Vehicle Certificates of Registration to Include a Space to List an Emergency Contact

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

Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §401, sub-§3, ¶B, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

B. A certificate of registration that contains the name, place of residence and address of the registered owner. The reverse side of the certificate of registration must provide a blank space in which the registered owner may write the legal name and address of an emergency contact.

Sec. 2. Emergency contact information; implementation by Secretary of State. The Department of the Secretary of State shall begin issuing certificates of registration that comply with this Act when the Department of the Secretary of State replaces its stock of certificates of registration.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 135

S.P. 89 - L.D. 202

An Act to Increase the Number of Children a Child Care Provider May Care for Without Having to Be Licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §8301-A, sub-§1-A, ¶C, as amended by PL 2021, c. 35, §17, is further amended to read:

C. "Family child care provider" means a person who provides day care in that person's home on a regular basis, for consideration, for 3 ~~4~~ to 12 children under 13 years of age who are not the children of the provider or who are not residing in the provider's home. If a provider is caring for children living in that provider's home and is caring for no more than 2 ~~3~~ other children, or 4 other children if at least 2 of the children are siblings, and no more than 3 of the total number of children in the provider's care are under 2 years of age, the provider is not required to be licensed as a family child care provider.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 136

S.P. 105 - L.D. 239

An Act to Allow Retail Pharmacies to Operate Remote Dispensing Sites in Rural Areas

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §13751, sub-§2, ¶A-1 is enacted to read:

A-1. Remote dispensing site;

Sec. 2. Maine Board of Pharmacy to adopt rules. No later than June 30, 2026, as authorized by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 13751,

subsection 2, paragraph A-1, the Maine Board of Pharmacy shall adopt rules to establish the criteria that a remote dispensing site must meet to qualify for licensure. The rules must, at a minimum, require a demonstration that the geographic area in which the remote dispensing site is to be located lacks adequate access to retail pharmacy services for the general public; authorize a licensed pharmacist to provide supervision, drug regimen review and patient counseling through telehealth services under Title 32, chapter 117, subchapter 15; set minimum staffing levels for pharmacy technicians at the remote dispensing site; and establish procedures for record keeping, security and surveillance. The operation of a remote dispensing site by a retail pharmacy is not permitted until rules are adopted by the board pursuant to Title 32, section 13751, subsection 3 and this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 137

S.P. 107 - L.D. 241

An Act to Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to Approve Rate Adjustments for Low-income Water Utility Ratepayers

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §6115 is enacted to read:

§6115. Low-income assistance

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a water utility or group of water utilities may petition the commission for approval of a low-income assistance program to allow a qualifying low-income residential ratepayer to receive a discount or credit applying to the amount the residential ratepayer would otherwise owe to the water utility. The commission may approve the proposed discount or credit if it determines that the proposal is a cost-effective means of keeping water affordable for low-income residential ratepayers. The commission may not require a water utility to initiate a low-income assistance program pursuant to this section.

For the purposes of this section, "residential ratepayer" means a customer who is considered residential under the terms and conditions of the water utility.

See title page for effective date.