

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

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

Effective May 30, 2025.

CHAPTER 152

H.P. 1039 - L.D. 1581

An Act Regarding the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax and Registration Fees Exemption for Certain Veterans

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, certain veterans are exempt from motor vehicle registration fees and excise tax, and 100% disabled veterans may be issued, at no cost, a motor vehicle registration certificate and special designating license plate and to ensure certain veterans benefit from the excise tax exemption and free motor vehicle registration; 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. 29-A MRSA §523, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2023, c. 634, §8, is further amended to read:

2. Disabled veterans; special free license plates. The Secretary of State, on application and upon evidence of payment of the excise tax required by Title 36, section 1482 or upon evidence of exemption from excise tax under Title 36, section 1483, subsection 12, shall issue, with no annual registration fee, a registration certificate and upon request special designating plates to be used in lieu of regular registration plates for a vehicle with a registered gross weight of not more than 26,000 pounds to any 100% disabled veteran when that application is accompanied by certification from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or any branch of the United States Armed Forces as to the veteran's permanent disability and receipt of 100% service-connected benefits. Upon request a disability placard may be issued at no fee. The Secretary of State may issue a registration certificate and special designating plates for no more than one vehicle 3 vehicles owned by a veteran eligible under this subsection.

These special designating plates must bear the words "Disabled Veteran," which indicate that the vehicle is owned by a disabled veteran.

Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §1483, sub-§12, as amended by PL 2021, c. 240, §1, is further amended to read:

12. Certain veterans. Automobiles owned by veterans who are granted free registration of those vehicles by the Secretary of State under Title 29-A, section 523, subsection 1 or 2 or who are disabled by injury or disease incurred or aggravated during active military service in the line of duty and are receiving any form of pension or compensation from the United States Government for total, service-connected disability. A maximum of 3 automobiles owned by a veteran are exempt from the excise tax. In order for an automobile to qualify for an exemption from the excise tax under this subsection, the name of the qualifying veteran must appear on the automobile's certificate of title. If there are multiple owners of an automobile, at least one of the owners whose name appears on the certificate of title must meet the requirements of this subsection in order for the automobile to qualify for the exemption;

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

Effective May 30, 2025.

CHAPTER 153

S.P. 718 - L.D. 1836

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Sex Offender Management and Risk Assessment Advisory Commission Regarding Tier II Offenses

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 Act corrects logical inconsistencies in the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act of 2013; and

Whereas, the timely correction of these inconsistencies is necessary to maintain a consistent system and statutory structure; 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. 34-A MRSA §11273, sub-§15, ¶A, as amended by PL 2017, c. 377, §4, is further amended by enacting a new subparagraph (3-B) to read:

(3-B) Title 17-A, section 255-A, subsection 1, paragraph D, regardless of the age of the victim, if the crime is committed on or after October 1, 2025;

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

Effective May 30, 2025.

CHAPTER 154

H.P. 51 - L.D. 87

An Act Regarding the State Workforce Board

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §13120-T, sub-§4, ¶C, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 450, §2, is amended to read:

C. One member from the Department of Labor or the State Workforce Development Board, established under Title 26, section 2006;

Sec. 2. 26 MRSA §1401-A, sub-§2, ¶I, as amended by PL 2017, c. 110, §10, is further amended to read:

I. The State Workforce Development Board established in section 2006.

Sec. 3. 26 MRSA §2004-A, as amended by PL 2019, c. 246, §2, is further amended to read:

§2004-A. Authority of Legislature

The Legislature has general authority to oversee implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, including, but not limited to, authority to:

1. Review plans. Review plans, policies and standards proposed by a local board, the State Workforce Development Board established in section 2006, the Governor or any other agency under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act before final approval by the responsible entity;

2. Review evaluations. Review the procedures and findings of evaluations of the effectiveness of the State's implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act; and

3. Receive reports. Receive reports prepared by the State Workforce Development Board established in section 2006, a local board, the Governor or any agency in connection with implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, including the report required by section 3101-A.

The State Workforce Development Board established in section 2006 shall submit the state workforce development plan to the joint standing committee of the

Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters for the committee's review at the same time the plan is posted for public comment pursuant to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Sec. 4. 26 MRSA §2006, as corrected by RR 2023, c. 1, Pt. A, §24, is amended by amending the section headnote to read:

§2006. Establishment of State Workforce Development Board

Sec. 5. 26 MRSA §2006, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2017, c. 110, §14 and c. 259, §§1 and 2, is further amended to read:

1. Responsibilities. The State Workforce Development Board, referred to in this section as "the board," is established to ensure that the State's workforce development system helps Maine people and businesses compete successfully in the global economy. Specific responsibilities include but are not limited to:

A. Performing all of the duties and responsibilities of the state board as defined in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act;

B. Recommending to the Governor a state workforce development plan designed to maximize utilization and effectiveness of state workforce development services;

C. Monitoring agency and system-wide strategic goals based on the statewide workforce development policy and strategic plan and evaluating progress toward meeting those goals;

D. Providing recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature that would improve system effectiveness and reduce system fragmentation;

E. Creating greater coordination between economic development and human resource development and education programs;

F. Ensuring a balance between rural and urban workforce development;

G. Providing policy oversight and recommendations to ensure the effectiveness of vocational programs for people with disabilities in order to support efforts that reduce barriers to employment;

H. Providing policy oversight and recommendations to ensure that self-employment, microenterprise and small business are part of the overall workforce development strategy;

I. Providing policy recommendations to ensure the effectiveness of work-related programs and services for youth, including youth with disabilities;

J. Providing policy recommendations to ensure the effectiveness of work-related programs and services for "at-risk" youth; and