

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

Sec. 6. 18-C MRSA §9-202, sub-§8, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 402, Pt. A, §2 and affected by PL 2019, c. 417, Pt. B, §14, is amended to read:

8. Surrender and release or consent by court of comparable jurisdiction from another state. The court shall accept a surrender and release or a consent by a court of comparable jurisdiction in another state if the court receives an affidavit from a member of that state's bar or a certificate from that court of comparable jurisdiction stating that:

A. The party executing the surrender and release or the consent followed the procedure required to make a surrender and release or a consent valid in the state in which it was executed; and

B. The court of comparable jurisdiction advised the person executing the surrender and release or the consent of the consequences of the surrender and release or the consent under the laws of the state in which the surrender and release or the consent was executed.

The court shall accept a waiver of notice by a putative parent that meets the requirements of section 9-201, subsection 3.

Sec. 7. 18-C MRSA §9-202, sub-§9 is enacted to read:

9. Surrender and release or consent from another state without court of comparable jurisdiction. If a parent of a child resides in another state and the laws of that state do not provide for a court of comparable jurisdiction to advise the parent of the consequences of the surrender and release or the consent, the surrender and release or the consent must be approved pursuant to subsections 1 and 2 in person or, after a motion, the court may approve a remote appearance by videoconference.

Sec. 8. Maine Comments. Comments submitted by the Probate and Trust Law Advisory Commission are acknowledged by the Legislature as Maine Comments, and the Revisor of Statutes shall submit the comments for inclusion in the publication of the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 169

H.P. 987 - L.D. 1503

An Act to Create a Green Crab Only Wholesale Dealer License

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6301, sub-§2, ¶W, as amended by PL 2017, c. 296, §4, is further amended to read:

W. A commercial green crab only license issued under section 6808 expires on April 30th of each year; ~~and~~

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6301, sub-§2, ¶X, as enacted by PL 2017, c. 296, §5, is amended to read:

X. An aquaculture license issued under section 6810-B expires on April 30th of each year; ~~and~~

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §6301, sub-§2, ¶Y is enacted to read:

Y. A green crab only wholesale dealer license issued under section 6866 expires on March 31st of each year.

Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §6866 is enacted to read:

§6866. Green crab only wholesale dealer license

1. Definition. For the purposes of this section, unless the context indicates otherwise, "green crab" means the species *Carcinus maenas*.

2. License required. A person may not engage in the activities authorized under this section without a current:

A. Green crab only wholesale dealer license established by this section; or

B. Wholesale seafood license pursuant to section 6851.

3. License activities. The holder of a green crab only wholesale dealer license may, in wholesale trade, buy, sell, process, ship or transport green crabs purchased directly from harvesters in this State. A holder of a green crab only wholesale dealer license when buying directly from a harvester may buy only from a harvester who possesses a license or permit to harvest green crabs required under this Part. The harvester shall make the applicable marine resources license or permit available for inspection upon the green crab only wholesale dealer license holder's request.

4. License fee. The fee for a green crab only wholesale dealer license is \$50. The license fee must be deposited in the Green Crab Management Fund established in section 6809.

5. License limited. A license under this section authorizes activities at only one establishment or with only one vehicle.

6. Violation. A person who engages in activities authorized under subsection 3 without a license specified in subsection 2 is subject to a penalty established by the department. The department may revoke or suspend a green crab only wholesale dealer license for violation of this section.

7. Sunset. This section is repealed January 1, 2031.

8. Review. Prior to the repeal of this section pursuant to subsection 6, the department shall conduct a review of the effectiveness of the green crab only wholesale dealer license and submit a report to the 134th Legislature in 2030. The report must include the department's recommendations concerning possible continuation or modification of the green crab only wholesale dealer license.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 170

H.P. 1010 - L.D. 1525

An Act to Promote Firewood Banks in Maine

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §1849, sub-§1, ¶B is enacted to read:

B. Upon written request from a firewood bank, the bureau may donate timber for use as firewood to the firewood bank if the following conditions are met:

(1) The director determines that sufficient funds are available in the Public Reserved Lands Management Fund in subsection 2;

(2) Any harvest and trucking fees are paid for or reimbursed by the firewood bank; and

(3) All contractual requirements of the harvest operation from which timber is donated are met.

For purposes of this paragraph, "firewood bank" means an organization that purchases or accepts donations of firewood and makes available firewood free of charge to individuals and families in need of heating assistance.

Sec. 2. Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Forestry to promote firewood banks. The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Forestry shall promote the development and public awareness of firewood banks in this State. For purposes of this section, "firewood bank" has the same meaning as in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 1849, subsection 1, paragraph B. The bureau shall develop and dispense informational resources to promote the successful operation of firewood banks in this State. In fulfilling its obligations under this section, the bureau may collaborate with the University of Maine System. The bureau shall:

1. Provide information to the public for the purpose of increasing awareness of the resources available

at firewood banks and the charitable efforts needed to maintain firewood banks in this State; and

2. Develop and maintain on the bureau's publicly accessible website a list of all firewood banks operating in the State.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 171

H.P. 1056 - L.D. 1598

An Act to Provide Relocation Assistance to Crime Victims

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §3360, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2009, c. 79, §2, is further amended to read:

4. Eligible expenses and losses. "Eligible expenses and losses" means expenses and losses resulting from a personal injury sustained by an individual as a direct result of a crime specified in subsection 3 and may include medical and medically related expenses, psychological or mental health counseling expenses, lost wages, funeral, burial and other homicide-related expenses and travel expenses and loss of income of a claimant or family member for providing or obtaining care for the personal injury of a minor or incapacitated victim. "Eligible expenses and losses" may include costs of eyeglasses, hearing aids, dentures or other prosthetic devices taken, lost, destroyed or damaged as a result of the crime, costs to repair, replace or install locks or security devices, costs of crime scene cleanup and ~~security deposits~~ relocation expenses. Expenses and losses claimed under this subsection must be expenses or losses actually and reasonably incurred.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 172

S.P. 641 - L.D. 1604

An Act to Protect Groundwater and Surface Waters from Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances from Landfill Leachate

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

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §413, sub-§13 is enacted to read:

13. Landfill leachate; reporting. Notwithstanding section 414-A or any other provision of law to the contrary, a person licensed by the department to discharge wastewater to groundwater or any waters of the