

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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

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

~~person's license or certificate of registration is under suspension, the officer shall confiscate that license, the certificate or plates and transmit the confiscated items together with a report of the circumstances to the Secretary of State.~~

2. Investigation. On request of the Secretary of State, notification of the suspension must be served, and the certificate, ~~license~~ or plates must be confiscated. If the ~~license~~, certificate or plates can not be confiscated, an investigation must be undertaken by the sheriff of the county in which that person resides, by a state or local law enforcement officer or by an employee of the Secretary of State.

3. Confiscation of suspended licenses. ~~The Secretary of State shall take reasonable actions to confiscate suspended licenses.~~

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 174

H.P. 1096 - L.D. 1655

An Act to Allow the Keeping of Chickens on Private Residential Property

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

Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §219-D is enacted to read:

§219-D. Keeping chickens on residential property

A county or municipality may not adopt a regulation or ordinance that prohibits a person from keeping chickens on that person's residential property. For purposes of this section, "chicken" means a female domesticated bird that is raised for meat or eggs and does not include a fully mature domesticated male chicken. This section may not be construed to limit the home rule authority of a municipality.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 175

H.P. 1222 - L.D. 1827

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Right to Know Advisory Committee Concerning Public Records Requests

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

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §408-A, sub-§4, as repealed and replaced by PL 2015, c. 494, Pt. A, §1, is amended to read:

4. Refusals; denials. If a body or an agency or official having custody or control of any public record refuses permission to inspect or copy or abstract a public record, the body or agency or official shall provide, within 5 working days of the receipt of the request for inspection or copying, written notice of the denial, stating the reason for the denial or the expectation that the request will be denied in full or in part following a review. A request or series of requests for inspection or copying may be denied, in whole or in part, on the basis that the request or series of requests is unduly burdensome or oppressive if the procedures established in subsection 4-A are followed. Failure to comply with this subsection is considered failure to allow inspection or copying and is subject to appeal as provided in section 409.

Sec. 2. 1 MRSA §408-A, sub-§4-A, as amended by PL 2017, c. 288, Pt. A, §1, is further amended to read:

4-A. Action for protection. A body, an agency or an official may seek protection from a request or series of requests for inspection or copying that is unduly burdensome or oppressive by filing an action for an order of protection in the Superior Court for the county where the request or series of requests for records was made within ~~30~~ 60 days of receipt of the request or the date on which the body, agency or official notifies the requester that the series of requests is unduly burdensome or oppressive.

A. The following information must be included in the complaint if available or provided to the parties and filed with the court no more than 14 days from the filing of the complaint or such other period as the court may order:

- (1) The terms of the request or series of requests and any modifications agreed to by the requesting party;
- (2) A statement of the facts that demonstrate the burdensome or oppressive nature of the request or series of requests, with a good faith estimate of the time required to search for, retrieve, redact if necessary and compile the records responsive to the request or series of requests and the resulting costs calculated in accordance with subsection 8;
- (3) A description of the efforts made by the body, agency or official to inform the requesting party of the good faith estimate of costs and to discuss possible modifications of the request or series of requests that would reduce the burden of production; and
- (4) Proof that the body, agency or official has submitted a notice of intent to file an action under this subsection to the party requesting