

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

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The bureau shall develop the affidavit form required by this paragraph and provide a copy of the affidavit to vendors.

E. A vendor employee who serves alcohol on the premises of the host licensee is considered a server of the host licensee for purposes of the Maine Liquor Liability Act.

F. The host licensee must maintain for a period of at least one year a written record of all operations involving vendors, including the name and contact information of the vendor, menus offered by the vendor and the dates and times of operation.

G. The vendor is responsible for collecting and remitting all applicable state and federal sales taxes on food and beverage sales conducted during its operations on the premises of the host licensee.

H. A host licensee is liable for any violation of the liquor laws or any rule adopted by the bureau committed by a vendor on the premises of the host licensee and is subject to any fine imposed for a violation. The license of the host licensee may be revoked or suspended and may be subject to the revocation or suspension of any other licenses that the host licensee holds.

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

Effective June 9, 2025.

CHAPTER 190

H.P. 1026 - L.D. 1568

An Act to Allow the Use of a Siren in a Vehicle Used by a Harbor Master or Deputy Harbor Master

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 legislation allows a municipality to authorize the use of a siren in a motor vehicle operated by a harbor master or deputy harbor master when responding to an emergency call; and

Whereas, it is imperative that this legislation take effect before the start of the boating season; 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 §2054, sub-§1, ¶B, as amended by PL 2019, c. 319, §1 and c. 397, §25, is further amended by amending subparagraph (22) to read:

(22) A University of Maine System vehicle operated by a University of Maine System police officer; ~~and~~

Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2054, sub-§1, ¶B, as amended by PL 2019, c. 319, §1 and c. 397, §25, is further amended by amending subparagraph (23) to read:

(23) A life support transport vehicle when parked on a Department of Transportation ferry vessel and being used to transport a person who requires constant medical support to survive; ~~and~~

Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §2054, sub-§1, ¶B, as amended by PL 2019, c. 319, §1 and c. 397, §25, is further amended by enacting a new subparagraph (24) to read:

(24) A municipal vehicle operated by a harbor master appointed by a municipal officer pursuant to Title 38, section 1 or a deputy harbor master appointed pursuant to Title 38, section 2.

Sec. 4. 29-A MRSA §2054, sub-§2, ¶F, as amended by PL 2023, c. 131, §1, is further amended by amending subparagraph (5) to read:

(5) A municipality may authorize a harbor master or deputy harbor master appointed under Title 38, section 1 or 2, respectively, to use one red or combination red and white flashing auxiliary light mounted in the windshield or on the dashboard at the front of a vehicle or 2 flashing red or combination red and white auxiliary lights mounted on the front of the vehicle above the front bumper and below the hood and one red auxiliary light mounted in the rear window area. The light or lights may be displayed but may be used only while the harbor master or deputy harbor master is responding to a watercraft emergency. A light mounted on the dashboard or in the windshield must be shielded so that the emitted light does not interfere with the operator's vision. The authorization for the use of lights or a siren may be revoked at any time by the municipality.

A vehicle described in this subparagraph may be operated only when exercising emergency privileges by a person who has completed an emergency vehicle operation course provided by the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police. A municipality may authorize an authorized emergency vehicle owned by a municipality and operated by a harbor master or

deputy harbor master as described in subsection 1, paragraph B, subparagraph (24) to be equipped with a siren in addition to authorized lights pursuant to this subparagraph.

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

Effective June 9, 2025.

**CHAPTER 191
S.P. 12 - L.D. 3**

An Act to Adopt Eastern Daylight Time Year-round Contingent on Federal Approval

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

Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §151, as repealed and replaced by PL 2019, c. 268, §1, is amended to read:

§151. Standard time

1. Standard time. The standard time for the State is the time as determined by 15 United States Code, Sections 260 to 267 except that the standard time year-round for the State is the time commonly known as eastern daylight time or eastern daylight saving time, referred to in this section as "eastern daylight time," if federal law or regulation permits the year-round observation of daylight time.

~~A. Federal law permits the year round observation of eastern daylight time; and~~

~~B. All the states in the eastern time zone and the District of Columbia observe eastern daylight time year round.~~

2. Secretary of State to monitor and provide public notice. The Secretary of State shall monitor whether the conditions condition under subsection 1, paragraphs A and B have has been met and provide public notice when each has been met. When both conditions the condition under subsection 1, paragraphs A and B have has been met, the Secretary of State shall issue a public notice announcing the effective date of year-round eastern daylight time as established in subsection 3.

3. Effective date. Year-round eastern daylight time is effective immediately upon the fulfillment of both conditions the condition in subsection 1, paragraphs A and B if the State is observing eastern daylight time on the date both conditions are the condition is met. Year-round eastern daylight time is effective on the next start date of eastern daylight time after both conditions the condition in subsection 1, paragraphs A and B have has been met if the State is not observing

eastern daylight time on the date ~~both of the conditions are~~ condition is met.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 192
H.P. 30 - L.D. 66**

An Act to Expand Access to the Maine Wage Assurance Fund

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

Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §632, as corrected by RR 2023, c. 2, Pt. E, §21, is amended to read:

§632. Fund for unpaid wages and certain liquidated damages

1. Fund established. There is established the Maine Wage Assurance Fund to be used by the Bureau of Labor Standards within the Department of Labor for the purpose of assuring that all former employees of employers within the State receive payment for wages and liquidated damages, in an amount equal to the wages, for a maximum of ~~2~~ 4 weeks for the work they have performed. The Legislature intends that payment of earned wages and liquidated damages from the fund be limited to those cases when the employer has terminated the employer's business and there are no assets of the employer from which earned wages may be paid or when the employer has filed under any provision of the Federal Bankruptcy Act. An officer or director in the case of a corporation, partner in the case of a partnership or owner in the case of a sole proprietorship may not be considered an employee for purposes of this section.

2. Administration. The fund ~~shall~~ must be administered by the Director of the Bureau of Labor Standards. Applications for payment from the fund and disbursements from the fund ~~shall~~ must be in accordance with ~~regulations promulgated~~ rules adopted by the director. The State ~~shall~~ must be subrogated to any claims against an employer for unpaid wages and liquidated damages, in an amount equal to the wages, by an employee who has received payment from the fund. Subrogation to these claims ~~shall~~ must be to the extent of payment from the fund to the employee.

3. Amount in fund. The Maine Wage Assurance Fund is a nonlapsing, revolving fund limited to a maximum of \$200,000. All money collected from an employer pursuant to a claim for unpaid wages and liquidated damages, in an amount equal to the wages, by an employee who has received payment from the fund, or by the State as the employee's subrogee, is credited to the fund.

The fund must be established and augmented periodically as necessary.