

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

CHAPTER 205
H.P. 631 - L.D. 971

**An Act to Amend the Law
Regarding the Checking of
Baitfish Traps**

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §12555, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §265 and affected by §422, is amended to read:

1. Prohibition Checking baitfish traps. While trapping for baitfish in the inland waters with the use of a baitfish trap as defined in section 10001, subsection 7 from April 2nd to October 31st, a person shall check the baitfish trap or cause the baitfish trap to be checked at least once in every 7 calendar days. While trapping for baitfish in the inland waters with the use of a baitfish trap from November 1st to April 1st, a person shall check the baitfish trap or cause the baitfish trap to be checked at least once in every 21 calendar days.

Sec. 2. Report. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall submit a report related to the baitfish trap checking requirements under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 12555, subsection 1 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters by January 1, 2029. The report must include information on whether increasing the time permitted between baitfish trap checks from November 1st to April 1st has led to any biological consequences or enforcement challenges. The report must also include information on reported complaints and accidents, if any, and may include recommendations for suggested legislation. The committee may report out a bill based on the report to the 134th Legislature in 2029.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 206
S.P. 443 - L.D. 1025

**An Act to Allow Federal Civil
Service to Count for Purposes
of Maine Public Employees
Retirement System Benefits**

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §17759-A is enacted to read:
§17759-A. Nonmilitary public employee of the United States Government service

1. Service before becoming member. Notwithstanding section 17759, a member who served as a nonmilitary public employee of the United States Government service before becoming a member is entitled under this subsection to purchase service credit for the period of time that the member served as a nonmilitary public employee of the United States Government service by complying with the applicable provisions of subsection 2. Service credit purchased under this section is limited to 5 years.

2. Members qualified for credit at actuarial cost. A member qualified under subsection 1 to purchase service credit at the cost set forth in this subsection is entitled to service credit if the member pays an amount that, together with regular interest on that amount, is the actuarial equivalent, at the effective date of the retirement benefit, of the portion of the retirement benefit based on the additional creditable service.

A. Payment must be made before any retirement benefit becomes effective for that member.

B. Payment may be made to the retirement system by a single direct payment or by annual direct payments in accordance with section 17701, subsection 4.

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §18364 is enacted to read:

§18364. Nonmilitary public employee of the United States Government service

1. Service before becoming member. A member who served as a nonmilitary public employee of the United States Government before becoming a member is entitled under this subsection to purchase service credit for the period of time that the member served as a nonmilitary public employee of the United States Government by complying with the applicable provisions of subsection 2. Service credit purchased under this section is limited to 5 years.

2. Members qualified for credit at actuarial cost. A member qualified under subsection 1 to purchase service credit at the cost set forth in this subsection is entitled to service credit if the member pays an amount that, together with regular interest on that amount, is the actuarial equivalent, at the effective date of the retirement benefit, of the portion of the retirement benefit based on the additional creditable service.

A. Payment must be made before any retirement benefit becomes effective for that member.

B. Payment may be made to the retirement system by a single direct payment or by annual direct payments in accordance with section 18301, subsection 4.

See title page for effective date.