# 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

section may permit the use of a debit card or other payment method that the an eligible organization as described in section 1832, subsection 2 uses to accept membership dues from out-of-state members and may allow a member of the eligible organization to request that payment for a raffle chance or ticket be made using the member's funds already within the possession of the eligible organization.

- **5.** Guidance for raffle operators. Upon receipt of a request to approve a payment management system under subsection 3, the director shall provide the eligible person or organization with a guidance document including any information the director determines necessary to assist the eligible person or organization in complying with the requirements of this section.
- **6.** Record-keeping and reporting requirements. In addition to the record-keeping requirements under section 1839, an eligible a person or organization that uses a payment management system to conduct a raffle under section 1837-A for which a registration is required shall:
  - A. Retain for a period of 3 years an electronic copy of each receipt for the sale of a raffle chance or ticket sold using the payment management system;
  - B. Retain for a period of one year a physical copy of each raffle ticket stub generated by the sale of a chance or ticket for a raffle sold using the payment management system;
  - C. Maintain raffle ticket stubs retained under paragraph A or B separately for each individual raffle;
  - D. Provide receipts for raffle chances or tickets and raffle ticket stubs retained under this subsection to the Gambling Control Unit on request; and
  - E. Submit an annual report to the Gambling Control Unit that includes the number of raffles conducted using a payment management system during the year covered by the report and the amount of gross receipts for each of those raffles.

An eligible A person or organization that fails to comply with this subsection commits a civil violation punishable by a fine of not less than \$500 and not more than \$5,000.

**Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF

#### **Gambling Control Board Z002**

Initiative: Provides funding for one Office Specialist II position and associated costs.

OTHER SPECIAL	2025-26	2026-27
REVENUE FUNDS		
POSITIONS -	1.000	1.000
LEGISLATIVE COUNT		
Personal Services	\$97,159	\$100,613

All Other \$4,865 \$4,865

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE \$102,024 \$105,478

FUNDS TOTAL

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 223 H.P. 1135 - L.D. 1700

An Act to Create a Direct Investment Pilot Project Under the Maine Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator

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

- **Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §10129, sub-§4, ¶B,** as amended by PL 2021, c. 600, §5, is further amended to read:
  - B. The accelerator may provide capital to qualified projects in the form of:
    - (1) Debt financing;
    - (2) Credit enhancements, including loan loss reserves and loan guarantees;
    - (3) Aggregation and warehousing;
    - (4) Equity capital;
    - (5) Any other financial product approved by the board; and
    - (6) Leases: and
    - (7) Direct loans.
- Sec. 2. Renewable energy generation and grid technology pilot project. The Efficiency Maine Trust shall establish and administer a renewable energy generation and grid technology pilot project, referred to in this section as "the pilot project," through the Maine Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator, referred to in this section as "the accelerator," as established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 10129, subsection 2.
- 1. Notwithstanding any provision of Title 35-A, section 10129 to the contrary, the pilot project must be designed to provide financing or investment from the accelerator to those qualified projects for renewable energy generation, as described in Title 35-A, section 10129, subsection 1, paragraph I, subparagraph (1), and grid technology such as storage to support clean energy distribution, including microgrids, as defined in Title 35-A, section 10129, subsection 1, paragraph H, and smart grid applications as described in Title 35-A, section 3143.
- 2. Within 24 months of the effective date of this Act, and as long as sufficient funds are available, the

Efficiency Maine Trust must use no less than \$1,000,000 of the funds held by the accelerator to provide debt financing credit enhancements; aggregation and warehousing; equity capital, including coinvestments; leases; loans; or other financial products approved by the Efficiency Maine Trust Board to creditworthy projects described in subsection 1.

3. By January 29, 2028, the Efficiency Maine Trust shall provide a report regarding the status of the pilot project to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters. The report must include an evaluation of the effectiveness of the pilot project including a description of each project that received finance and investment services. The trust may include recommendations regarding the continuation of the pilot project in its report. The committee may report out a bill related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 224 S.P. 22 - L.D. 9

#### An Act Regarding Campaign Finance Disclosure

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

- Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §1001, sub-§4 is enacted to read:
- 4. Public communication. "Public communication" means a communication to the public by means of broadcast, cable or satellite communication; newspapers, direct mail, handbills or other printed literature; campaign signs or other outdoor advertising facilities; and prerecorded automated telephone calls or other types of general public political advertising. For the purposes of this subsection, "general public political advertising" does not include communication over the Internet, except for communications placed or promoted for a fee on another person's website, digital device, application or advertising platform.
- **Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1004, sub-§4,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 334, §1, is further amended to read:
- **4. Registration; political action committees.** A political action committee or ballot question committee required to be registered under section 1052-A or 1056-B may not operate in this State unless it is so registered.
- **Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §1004-A, sub-§3,** as enacted by PL 2003, c. 628, Pt. A, §1, is amended to read:
- **3.** Contribution in name of another person. A person that makes a contribution in the name of another

person, that knowingly permits that person's name to be used to effect such a contribution or that knowingly accepts a contribution made by one person in the name of another person, may be assessed a penalty not to exceed \$5,000 500% of the amount of the contribution.

**Sec. 4. 21-A MRSA §1005,** as enacted by PL 2007, c. 571, §7, is amended to read:

# §1005. Restrictions on commercial use of contributor information

Information concerning contributors contained in campaign finance reports filed by candidates, political action committees and, party committees and reports filed under section 1056-B and ballot question committees may not be used for any commercial purpose, including, but not limited to, the sales and marketing of products and services, or for solicitations of any kind not directly related to activities of a political party, socalled "get out the vote" efforts or activities directly related to a campaign as defined in section 1052. Any person obtaining contributor information from the reports is prohibited from selling or distributing it to others to use for commercial purposes and also is prohibited from making publicly available the mailing addresses of contributors. This section does not prohibit a political party, party committee, candidate committee, political action committee or any other organization that has obtained contributor information from the commission from providing access to such information to its members for purposes directly related to party activities, so-called "get out the vote" efforts or a campaign as defined in section 1052. A person who violates this section is subject to a fine of up to \$5,000. A person who knowingly violates this section commits a Class E crime.

### Sec. 5. 21-A MRSA §1007 is enacted to read:

# §1007. Public communication placed or promoted for a fee

A public communication is considered placed or promoted for a fee when a payment is made to a website, digital device, application or advertising platform in order to increase the circulation, prominence or availability of the public communication on that website, digital device, application or advertising platform.

- Sec. 6. 21-A MRSA §1012, sub-§2, ¶A, as amended by PL 1995, c. 483, §3, is further amended by repealing subparagraph (2).
- **Sec. 7. 21-A MRSA §1014,** as amended by PL 2023, c. 324, §8, is further amended to read:

# §1014. Publication or distribution of political <u>public</u> communications

**1. Authorized by candidate.** Whenever a person makes an expenditure to finance a <u>public</u> communication expressly advocating the election or defeat of a