

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

A. A person may take, possess or sell American oysters when 20% or more of a bulk pile is composed of cultchless American oysters if those oysters were legally taken under a municipal shellfish conservation ordinance authorized under section 6671 that includes regulation of American oysters and for which a transplant permit has been issued by the department;

B. A person who is licensed under section 6810-B may take, possess or sell cultchless American oysters when 20% or more of a bulk pile is composed of cultchless American oysters if those oysters are legally taken from an aquaculture lease or license site authorized under section 6072, 6072-A, 6072-B or 6072-C; and

C. A person who is licensed under section 6851 or 6852 may possess, buy and sell cultchless American oysters when 20% or more of a bulk pile is composed of cultchless American oysters.

This subsection does not apply to a person who holds a current aquaculture lease or license site authorized under section 6072, 6072-A, 6072-B or 6072-C, as long as the person is engaged in activity authorized under those sections.

The tolerance described under this subsection is determined by numerical count of not less than one peck nor more than 4 pecks taken at random from various parts of the bulk pile or by a count of the entire pile if it contains less than one peck.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6863, as amended by PL 2013, c. 509, §10, is repealed.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 228

S.P. 130 - L.D. 280

An Act to Establish Lifetime Ferry Passes for Retired Maine State Ferry Service Employees

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

Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §4408 is enacted to read:

§4408. Lifetime ferry passes for retired ferry service employees

A former state employee who is receiving retirement benefits after at least 15 years of employment with the Maine State Ferry Service and who is a year-round resident of one of the served islands of the Maine State Ferry Service is eligible to receive a lifetime ferry pass and a waiver from any reservation fees if the lifetime ferry pass is presented when making the reservation. For the purposes of this section, "lifetime ferry pass"

means a nontransferable pass that provides on a ferry operated by the Maine State Ferry Service:

1. Walk-on passage. Unlimited walk-on passage for a passenger to and from the island on which the retiree resides; and

2. Passenger and vehicle passage. One round-trip passage per month for a passenger and that passenger's vehicle during peak season as determined by rules adopted by the Department of Transportation and 2 round-trip passages per month during off-peak season as determined by rules adopted by the department. A reservation for passage described in this subsection must follow rules adopted by the department. For the purposes of this subsection, "vehicle" means a noncommercial motor vehicle with 4 tires or fewer and an overall length of 20 feet or less.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 229

H.P. 301 - L.D. 447

An Act to Amend the Law Governing Ferry Service to Matinicus Isle

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

Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §4401, as amended by PL 1999, c. 20, §1, is further amended to read:

§4401. Ferry service for North Haven, Vinalhaven, Islesboro, Matinicus Isle, Swan's Island and Frenchboro

It is the duty of the Department of Transportation to operate a ferry route or routes between the mainland and the towns of North Haven, Vinalhaven, Islesboro, Matinicus Isle and Swan's Island for the purpose of transporting vehicles, freight and passengers to and from these towns, and the department may operate the ferry route or routes to and from Frenchboro. Ferry service to Matinicus Isle must be at least 12 times per year ~~and may be up to 36 times per year, with additional service authorized as agreed upon by the residents of Matinicus Isle and the department, and may be provided by state-owned or privately contracted vessels.~~ These ferry routes are designated as the "Maine State Ferry Service." During periods of facility repair or maintenance or during periods of extraordinary demand, the department may carry out its responsibilities by utilizing privately contracted vessels to provide additional or substitute service to islands served by the Maine State Ferry Service as long as the use of privately contracted vessels is in accordance with an agreement between the