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

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Augusta, Maine 2025

authorized representative determines necessary or appropriate. All information received is considered confidential and may not be divulged to any other person or agency, except as may be necessary for the enforcement of this subchapter.

§654. Enforcement

An employer is liable to an employee for the amount of any unpaid minimum hourly wages under this subchapter. Upon a judgment being rendered in favor of an employee in any action brought to recover unpaid minimum hourly wages under this subchapter, the judgment must include, in addition to the unpaid minimum hourly wages adjudged to be due, an additional amount equal to the unpaid minimum hourly wages as liquidated damages and costs of suit, including a reasonable attorney's fee.

An employer that violates this subchapter is subject to a fine of not less than \$50 and not more than \$200.

An employer that discharges or in any other manner discriminates against an employee because the employee makes a complaint to the director or to a district attorney concerning a violation of this subchapter is subject to a fine of not less than \$50 and not more than \$200.

The Department of Labor has exclusive authority to bring an action for unpaid wages on behalf of an employee or employees under this section.

This section may not be construed to restrict or impair any existing right available to an employee under any other section of this chapter.

In the event of a violation of this subchapter, the Attorney General may bring an action in the Superior Court to enjoin further violation of this subchapter.

§655. Unfair contracts

An employer may not be exempted from this subchapter by special contract with an employee or by any other means.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 233 H.P. 391 - L.D. 623

An Act to Enhance Support Services for Individuals with an Acquired Brain Injury

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3088-A, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 488, §1, is amended to read:

§3088-A. Support for underserved populations

Within the limits of its available resources, the department may enter into contracts with dedicated brain injury organizations based in the State or with brain injury organizations representing individuals with a brain injury and their families, bringing together with an affiliate in the State established and directed by families. caregivers and individuals with an acquired brain injury residing in the State, to collaborate with the department on federal brain injury state partnership grants and bring together state and national expertise to provide core brain injury support for underserved populations of individuals with an acquired brain injury, including, but not limited to, individuals who experienced an opioid drug overdose resulting in anoxic or hypoxic brain injury, who are veterans, who are victims of domestic violence, who are experiencing homelessness, who are ineligible for MaineCare and who have a newly acquired brain injury. For the purposes of this section, "core brain injury support" includes, but is not limited to, resource facilitation, brain injury support groups, outreach designed for individuals who have a newly acquired brain injury, access to a joint state and national helpline, access to an online brain injury screening and support system, information and resource education and family caregiver training. The department may adopt rules to implement this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 234 H.P. 394 - L.D. 626

An Act to Explicitly Allow the Department of Corrections to Charge Room and Board to Residents Who Perform Remote Work in Detention and Correctional Facilities and to Amend the Laws Governing Rehabilitative Programs

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

Sec. 1. 34-A MRSA §3035, first ¶, as amended by PL 2019, c. 113, Pt. C, §88, is further amended to read:

The commissioner may adopt, implement and establish rules for rehabilitative programs, including, but not limited to, work release, education release, remote work, furlough and, public service release and programs resulting in the payment of restitution, as authorized described by Title 17-A, chapter 69 section 2016, within for residents of the facilities under the commissioner's control.