

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

end of the fiscal year do not lapse but must be carried forward to the next fiscal year and credited to the fund to be used for the purposes of this section.

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

**MARINE RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF
Commercial Fishing Safety Fund N534**

Initiative: Provides baseline allocation to establish the account.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$500	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE	\$500	\$500
FUNDS TOTAL		

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 252

H.P. 1194 - L.D. 1783

**An Act to Clarify Municipal
Affordable Housing Tax
Increment Financing**

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

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §5248, sub-§2, ¶G, as amended by PL 2013, c. 312, §3, is further amended to read:

G. The duration of the program, which ~~may start~~ starts and ends during any the tax year years specified in the approval of the affordable housing development program by a municipal legislative body, except that the program duration may not exceed the earlier of 30 years after the tax year in which the affordable housing is placed in service, as evidenced by issuance of a municipal certificate of occupancy, and 35 years after the tax year in which the designation of the district is approved by the director as provided in section 5250, subsection 3; and

Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §5250-E, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 426, §1, is amended to read:

1. Reports. The legislative body of a municipality ~~must shall~~ report annually to the director regarding the status of an affordable housing development district. The legislative body of the municipality may delegate the annual reporting requirement to a municipal officer in the initial designation of the affordable housing development district. The report must:

A. Certify that the public purpose of the affordable housing district, as outlined in this subchapter, is being met;

B. Account for any sales of property within the district; and

C. Certify that rental units within the affordable housing development district have remained affordable.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 253

H.P. 1245 - L.D. 1874

**An Act to Enable the Maine
Pilotage Commission to
Oversee Pilots Operating in
Portland Harbor**

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

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §85-B, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 355, §4, is amended to read:

3. Coastal zones. "Coastal zones" means the 3 areas of Maine coastal waters relevant to the commission membership, Calais to Schoodic Point, Schoodic Point to ~~Port Clyde, Southport Island and Port Clyde Southport Island~~ to Kittery, ~~excepting the port of Portland and Casco Bay.~~

Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §86-A, sub-§3, as repealed and replaced by PL 1987, c. 689, §1, is amended to read:

3. Portland harbor Harbor. Those waters specifically governed by the Board of Harbor Commissioners for ~~the Portland Harbor of Portland,~~ except that the commission retains those duties set forth in section 90 as they relate to pilots operating in such waters. This section is not intended to confer jurisdiction or duties upon the commission with respect to the activities of docking masters overseen by the Board of Harbor Commissioners for Portland Harbor.

Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §87-A, sub-§1, ¶E, as amended by PL 2011, c. 14, §2, is further amended to read:

E. All military ships navigating the Kennebec River to and from the Bath Iron Works Corporation for the purpose of accomplishing overhaul, repair, post shakedown availability and sea trials; ~~and~~

Sec. 4. 38 MRSA §87-A, sub-§1, ¶F, as amended by PL 2015, c. 14, §1, is further amended to read:

F. Noncommercial foreign vessels with overall length of under 253 feet, ~~except in the case of Portland Harbor; and~~

Sec. 5. 38 MRSA §87-A, sub-§1, ¶G is enacted to read:

G. In the case of Portland Harbor, noncommercial foreign vessels under 350 gross tons for yacht or recreational purposes and noncommercial American vessels under 350 gross tons under registry for yacht or recreational purposes.

Sec. 6. 38 MRSA §89, as amended by PL 2007, c. 695, Pt. B, §23, is further amended to read:

§89. Maine Pilotage Commission members

The Maine Pilotage Commission, as established by Title 5, section 12004-A, subsection 40, consists of 7 members who are citizens of the United States and the State of Maine appointed by the Governor as follows: Three licensed pilots who are actively piloting, one member from each of the coastal zones; 2 members who are not licensed pilots but are from a maritime industry that utilizes the services of pilots; one member who is not a licensed pilot but has a maritime background, from a list of qualified potential appointees provided by the mayor of the City of Portland and the mayor of the City of South Portland; and 2 members one member representing the public who are is not a licensed pilots pilot but have has a maritime background. Appointments are for 3-year terms. Appointments of members must comply with Title 10, section 8009. The members of the commission are entitled to compensation according to Title 5, chapter 379.

Sec. 7. 38 MRSA §90, sub-§1, ¶B, as amended by PL 1999, c. 355, §10, is further amended to read:

B. Make and establish just and reasonable rates of pilotage for those vessels that are subject to this subchapter;

Sec. 8. P&SL 1981, c. 98, §5, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2011, c. 498, §2, is repealed and the following is enacted in its place:

2. Operation as pilot. The rates, licensure, apprenticeship, continuing education, fees, safety and other activities related to pilots operating upon the waters subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Harbor Commissioners for Portland Harbor must be overseen and regulated by the Maine Pilotage Commission pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, chapter 1, subchapter 3. This section is not intended to limit any authority otherwise maintained by the Board of Harbor Commissioners for Portland Harbor to oversee and regulate the activities of docking masters operating on waters subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Harbor Commissioners for Portland Harbor, except that such activities may not include the service of actively piloting under the jurisdiction of the Maine Pilotage Commission.

Sec. 9. Rulemaking by Maine Pilotage Commission. Within 6 months of the effective date of this Act, the Maine Pilotage Commission shall commence rulemaking with regard to Chapter 1 of its rules to adopt in substantially the same form, for a period of

time at least 24 months in duration, the provisions contained in Section 17.0 of the rules of the Board of Harbor Commissioners for Portland Harbor as of the effective date of this Act as they relate to the licensure, apprenticeship, continuing education, safety and other provisions in Section 17.0 of those rules as they relate to pilots operating in Portland Harbor as long as any fees assessed upon pilots operating in Portland Harbor are consistent with fees assessed upon pilots subject to the jurisdiction of the commission. In adopting these initial rules, this provision does not limit the ability of the commission to organize the foregoing provisions and standards into the commission's existing rules as long as the application of these rules to pilots operating in Portland Harbor are substantially similar to the provisions in Section 17.0 of the rules of the Board of Harbor Commissioners for Portland Harbor. Following the 24-month time period after initial adoption of the rules described in this section, the commission may further amend the rules governing pilots operating in Portland Harbor without regard to consistency with Section 17.0 of the rules of the Board of Harbor Commissioners for Portland Harbor. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as described in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. Commencing on the effective date of this Act and pending final adoption of rules pursuant to this section, pilots operating in Portland Harbor are subject to the jurisdiction of the commission according to any terms or conditions in place during such time period as duly authorized by the Board of Harbor Commissioners for Portland Harbor, other than fee assessments upon pilots in Portland Harbor, if any, which must be consistent with any fees assessed by the commission upon other pilots subject to the commission's jurisdiction.

Sec. 10. Rulemaking by Board of Harbor Commissioners for Portland Harbor. Within 6 months of the effective date of this Act, the Board of Harbor Commissioners for Portland Harbor shall commence rulemaking to ensure that the board's rules are consistent with this Act.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 254

H.P. 1286 - L.D. 1925

**An Act to Improve Access to
Grant Funding for the Maine
Farms for the Future Program**

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

Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §318, as amended by PL 2007, c. 660, §§2 and 3, is further amended to read:

§318. Business plan development