

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

2. Prohibition of required fees for dental services not covered. An insurer that issues individual dental insurance or that issues health insurance that covers dental services may not require, directly or indirectly, that a participating dental provider provide dental services at a fee set by, or subject to the approval of, the insurer for a service that is not a covered dental service.

3. Fees for covered dental services. A fee for a covered dental service must be set by the insurer in good faith and may not be nominal.

Sec. 3. 24-A MRSA §2847-X is enacted to read:

§2847-X. Fees for covered dental services

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Covered dental service" means a dental service for which reimbursement is available under an insurance policy or contract or for which reimbursement would be available but for the application of contractual limitations such as a deductible, copayment, coinsurance, waiting period, annual or lifetime maximum, frequency limitation, alternative benefit payment or any other similar limitation.

B. "Dental provider" means a person licensed under Title 32, chapter 143, subchapter 3.

2. Prohibition of required fees for dental services not covered. An insurer that issues group dental insurance or that issues group health insurance that covers dental services may not require, directly or indirectly, that a participating dental provider provide dental services at a fee set by, or subject to the approval of, the insurer for a service that is not a covered dental service.

3. Fees for covered dental services. A fee for a covered dental service must be set by the insurer in good faith and may not be nominal.

Sec. 4. 24-A MRSA §4261 is enacted to read:

§4261. Fees for covered dental services

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Covered dental service" means a dental service for which reimbursement is available under an individual or group contract or for which reimbursement would be available but for the application of contractual limitations such as a deductible, copayment, coinsurance, waiting period, annual or lifetime maximum, frequency limitation, alternative benefit payment or any other similar limitation.

B. "Dental provider" means a person licensed under Title 32, chapter 143, subchapter 3.

2. Prohibition of required fees for dental services not covered. A health maintenance organization that issues individual or group dental insurance or individual or group contracts that include coverage for dental services may not require, directly or indirectly, that a participating dental provider provide dental services at a fee set by, or subject to the approval of, the health maintenance organization for a service that is not a covered dental service.

3. Fees for covered dental services. A fee for a covered dental service must be set by the health maintenance organization in good faith and may not be nominal.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 299

H.P. 1217 - L.D. 1819

**An Act Regarding the
Brunswick Naval Air Station
Job Increment Financing Fund**

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §13083-S-1, sub-§3, ¶F, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 641, §9, is amended to read:

F. Payments to the fund are not allowed for calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2031 2035. If at least ~~5,000~~ 8,000 net new jobs are created in the base area prior to 2031 2035, the services funded under paragraphs A and B must be reviewed by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over economic development matters in order to determine whether continuance of the fund is necessary.

Sec. 2. Annual financial report; strategic plan. The Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority shall include in its annual financial report for fiscal year 2025-26 pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 13083-S, subsection 1 a strategic plan for the transfer of properties from the possession of the authority to a public or private party.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 300

S.P. 716 - L.D. 1834

**An Act to Clarify the
Availability of Alternative
Claims Payment Methods to
Dental Care Providers**

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

Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA §2436, sub-§1-A, as amended by PL 2023, c. 232, §1, is further amended to read:

1-A. A claimant, including a health care provider, may submit simultaneously a claim for payment with all carriers potentially liable for payment of the claim whether primary or secondary. Payment or denial of a claim by each carrier must be made within 30 calendar days after the carrier has received all information needed to pay or deny the claim whether or not another carrier with which it is attempting to coordinate has acted on the claim. Upon request by a health care provider, a carrier shall provide the health care provider a method for making a claims payment using an electronic funds transfer through the automated clearing-house network. Any payment made must be in accordance with rules adopted by the superintendent relative to coordination of benefits. For the purposes of this subsection, "health care provider" includes a person licensed to provide dental care services under Title 32, chapter 143, subchapter 3 and "carrier" includes an insurer that provides dental insurance.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 301

S.P. 728 - L.D. 1858

An Act to Promote Local Seafood in Schools

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6602, sub-§12, as amended by PL 2023, c. 101, §1, is further amended to read:

12. Local Foods Fund. The Local Foods Fund is established within the department. The fund is authorized to receive revenue from public and private sources. The fund must be held separate and apart from all other money, funds and accounts. Any balance remaining in the fund at the end of the fiscal year must be carried forward to the next fiscal year. The fund must be used to match \$1 for every ~~\$3~~ \$2 a school administrative unit pays for produce, value-added dairy, protein, including seafood, or processed foods purchased directly from a farmer, person who fishes commercially, aquaculture farmer, farmers' cooperative, aquaculture farmers' cooperative, local food hub, local food processor or food service distributor in the State, to a maximum state contribution of ~~\$5,000~~ \$10,000 per school administrative unit in fiscal year ~~2021-22~~ 2025-26 and subsequent years or ~~\$5,500~~ \$11,000 per school administrative unit if funding is received and the school administrative unit sends a food service employee to local foods training administered by the department under subsection 13. All foods purchased using the fund must be grown,

caught or produced in the State, with the exception of processed and value-added food products produced in the State, which must meet standards set by the department. The department shall create standards for allowable processed and value-added food products produced in the State and provide guidance to school administrative units regarding which of those products are allowable for reimbursement under this subsection and subsection 12-A. At the end of the fiscal year, the school administrative unit may provide the department with receipts documenting purchases pursuant to this subsection during that year. Reimbursement or partial reimbursement to school administrative units may only be made up to the amount available in the fund. Failure to reimburse does not constitute an obligation on behalf of the State to a school administrative unit. The department shall apply for federal grant funding to provide state contributions in excess of \$5,000 per school administrative unit in fiscal year 2021-22 and subsequent years pursuant to this subsection if applicable grant funding is available. The department may accept grant funding from hospitals and other sources to provide state contributions in excess of \$5,000 per school administrative unit in fiscal year 2021-22 and subsequent years pursuant to this subsection. Any available unexpended balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year may be used for training and materials related to the Local Foods Fund programs.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §6602, sub-§12-A, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 426, §2, is amended to read:

12-A. Local Foods Fund reimbursement. Reimbursement or partial reimbursement to school administrative units may be made only up to the amount appropriated to support the provisions of the Local Foods Fund as established in subsection 12. Funds appropriated for this purpose do not lapse but must be carried forward to the next fiscal year to be used for the same purpose or for training and materials related to the Local Foods Fund programs.

Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §6602, sub-§13, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 267, Pt. OOO, §2, is amended by enacting at the end a new last blocked paragraph to read:

Funds received for the purposes of this subsection may be used to contract with 3rd-party entities to provide training.

Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §6602, sub-§13-A is enacted to read:

13-A. Data collection; annual report to Legislature. The department shall collect data on the usage of the Local Foods Fund under subsection 12 and the local foods training program under subsection 13 by school administrative units, including the procurement of seafood. Beginning January 1, 2026 and annually thereafter, the department shall report to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over