

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

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective June 15, 2025.

CHAPTER 308

S.P. 24 - L.D. 11

An Act Regarding Temperature Standards for School Buildings

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1001, sub-§23 is enacted to read:

23. Temperature standards for school buildings. A school board shall adopt and implement a written policy establishing standards for minimum temperatures and maximum temperatures for school buildings. The policy must be posted on the school board's school administrative unit's publicly accessible website. A school board shall seek guidance from the department prior to adopting and implementing the written policy.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 309

S.P. 50 - L.D. 124

An Act to Protect the Right to Food

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

Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §902, sub-§1-B, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 153, §1, is amended to read:

1-B. Edible landscaping, food forests and community gardens. The commission shall arrange for and oversee the development and implementation of a plan to incorporate food-producing plants, shrubs or trees into the landscaping of a portion of Capitol Park. Use of edible landscaping must be consistent with the overall plan for the park under section 902-A, subsection 2 and is subject to available funding for the park.

The commission may seek and accept money and food-producing seeds, plants, shrubs or trees from public and private sources for the development and maintenance of edible landscaping throughout Capitol Park and may collaborate with local, state or regional public or private entities with expertise in the design and maintenance of permaculture, edible landscaping, food forests or community gardens.

For the purposes of this subsection, "food forest" has the same meaning as in Title 7, section 292, subsection 1 and "permaculture" has the same meaning as in Title 7, section 292, subsection 2.

Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §2, sub-§6, ¶D, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 677, §1, is amended to read:

D. Focusing on collective responsibility to amplify the voices of persons experiencing food insecurity; ~~and~~

Sec. 3. 7 MRSA §2, sub-§6, ¶E, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 677, §1, is amended to read:

E. Closing the equity gap in household food insecurity by addressing underlying structural inequities; ~~and~~

Sec. 4. 7 MRSA §2, sub-§6, ¶F is enacted to read:

F. Protecting the right to food as declared in the Constitution of Maine, Article I, Section 25.

Sec. 5. 7 MRSA §282, as amended by PL 2023, c. 420, §1, is further amended to read:

§282. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. Direct producer-to-consumer transaction. "Direct producer-to-consumer transaction" means an exchange of food or food products directly between a food producer and a consumer by barter, trade or purchase on the property or premises owned, leased or rented by the food producer; at roadside stands, fundraisers, farmers' markets and community social events; or through buying clubs, deliveries or community-supported agriculture programs, herd-share agreements and other private arrangements.

1-A. Consumer. "Consumer" means an individual who acquires food or food products directly from a food producer of the individual's choosing solely for consumption by the individual or the individual's family.

2. Food or food products. "Food or food products" means food or food products that are grown, produced, processed or prepared for human consumption, including, but not limited to, vegetables, fruit, eggs, grain or grain products, herbs, seasonings or spices, milk or milk products, meat or meat products, poultry or poultry products, fish or fish products, seafood or seafood products, cider or juice, acidified foods or, canned fruits or vegetables, honey, nuts, maple products or condiments or any combination of those items, such as baked goods, sandwiches or other meals, and that are provided in a direct producer-to-consumer transaction.