

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

state board. Upon expiration of that person's state board membership, the position on the commission becomes vacant and must be filled in the manner provided for filling vacancies.

(6) A vacancy on the commission must be filled in the same manner as the position in which the vacancy occurs is regularly filled. A vacancy is filled for the remainder of the unexpired term. If the person serves more than 1 1/2 years of an unexpired term, that service counts as one term for purposes of the limitation set forth in subparagraph (3).

(7) A member of the commission may be removed for failure to perform the duties of office, as specified in commission rules, by a majority vote of the state board.

B. The commission shall adopt rules for the organization and operation of the commission and to develop, implement and refine its procedures for authorizing public charter schools in this State. Rules adopted by the commission pursuant to this paragraph before June 30, 2014 are routine technical rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. Beginning June 30, 2014, rules adopted by the commission pursuant to this paragraph are major substantive rules pursuant to Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

C. The commission shall, in keeping with its authorizing responsibilities:

- (1) Engage professional and administrative staff, separate from the department;
- (2) Convene stakeholder groups and engage experts; and
- (3) Seek and receive state, federal and private funds.

D. The commission is the sole authorizer in this State for virtual public charter schools, except that a local school board may authorize a public charter school within its jurisdiction that integrates online and on-site instruction.

E. The commission, or a representative of the commission, shall appear annually in January before the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters to present the annual report required in subsection 4. The commission's appearance before the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters must be in person unless otherwise authorized by the committee.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 321 H.P. 1197 - L.D. 1786

An Act to Require the Department of Environmental Protection to Provide Certain Information Regarding Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances to the Public and Private Drinking Water Well Owners

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §2660-Z is enacted to read:

§2660-Z. Information regarding PFAS; private drinking water wells

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

A. "Department" means the Department of Environmental Protection.

B. "Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances" or "PFAS" means a perfluoroalkyl substance or polyfluoroalkyl substance that is detectable in drinking water using standard laboratory methods established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, including regulated PFAS contaminants.

C. "Regulated PFAS contaminants" means:

(1) The specific PFAS compounds regulated pursuant to the drinking water standards adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services in accordance with Resolve 2021, chapter 82; or

(2) If maximum contaminant levels for PFAS are adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services subsequent to the adoption of the drinking water standards described in subparagraph (1), the specific PFAS compounds regulated pursuant to those maximum contaminant levels.

2. Posting of information regarding maximum contaminant levels for PFAS. The department shall post on its publicly accessible website information regarding the most stringent maximum contaminant levels adopted by a federal agency or the State for regulated PFAS contaminants, measured in parts per trillion, that are in effect at the time the information is posted and update the information whenever a maximum contaminant level is changed.

3. Provision of information to owner of private drinking water well tested for PFAS contamination. If the department conducts or facilitates the testing of a

private drinking water well for potential PFAS contamination, it shall provide to the owner of the well, by mail and, if possible, by e-mail, the following information at the time that it provides the owner with the results of that testing:

A. Information regarding the most stringent maximum contaminant levels adopted by a federal agency or the State for regulated PFAS contaminants, measured in parts per trillion, that are in effect at the time of the testing;

B. A comparison of the testing results to the most stringent maximum contaminant levels adopted by a federal agency or the State for regulated PFAS contaminants, measured in parts per trillion, that are in effect at the time of the testing; and

C. Information regarding resources available to owners of private drinking water wells affected by PFAS contamination, including information regarding available mitigation strategies for PFAS in private drinking water wells, information regarding entities that test for PFAS in private drinking water wells and information regarding financial assistance, if available, from state, federal and local governments and other sources to support testing and mitigation of PFAS in private drinking water wells.

4. Provision of information to other private drinking water well owners. If the department has not conducted or facilitated the testing of a private drinking water well for potential PFAS contamination, the department shall provide to the owner of the private drinking water well, by mail and, if possible, by e-mail, the information under subsection 3, paragraphs A and C if the department has knowledge that the well may be contaminated by PFAS or if the owner requests such information by telephone, in writing or by e-mail.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 322

S.P. 695 - L.D. 1793

An Act to Amend Eligibility Criteria Under the Maine Solid Waste Diversion Grant Program

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

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §2201-B, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 461, §7, is amended to read:

4. Eligibility criteria. The department may disburse grants under the program to any public or private entity demonstrating that a proposed program, project, initiative or activity is, in the department's determination, likely to increase the diversion of solid waste from

disposal within a particular community, municipality or region or the State, including, but not limited to, municipal or regional composting, organics recovery or recycling programs, including the establishment of such programs or the purchase of infrastructure, equipment or other items necessary to implement such programs or improve existing programs; programs designed to provide equipment for or otherwise support residential composting and recycling; programs or business models designed to collect, transport for processing or process organic or recyclable materials; pilot programs designed to evaluate the feasibility of targeted composting, organics recovery, recycling or other waste management programs or initiatives; ~~and~~ initiatives or programs designed to educate certain categories of individuals or the general public about composting, organics recovery or recycling or to otherwise improve individual or community waste management practices; and programs, projects, initiatives or activities relating to the collection and transportation of waste that is diverted from disposal. Grants disbursed by the department under the program to public and regional entities may cover necessary costs incidental to or associated with the implementation of a proposed program, project, initiative or activity, including, but not limited to, the hiring of or contracting with consultants or specialists, the conducting of feasibility studies and the promotion of collaborative regional efforts relating to the collection and transportation of solid waste.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 323

S.P. 682 - L.D. 1736

An Act to Increase the Supply of Child Care Services Through the Use of Contracts

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3737, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

6. Direct contracts with child care providers. In order to increase the availability of child care in the State and to better stabilize payment practices for providers of child care, the office may directly contract with providers of child care to provide contracted child care slots to those providers in accordance with this subsection.

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

(1) "Direct contract" means a contract entered into by the office with a provider of child care to provide contracted child care slots.