

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

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.

(2) "Office" means the Office of Child and Family Services established in section 5308.

B. The office shall use direct contracts to increase the availability of child care for children under 3 years of age, children with disabilities and children in underserved geographic areas.

C. The office may use direct contracts to increase the availability of child care for children other than children identified in paragraph B based on priorities identified by the office. Such priorities may include, but are not limited to, homeless children, children who are receiving services under the child welfare system, children who need care during nontraditional hours, children for whom English is a 2nd language and other regional child care needs.

D. The office shall review regional needs assessment information to determine priorities for the use of direct contracts, including, but not limited to, needs assessment information from Head Start programs and early childhood learning and development resource groups.

E. To the extent permitted by federal law, the office may use funding from any public or private source for the purposes of this subsection.

F. The office shall adopt rules to implement this subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 324

H.P. 1094 - L.D. 1653

An Act to Develop Maine's Credentialed Workforce

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA c. 447 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 447

MAINE CREDENTIALED WORKFORCE PROGRAM

§12995. Definitions

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

1. Authority. "Authority" means the Finance Authority of Maine.

2. Eligible student loan. "Eligible student loan" means an undergraduate or graduate school student loan obtained for study at an accredited institution of higher

education by a student eligible to receive assistance under a federal student assistance program authorized under the federal Higher Education Act of 1965, Title IV.

3. Fund. "Fund" means the Maine Credentialed Workforce Program Fund established in section 12997.

4. Priority occupation. "Priority occupation" means a profession needing skilled workers as identified by the authority in consultation with workforce experts and in the Department of Economic and Community Development publication "Maine Economic Development Strategy 2020-2029," or successor economic development strategy for the State.

5. Program. "Program" means the Maine Credentialed Workforce Program established in section 12996. **§12996. Maine Credentialed Workforce Program**

1. Establishment; administration. The Maine Credentialed Workforce Program is established to support the credentialing needs of current and future participants in the State's workforce. The authority shall administer the program. The authority's chief executive officer may consult with experts on an ad hoc basis regarding business, education, labor and workforce needs in prioritizing targeted professions.

2. Eligibility requirements. The authority shall establish by rule eligibility requirements for the program, which must include, at a minimum:

A. That the applicant has received an associate degree, bachelor's degree or graduate degree or a credential within 5 years of the date of application;

B. That the applicant has outstanding student loan debt or eligible student loans; and

C. That the applicant is willing to accept and maintain employment in a priority occupation position in the State for a minimum of 4 years in return for repayment by the authority of a portion of that applicant's student loan debt.

3. Application. An application to the program must be made directly to the authority at a time and in a format to be determined by the authority.

4. Maximum loan repayment. The maximum loan repayment amount available to a participant in the program is \$25,000 per year for a maximum of 4 years.

5. Loan repayment agreement; provisions. The authority shall enter into loan repayment agreements with participants in the program on terms and conditions acceptable to the authority, which at a minimum must require the participant and the participant's employer to certify annually, before any payment by the authority under the loan repayment agreement may be made, that the participant has been employed in a priority occupation position for the preceding 12-month period.