

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

A. ~~Five~~ Ten dollars per page for paper copies of plans; and

Sec. 6. 33 MRSA §751, sub-§14-D, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 370, §4, is amended to read:

14-D. Downloads of 1,000 or more consecutive electronic images ~~or electronic abstracts~~ from a county registry of deeds. Acquiring downloads of 1,000 or more consecutive electronic images ~~or electronic abstracts~~ from a county registry of deeds that is equipped to and voluntarily agrees to provide downloads of 1,000 or more consecutive electronic images ~~or electronic abstracts~~ pursuant to a written agreement with the person requesting the downloads, ~~5¢~~ 25¢ per image ~~or electronic abstract~~;

Sec. 7. 33 MRSA §751, sub-§14-E, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 370, §5, is amended to read:

14-E. Electronic images, or printed images ~~or electronic abstracts~~ from a county registry of deeds website. Acquiring electronic images, or printed images ~~or electronic abstracts~~ from a county registry of deeds website as follows:

A. No charge for the first ~~500~~ 400 electronic images ~~or electronic abstracts, or a combination of the first 500 images and electronic abstracts~~, acquired by a person in a calendar year; ~~and~~

B. Fifty cents per electronic image ~~or electronic abstract~~ for each subsequent image ~~or electronic abstract~~ after ~~500~~ 400 electronic images acquired under paragraph A in the same calendar year, except that a municipality may not be charged a fee under this paragraph for acquisition of any number of electronic images from a county registry of deeds website; and

C. One dollar per printed image acquired, not including any applicable postage rates set by the county; and

Sec. 8. 33 MRSA §752, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2017, c. 116, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Surcharge. In addition to any other fees required by law, a register of deeds may collect a surcharge of ~~\$3~~ \$5 per document for all records that are recorded in the registry of deeds, except those recorded by agencies of State Government, including quasi-independent state entities as defined in Title 5, section 12021, subsection 5, and municipalities.

Sec. 9. 33 MRSA §753, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 370, §6, is repealed.

Sec. 10. Effective date. This Act takes effect January 1, 2026.

Effective January 1, 2026.

CHAPTER 329

S.P. 74 - L.D. 138

An Act Regarding the Permitting of Projects Affecting Public-use Airports Under the Natural Resources Protection Act and the Site Location of Development Laws

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

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §480-E, sub-§19 is enacted to read:

19. Public-use airports. Notwithstanding any provision of this article to the contrary, the department may not include in any permit issued pursuant to this article any conditions that, as determined by the department, would decrease safety within the air operations area at a public-use airport.

As used in this subsection, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Air operations area" has the same meaning as in 14 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 153.3, except that, for a public-use airport that does not have an airport security program, "air operations area" means those portions of the public-use airport that, as determined by the department, are substantially similar to those portions of an airport described in 14 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 153.3, including aircraft movement areas, aircraft parking areas, loading ramps and safety areas for use by aircraft and any adjacent areas not separated by adequate security systems, measures or procedures.

B. "Airport security program" means a security program approved by the United States Transportation Services Administration under 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1542.101.

C. "Public-use airport" has the same meaning as in 49 United States Code, Section 47102(22).

Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §485-A, sub-§1-E is enacted to read:

1-E. Public-use airports. Notwithstanding any provision of this article to the contrary, the department may not include in any permit issued pursuant to this article any conditions that, as determined by the department, would decrease safety within the air operations area at a public-use airport.

As used in this subsection, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Air operations area" has the same meaning as in 14 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 153.3, except that, for a public-use airport that does not

have an airport security program, "air operations area" means those portions of the public-use airport that, as determined by the department, are substantially similar to those portions of an airport described in 14 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 153.3, including aircraft movement areas, aircraft parking areas, loading ramps and safety areas for use by aircraft and any adjacent areas not separated by adequate security systems, measures or procedures.

B. "Airport security program" means a security program approved by the United States Transportation Services Administration under 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1542.101.

C. "Public-use airport" has the same meaning as in 49 United States Code, Section 47102(22).

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 330

H.P. 575 - L.D. 889

An Act to Clarify the Release of Information by the Department of Health and Human Services in the Law Regarding Automatic Referrals

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, individuals who are eligible to enroll in certain state programs will be referred to other programs for which they are eligible through an automatic referral project created by Public Law 2023, chapter 412; and

Whereas, individuals must be able to opt out of information sharing, and establishing that ability requires a statutory change; and

Whereas, the Department of Health and Human Services and other state agencies, quasi-state agencies and other entities are currently developing and implementing the project, and this legislation must take effect immediately to avoid any delays; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3110, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 412, Pt. VV, §1, is amended to read:

2. Authorization required. Before providing any information pursuant to this section, the department must receive ~~express~~ authorization from the recipient of assistance agreeing to the release of that information in accordance with ~~federal and state law~~ this section. The department shall develop a simplified process to give the recipient of assistance the choice to opt out of authorizing ~~the~~ a release of information pursuant to this section at the time of application or recertification for assistance under this subtitle or at another time of the individual's choice.

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

Effective June 17, 2025.

CHAPTER 331

H.P. 1137 - L.D. 1702

An Act to Amend Election Polling Place Candidate Restrictions

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, many municipalities in the State will hold elections in June; and

Whereas, this legislation makes changes to polling place restrictions on candidates, and those changes need to be in place prior to those elections; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §682, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Definition. For the purposes of this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, "candidate" has the same meaning as in section 1, subsection 5 and includes a write-in candidate, as defined in section 1, subsection 51. "Candidate" includes a candidate of any party designation and a candidate that is not enrolled in a political party.

Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §682, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2023, c. 109, §1, is further amended to read:

2. Influence prohibited. On public property within 250 feet of the entrance to the voting place as well as within the voting place itself, a person may not: