

# 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.**

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2025**

the department upon the payment of a fee not to exceed \$250. The license fee for a person engaged in both the arts of tattooing, as defined by ~~chapter 63~~ in section 4201, and body piercing may not exceed \$300. The fee required by this section includes the cost of ~~an annual~~ one inspection and one follow-up inspection of the body piercing establishment by the department. Licenses expire one year from date of issue. All fees collected by the department pursuant to this section must be deposited into a special revenue account dedicated to a health inspection program.

A license issued in error by the department is void and must be returned to the department on demand. Notice of the demand to return the license must be delivered by hand or by certified mail to the licensee.

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 340

### H.P. 517 - L.D. 810

#### An Act Regarding the Approval of Transmission Lines

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

**Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3132, sub-§6-C**, as amended by PL 2023, c. 644, §2, is further amended by enacting at the end a new blocked paragraph to read:

For the purposes of this subsection, a high-impact electric transmission line is deemed to have received the majority legislative approval required by this subsection if the high-impact electric transmission line is approved for a contract after a competitive procurement conducted by the commission or a state agency pursuant to statutory authority granted under this Title.

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 341

### H.P. 596 - L.D. 931

#### An Act to Amend the Law Allowing Individuals Subject to Pretrial or Presentence Incarceration to Be Credited Time for Participation in Work Projects Within a Jail

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

**Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §1606, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 2021, c. 169, §1, is further amended to read:

**2. Sentence prorated.** Inmates participating in a public works-related project or an improvement of property owned by a charitable organization under subsection 1 and inmates participating in a work project within a jail under subsection 1-B may have their sentences to the jail prorated at the rate of up to one day removed from the sentences for every 16 hours of participation in the project, except that inmates committed to the custody of the sheriff for nonpayment of fines under Title 17-A, section 1711 must have their sentences prorated at the rate that is applicable to the individual inmate pursuant to Title 17-A, section 1711, subsection 4, paragraph A, subparagraph (1).

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 342

### H.P. 860 - L.D. 1325

#### An Act to Create Clarity in the Laws Regarding Property Tax Abatement Appeals

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

**Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §844, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 396, §18, is further amended to read:

**1. Municipalities without board of assessment review.** Except when the municipality or primary assessing area has adopted a board of assessment review, if the assessors or the municipal officers refuse to make the abatement asked for, the applicant may apply to the county commissioners within 60 days after notice of the decisions from which the appeal is being taken or within 60 days after the application is deemed to have been denied. The applicant may not apply to the county commissioners to appeal a decision of the assessors or the municipal officers with respect to nonresidential property or properties having an equalized municipal valuation of \$1,000,000 or greater, either separately or in the aggregate. The applicant must make such an appeal to the State Board of Property Tax Review pursuant to subsection 2. If the commissioners think that the applicant is over-assessed, the applicant is granted such reasonable abatement as the commissioners think proper. If the applicant has paid the tax, the applicant is reimbursed out of the municipal treasury, with costs in either case. If the applicant fails, the commissioners shall allow costs to the municipality, taxed as in a civil action in the Superior Court, and issue their warrant of distress against the applicant for collection of the amount due the municipality. The commissioners may require the assessors or municipal clerk to produce the valuation by which the assessment was made or a copy of it. Either party may appeal from the decision of the county commissioners to the Superior Court, in accordance with the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 80B. If the county commissioners fail to give written notice of their

decision within 60 days of the date the application is filed, unless the applicant agrees in writing to further delay, the application is deemed denied and the applicant may appeal to the Superior Court as if there had been a written denial.

**Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §844, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 548, §13, is further amended to read:

**2. Nonresidential property of \$1,000,000 or greater.** ~~Notwithstanding subsection 1, the~~ The applicant may appeal the decision of the assessors or the municipal officers on a request for abatement with respect to nonresidential property or properties having an equalized municipal valuation of \$1,000,000 or greater, either separately or in the aggregate, to the State Board of Property Tax Review within 60 days after notice of the decision from which the appeal is taken or after the application is deemed to be denied. If the State Board of Property Tax Review determines that the applicant is over-assessed, it shall grant such reasonable abatement as it determines proper. For the purposes of this subsection, "nonresidential property" means property that is used primarily for commercial, industrial or business purposes, excluding unimproved land that is not associated with a commercial, industrial or business use.

**Sec. 3. Application.** This Act applies to property tax abatement appeals filed on or after January 1, 2026.

See title page for effective date.

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## CHAPTER 343

S.P. 632 - L.D. 1548

### An Act to Prevent the Introduction or Transfer of Invasive Fish Species in Inland Waters of the State

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

**Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10902, sub-§8, ¶E**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 538, §10, is further amended to read:

E. Taking fish by explosive, poisonous or stupefying substances, in violation of section 12653; ~~or~~

**Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §10902, sub-§8, ¶F**, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 538, §11, is amended to read:

F. Fishing or any violation of section 10906 while that person's license is revoked; ~~or~~

**Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §10902, sub-§8, ¶G** is enacted to read:

G. Illegally possessing live fish, in violation of section 12611.

**Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §10902, sub-§8**, as amended by PL 2013, c. 538, §§9 to 11, is further amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

The commissioner shall suspend a person's fishing license for ~~5~~ 10 years and may suspend any other license issued under this Part and held by that person if the person is convicted or adjudicated ~~of illegally importing, transporting or possessing live freshwater fish or fish gametes of an offense under sections 12509, 12510, and 12512 and 12611~~, except that this mandatory revocation does not apply to offenses under section 12509 involving live bait fish or smelts.

**Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §12509, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 113, Pt. C, §20, is further amended to read:

**1. Permit required.** Except as otherwise authorized pursuant to this Part, a person may not introduce, import or transport any live fish or ~~gametes fish eggs~~ into the State or receive or have in that person's possession fish or ~~gametes fish eggs~~ so introduced, imported or transported without a valid permit issued under this section.

A person who violates this subsection commits a Class E crime, except that, notwithstanding Title 17-A, section 1704, the fine may not be less than \$1,000 nor more than \$10,000.

**Sec. 6. 12 MRSA §12509, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

**2. Issuance.** The commissioner may grant permits to introduce, import or transport any live fish or ~~gametes fish eggs~~ into the State or to receive or have in possession fish or ~~gametes fish eggs~~ so introduced, imported or transported if the commissioner determines that the species does not pose an unreasonable risk to any species of fish or other organism after evaluating fish health, habitat and population management issues. The commissioner may not adopt rules or issue permits governing any aspect of either the commercial aquaculture of Atlantic salmon when intended for use in commercial aquaculture in coastal waters, or in land-based aquaculture facilities, or the Atlantic salmon restoration program.

**Sec. 7. 12 MRSA §12509, sub-§3, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

C. A statement from a fish health inspector certified by the American Fisheries Society, a fish pathologist certified by the American Fisheries Society or a licensed accredited veterinarian, certifying that the fish or ~~gametes fish eggs~~ are from sources that show no evidence of viral hemorrhagic septicemia, infectious pancreatic necrosis, infec-