

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

~~2- Suspension of license. The department may, in accordance with Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 5, revoke or suspend a kennel, boarding kennel, breeding kennel, animal shelter or pet shop license if a person maintaining the kennel, boarding kennel, breeding kennel, animal shelter or pet shop violates any quarantine or maintains animals contrary to the rules adopted by the department, fails to keep records required by the department or violates any provision of the laws or rules of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pertaining to wildlife importation and possession.~~

Sec. 15. 7 MRSA §3936-B is enacted to read:

§3936-B. Refuse to issue or renew, suspend or revoke license

The department may, in accordance with Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 5, refuse to issue, refuse to renew, suspend or revoke the license of a facility required to be licensed under this chapter if a person maintaining the facility makes a material and deliberate misstatement in the application for a license or a license renewal under this chapter, violates any provision of this chapter or any rules adopted pursuant to this chapter, violates any quarantine, maintains animals in a manner contrary to any provision of the laws enforced by the department or rules adopted by the department, fails to keep records required by the department or violates any provision of the laws enforced by or rules adopted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pertaining to wildlife importation and possession.

Sec. 16. 7 MRSA §3938, as amended by PL 1993, c. 657, §36, is further amended to read:

§3938. Violation

A person maintaining ~~an animal shelter, boarding kennel, breeding kennel or pet shop~~ a facility required to be licensed under this chapter without having obtained a license, or after a license has been revoked or suspended, commits a civil violation for which a forfeiture of not less than \$50 nor more than \$200 a day may be adjudged.

Sec. 17. 7 MRSA §3944, as amended by PL 1997, c. 690, §27, is repealed.

Sec. 18. 7 MRSA §3950-A, sub-§1, ¶E, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 452, Pt. B, §21 and affected by Pt. X, §2, is repealed.

Sec. 19. 7 MRSA §3950-A, sub-§1, ¶F, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 452, Pt. B, §21 and affected by Pt. X, §2, is amended to read:

F. Chapter 727-; or

Sec. 20. 7 MRSA §3950-A, sub-§1, ¶G is enacted to read:

G. Chapter 723.

Sec. 21. 17 MRSA §1011, sub-§8-A, as amended by PL 2011, c. 100, §17, is further amended to read:

8-A. Breeding kennel. "Breeding kennel" means a location where 5 or more adult ~~female~~ dogs or cats capable of breeding are kept and some or all of the offspring are offered for sale, sold or exchanged for value or a location where more than 16 dogs or cats raised on the premises are sold to the public in a 12-month period. "Breeding kennel" does not include a kennel licensed ~~by a municipality~~ under Title 7, section ~~3923-C~~ 3932-B when the dogs are kept primarily for hunting, show, training, sledding, competition, field trials or exhibition purposes and not more than 16 dogs are offered for sale, sold or exchanged for value within a 12-month period.

Sec. 22. Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry report. The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall provide annual reports, no later than January 15th in 2026, 2027 and 2028, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over animal welfare matters on the transfer of the issuance of kennel licenses from municipalities to the department pursuant to this Act. The joint standing committee may submit legislation relating to the subject matter of the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature, to the 133rd Legislature in 2027 and to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd Legislature.

Sec. 23. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF

Animal Welfare Fund 0946

Initiative: Provides allocations to allow expenditures related to the administration of the Animal Welfare Act.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$21,577	\$21,577
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$21,577	\$21,577

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 415

S.P. 700 - L.D. 1801

An Act to Make Technical Changes to the Laws Governing the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services

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

Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §1802, sub-§3-A, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 638, §2, is amended to read:

3-A. Employed counsel. "Employed counsel" means an attorney employed by the commission to provide ~~legal services directly to persons who are eligible to receive~~ indigent legal services in civil proceedings.

Sec. 2. 4 MRSA §1802, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 638, §3, is amended to read:

5. Public defender. "Public defender" means an attorney employed by the commission to provide ~~legal services directly to persons who are eligible to receive~~ indigent legal services in criminal and juvenile proceedings.

Sec. 3. 4 MRSA §1804, sub-§3, ¶A, as amended by PL 2023, c. 638, §7, is further amended to read:

A. Develop and maintain a system that employs employed counsel and public defenders, uses appointed private attorneys and contracts with individual attorneys or groups of attorneys to provide high-quality, effective and efficient indigent legal services. The commission shall consider other programs necessary to provide high-quality, effective and efficient indigent legal services;

Sec. 4. 4 MRSA §1806, sub-§2, ¶G is enacted to read:

G. Materials, handouts, recordings and other documents produced, obtained or otherwise acquired by the commission in connection with providing or preparing to provide training and evaluation programs for attorneys who are or may seek to become assigned counsel, employed counsel, public defenders or contract counsel. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the commission may disseminate materials governed by this paragraph to the extent necessary to comply with its duties under this chapter without waiving the confidentiality of the materials.

Sec. 5. 22 MRSA §4007, sub-§1-A, ¶E, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 638, §26, is amended to read:

E. The court shall, on request, disclose records that are ~~confidential under this subsection required to be maintained as confidential under this chapter~~ to the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services established by Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 25-A for the purpose of assigning, evaluating or supervising counsel.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 416

H.P. 1281 - L.D. 1920

An Act to Prohibit the Sale of Potentially Intoxicating Hemp Products to a Person Under 21 Years of Age

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

Whereas, there are currently intoxicating hemp products for sale in this State for which there is no legal restriction preventing sale to minor children; and

Whereas, some of those products may be designed or packaged in a manner that a person, including a child, could potentially be led to confuse the intoxicating products for nonintoxicating products typically marketed to children, such as gummies or similar products; and

Whereas, ingestion of intoxicating hemp products by a child can cause harm to the child; and

Whereas, it is in the interest of child safety for the restrictions directed by this legislation to go into effect as soon as possible; 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. 7 MRSA §2231, sub-§1-A, ¶F is enacted to read:

F. "Nonintoxicating cannabinoid" means:

(1) Cannabidiol, also known as "CBD";

(2) Tetrahydrocannabivarin, also known as "THCV";

(3) Cannabichromene, also known as "CBC";

(4) Cannabicitran, also known as "CBTC";

(5) Cannabicyclol, also known as "CBL";

(6) Cannabielsoin, also known as "CBE";

(7) Cannabigerol, also known as "CBG";

(8) Cannabidivarin, also known as "CBDV"; and

(9) Cannabinol, also known as "CBN."

Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §2231, sub-§1-A, ¶G is enacted to read: