

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 7, 2026 to APRIL 29, 2026

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS
JULY 29, 2026

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TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine
2026

CHAPTER 525
H.P. 145 - L.D. 222

An Act to Establish a Take-back and Disposal Program for Firefighting and Fire-suppressing Foam to Which Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Have Been Added

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

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §424-C, sub-§5-A is enacted to read:

5-A. Take-back and disposal program. In consultation with the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal, when funds are available, the department shall design and, by July 1, 2027, implement a take-back and disposal program for firefighting and fire-suppressing foam to which PFAS have been intentionally added that is located in the State and that is in the possession of a person located in the State. The program must provide for the collection of such firefighting or fire-suppressing foam from a person that voluntarily requests collection and for the safe and contained disposal of the collected foam. The department may contract with a 3rd-party entity to implement and administer the program and may adopt rules as necessary for the implementation and administration of the program, which are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. The department may receive funds, grants or contributions from public or private sources to design and implement the program.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,
DEPARTMENT OF**

Firefighting Foam Disposal Program N968

Initiative: Provides baseline allocation to establish an account to accept funding for contracted services related to the take-back and disposal of firefighting and fire-suppressing foam containing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$500	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE	\$500	\$500
FUNDS TOTAL		

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 526
S.P. 126 - L.D. 259

**An Act to Establish the
Criminal Records Review
Commission in Statute**

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§52-D is enacted to read:

52-D.

Judiciary: Criminal Records	Criminal Records Review Commission	Legislative Per Diem and Expenses for Legislators	16 MRSA §901
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Sec. 2. 16 MRSA c. 11 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 11

CRIMINAL RECORDS REVIEW COMMISSION

§901. Establishment

The Criminal Records Review Commission, established by Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 52-D and referred to in this chapter as "the commission," is established for the purpose of conducting a continuing review of laws, rules and procedures pertaining to criminal history record information and submitting to the Legislature its findings and recommendations on an annual basis. For the purposes of this chapter, "criminal history record information" has the same meaning as in section 703, subsection 3.

§902. Membership; terms; chair; vacancies; quorum

1. Membership. The commission consists of the following members:

A. Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate, including one member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;

B. Two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, including one member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;

C. The Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee;

D. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's designee;

E. The Commissioner of Public Safety or the commissioner's designee;

F. The Commissioner of Corrections or the commissioner's designee;

G. The chair of the Right To Know Advisory Committee, established in Title 1, section 411, or the chair's designee;

H. The president of an organization representing the interests of prosecutors in the State, or that president's designee, appointed by the President of the Senate;

I. The president of an organization representing criminal defense lawyers in the State, or that president's designee, appointed by the President of the Senate;

J. A representative of a civil rights organization whose primary mission includes the advancement of racial justice, appointed by the President of the Senate;

K. A representative of an organization that provides legal assistance on immigration, appointed by the President of the Senate;

L. A representative of an organization whose primary mission is to address issues related to poverty, appointed by the President of the Senate;

M. A representative of a statewide nonprofit organization whose mission includes advocating for victims and survivors of domestic violence, appointed by the President of the Senate;

N. A representative of a substance use disorder treatment or recovery community, appointed by the President of the Senate;

O. A representative of an adult and juvenile prisoners' rights organization, appointed by the President of the Senate;

P. A representative of newspaper and other press interests, appointed by the President of the Senate;

Q. The president of an organization representing county sheriffs, or that president's designee, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

R. The president of an organization representing municipal police chiefs, or that president's designee, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

S. A representative of broadcasting interests, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

T. A representative of a statewide nonprofit organization whose mission includes advocating for victims and survivors of sexual assault, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

U. A representative of an organization that provides free civil legal assistance to citizens of the State with low incomes, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

V. A representative of a mental health advocacy organization, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

W. A representative of an organization whose primary mission is the protection of civil liberties, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

X. A representative of a nonprofit organization whose primary mission is to advocate for victims and survivors of sexual exploitation and sex trafficking, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

Y. A representative of an organization involved in advocating for juvenile justice reform, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

Z. A representative of a public records access advocacy organization, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The commission shall invite the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court to designate a member of the judicial branch to serve as a member of the commission.

2. Terms. Members of the commission who are Legislators serve during the term of office for which they were elected. Members of the commission who are not Legislators serve for a term of 2 years and may be reappointed. Members of the commission who are not Legislators may serve beyond their designated terms until their successors are appointed.

3. Chairs. The first-named Senate member is the Senate chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the commission.

4. Vacancies. In the event of a vacancy on the commission, the member's unexpired term must be filled through appointment by the appointing authority for the vacant seat.

5. Quorum. A quorum of the commission consists of 15 members.

§903. Duties and powers

1. Review of laws, rules and procedures. The commission shall review laws, rules and procedures pertaining to criminal history record information in this State, including but not limited to:

A. Procedures within the Department of Public Safety regarding the collection, maintenance and dissemination of criminal history record information;

B. The criteria and eligibility for sealing criminal history record information;

C. Public access to criminal history record information; and

D. The vacating of criminal history record information.

2. Recommendations; legislation. The commission may submit to the Legislature, at the start of each regular session, proposed changes to the laws pertaining to criminal history record information that the commission determines appropriate. The commission may also make recommendations to the Department of Public Safety, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, the judicial branch's advisory committee on the Maine Rules of Unified Criminal Procedure and any other organization or committee whose affairs pertain to the use, maintenance or dissemination of criminal history record information.

§904. Consultation; outside funding

1. Consultation. At the commission's discretion, the commission may seek the advice of consultants or experts, including representatives of the executive and judicial branches and representatives of public interest organizations, in fields related to its duties.

2. Outside funding. The commission may seek outside funding contributions to partially or fully fund the costs of the commission, including staffing. All funding is subject to approval by the Legislative Council in accordance with its policies.

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

LEGISLATURE

Legislature 0081

Initiative: Appropriates funds for the costs of Legislators serving on the Criminal Records Review Commission.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
Personal Services	\$440	\$880
All Other	\$960	\$1,920
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$1,400	\$2,800

Sec. 4. Effective date. This Act takes effect January 1, 2026.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 527 H.P. 224 - L.D. 324

An Act Regarding Funding for Educational Programs and Opportunities

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §253, sub-§10 is enacted to read:

10. Funding for educational programs and opportunities. The commissioner may raise and expend private funds to support a fund established for specific educational programs and opportunities.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF

Innovative Teaching and Learning Z394

Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for an early literacy grant program as well as for grant programming related to the implementation of best practices for mathematics instruction in schools.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$500	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE	\$500	\$500
FUNDS TOTAL		

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 528 H.P. 352 - L.D. 533

An Act to Allow Residents of the Department of Corrections to Opt In to Additional Restitution for Their Victims

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §3360-I, first ¶, as amended by PL 2023, c. 316, §1 and c. 412, Pt. GG, §1, is further amended to read:

As part of the sentence or fine imposed, the court shall impose an assessment of \$70 on any person convicted of murder, a Class A crime, a Class B crime or a Class C crime and \$40 on any person convicted of a Class D crime or a Class E crime, except that the court shall impose an assessment of \$2,000 on any person convicted of aggravated sex trafficking as described in Title 17-A, section 852, an assessment of \$1,000 on any person convicted of sex trafficking as described in Title 17-A, section 853, an assessment of \$1,000 on any person for the first conviction and \$2,000 for each subsequent conviction of engaging a person for prostitution as described in Title 17-A, section 853-B and an assessment of \$1,000 on any person for the first conviction and \$2,000 for each subsequent conviction of commercial sexual exploitation of a minor or commercial sexual exploitation of a person with a mental disability as described in Title 17-A, section 855. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the court may not waive the imposition of the assessment required by this section. For purposes of collection and collection procedures, this assessment is considered part of the fine.