

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

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine
2026

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §13742-A, sub-§1, ¶G, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 303, §4, is amended to read:

G. A violation of section 13725-; or

Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §13742-A, sub-§1, ¶H is enacted to read:

H. Failing to file with the board an applicable registration number described in section 13758, subsection 4, paragraph B once that applicable registration number is obtained.

Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §13758, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2007, c. 402, Pt. DD, §28, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

4. Form. License forms must state:

A. The applicant's name, address, day phone, 24-hour phone, ownership status and manufacturer or wholesaler designation;

B. The applicant's United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration registration number and the applicant's United States Food and Drug Administration registration number, as applicable, if the applicant has obtained the registration number at the time the form is executed; and

C. The date the form is executed.

License forms must be executed by an owner or officer of the manufacturer or wholesaler, providing printed name and title.

If, at the time the form is executed, the applicant has not obtained a registration number described in paragraph B that is applicable to the applicant, the applicant shall file that registration number with the board once the registration number is obtained.

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

Effective March 3, 2026.

CHAPTER 545

H.P. 1362 - L.D. 2032

An Act to Amend the Extreme Risk Protection Order Procedure

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

Whereas, the number of petitions filed under the laws governing extreme risk protection orders has significantly increased in recent years; and

Whereas, this legislation expedites justice for individuals who have a statutory right to a hearing; and

Whereas, this legislation improves court efficiency in adhering to those statutory hearing deadlines; and

Whereas, this legislation must take effect before the end of the 90-day period to ensure that extreme risk protection orders are processed in an efficient manner; 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. 34-B MRSA §3862-A, sub-§4, ¶B, as amended by PL 2023, c. 675, §17, is further amended by amending subparagraph (4) to read:

(4) Provide a copy to the court of the judicial endorsement and all attachments and the notification to the restricted person, including the date of notification.

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

Effective March 3, 2026.

CHAPTER 546

H.P. 1377 - L.D. 2053

An Act to Improve Safety by Allowing the Use of Variable-message Signs on Certain Vehicles

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

Whereas, vehicles that assist with traffic incidents and improve roadway safety that are equipped with variable-message signs mounted on the vehicle are prepared to begin using variable-message signs immediately; and

Whereas, a delay in allowing vehicles that assist with traffic incidents and improve roadway safety to use variable-message signs could allow for a greater number of traffic-related injuries to occur; 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. 29-A MRSA §2054, sub-§1, ¶K is enacted to read:

K. "Safety service patrol vehicle" means a vehicle, equipped with a variable-message sign, used or contracted by the department or the Maine Turnpike Authority to assist with traffic incidents and improve roadway safety.

Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §2054, sub-§1, ¶L is enacted to read:

L. "Variable-message sign" means a traffic control device on which a message can be displayed and changed manually, electronically, mechanically, electromechanically or by other means to provide information about traffic congestion, traffic accidents, maintenance operations, adverse weather conditions, roadway conditions or organized events or other necessary roadway safety information.

Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §2054, sub-§12 is enacted to read:

12. Variable-message signs. A variable-message sign may be used on a wrecker, police vehicle, fire department vehicle, safety service patrol vehicle or highway maintenance vehicle in the manner prescribed in this subsection. The variable-message sign may not exceed the width of the vehicle on which it is mounted and may be displayed only facing traffic behind the vehicle. The operator of a vehicle under this subsection may use a variable-message sign as follows.

A. The operator of a wrecker may use a variable-message sign on that vehicle while it is stationary and engaged in repair, loading or unloading a vehicle or performing a vehicle recovery. A variable-message sign mounted on a wrecker must display amber lights that create right or left arrows or the words "slow down" or "move over."

B. The operator of a police vehicle, fire department vehicle, safety service patrol vehicle or highway maintenance vehicle may use a variable-message sign on that vehicle to provide information about traffic congestion, traffic accidents, maintenance operations, adverse weather conditions, roadway conditions or organized events or other necessary roadway safety information. The variable-message sign must display right or left arrows or the words "slow down," "move over," "accident ahead," "crash ahead" or other similar language. Other messages not described in this paragraph may be displayed on a variable-message sign if the additional messages are established by rule and in line with standards in accordance with the latest edition

of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices published by the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration.

The Commissioner of Public Safety or the commissioner's designee may adopt rules as necessary for the purpose of implementing this paragraph. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

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

Effective March 3, 2026.

CHAPTER 547

H.P. 1381 - L.D. 2068

An Act to Bring the Law Governing Emergency Equipment for Trucks and Truck Tractors into Alignment with the Federal Motor Carrier Laws

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

Sec. 1. 29-A MRSA §1952, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2003, c. 452, Pt. Q, §25 and affected by Pt. X, §2, is further amended to read:

1. ~~Carry flares~~ Flares or bidirectional emergency reflective triangles. Except as provided in subsection 1-A, a truck or truck tractor with a registration for operation with gross vehicle weight in excess of 10,000 pounds must be equipped with ~~2 red flags~~, 3 flares ~~and or 3 red lanterns or red emergency reflectors~~ bidirectional emergency reflective triangles.

Sec. 2. 29-A MRSA §1952, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 683, Pt. A, §2 and affected by Pt. B, §5, is amended to read:

2. Disabled vehicle. When a truck or truck tractor with a registration for operation with gross vehicle weight in excess of 10,000 pounds is disabled on a public way, the operator shall, ~~during the time that lights are required to be illuminated~~, place emergency signals as follows:

A. One flare or ~~lantern or red emergency reflector~~ bidirectional emergency reflective triangle in the center of the lane of traffic occupied by the disabled motor vehicle not less than 100 feet from the vehicle in the direction of traffic approaching in that lane;

B. One flare or ~~lantern or red emergency reflector~~ bidirectional emergency reflective triangle not less