

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

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

than 100 feet from the vehicle in the center of the same lane in the opposite direction; and

C. One flare or ~~lantern or red emergency reflector~~ bidirectional emergency reflective triangle at the traffic side of the vehicle not closer than 10 feet from the front or rear.

~~When lights are not required to be illuminated, red flags must be used, except that no flag is required to be placed at the side of the vehicle.~~

Sec. 3. 29-A MRSA §1952, as amended by PL 2003, c. 452, Pt. Q, §§25 and 26 and affected by Pt. X, §2, is further amended by enacting at the end a new paragraph to read:

As used in this section, "bidirectional emergency reflective triangle" means an emergency warning device that meets the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 571.125.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 548

S.P. 805 - L.D. 1992

An Act to Create a Process for the Residents of a Municipality to Withdraw from a School Union

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1905 is enacted to read:

§1905. Withdrawal

The residents of a participating municipality of a municipal school unit within a school union may petition and vote to withdraw from the school union in the same manner as a single municipality within a school administrative unit may petition to withdraw from a regional school unit in accordance with section 1466.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 549

H.P. 1346 - L.D. 2016

An Act to Eliminate the Thermal Imaging Camera Program

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

Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2403, as enacted by PL 2001, c. 439, Pt. BBBB, §1, is repealed.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 550

H.P. 1367 - L.D. 2037

An Act to Update the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Allowances

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

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §580-B, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2017, c. 323, §1, is further amended to read:

3. Base annual budget. Until January 1, 2014, the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget is established at 5,948,902 tons of carbon dioxide. For the year 2014, the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget is established at 3,277,250 tons of carbon dioxide. Beginning with the year 2015, the annual carbon dioxide emissions budget must decline by 2.5% each year through the year 2020. For the year 2021, the department shall establish the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget in accordance with the model rule and with rules adopted pursuant to subsection 4. Beginning with the year 2022, the annual carbon dioxide emissions budget must decline by 2.5% of the 2014 base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget each year through the year ~~2030~~ 2026. Beginning with the year 2027, the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budgets are as follows.

A. For the year 2027, the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget is 2,065,595 tons.

B. For the year 2028, the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget is 1,807,395 tons.

C. For the year 2029, the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget is 1,549,196 tons.

D. For the year 2030, the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget is 1,290,997 tons.

E. For the year 2031, the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget is 1,032,797 tons.

F. For the year 2032, the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget is 774,598 tons.

G. For the year 2033, the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget is 516,399 tons.

H. For the year 2034, the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget is 442,627 tons.

I. For the year 2035, the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget is 368,856 tons.

J. For the year 2036, the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget is 295,085 tons.

K. For the year 2037 and each subsequent year, the base annual carbon dioxide emissions budget is 221,314 tons.

Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §580-B, sub-§4, ¶C, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 317, §17, is repealed.