

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

interconnection ombudsman shall publish on the commission's publicly accessible website the average interconnection costs by project size along with disclaimer language regarding the range and factors associated with the cost of interconnection pursuant to subsection 2, paragraph C.

Sec. 6. Department of Energy Resources; model forms. By June 1, 2026, the Department of Energy Resources shall develop 2 model standard written disclosure forms for the sale and for the lease of solar energy equipment described in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3218, informed by stakeholder input. The department shall make the disclosure forms available on its publicly accessible website.

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

Effective March 19, 2026.

CHAPTER 576 S.P. 801 - L.D. 1989

An Act to Increase Access to the Progressive Treatment Program Fund

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

Whereas, progressive treatment programs are vital tools in helping individuals with serious mental illness remain in a community setting; and

Whereas, legal fees for initiating and extending progressive treatment programs are a barrier for many individuals; and

Whereas, the Progressive Treatment Program Fund is a dedicated fund to assist individuals who are filing an application for a progressive treatment program with paying for associated legal expenses; and

Whereas, the current individual cap in funding continues to result in underuse of the fund; and

Whereas, this legislation must take effect as soon as possible in order to address these issues; 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 §3873-B, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 745, §1, is amended to read:

2. Application of fund. The department shall use the money in the fund to reimburse the legal costs incurred by ~~private entities~~ the following individuals to initiate or extend existing progressive treatment programs in accordance with section 3873-A: ~~the superintendent or chief administrative officer of a private psychiatric hospital, the director of an ACT team, a private medical practitioner, a law enforcement officer or the legal guardian of the patient who is the subject of an application under section 3873-A. A private entity~~ The department may use money in the fund to reimburse a private attorney representing an individual eligible to receive funds under this subsection. An individual seeking reimbursement must submit to the department an itemized bill of legal costs incurred to initiate or extend the progressive treatment program. The maximum annual amount the department may reimburse a private entity an individual for the legal costs to initiate a or extend an existing progressive treatment program is \$800 \$3,500. Reimbursement is subject to available funds.

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

Effective March 19, 2026.

CHAPTER 577 S.P. 802 - L.D. 1990

An Act to Update the Requirements for Psychology Licensure

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

Whereas, current law governing qualification for licensure as a psychologist disqualifies candidates who failed an examination within the preceding 6 months, preventing the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists from granting licensure to candidates who subsequently passed the examination within the 6-month period; and

Whereas, one of the primary responsibilities of the board is to review the credentials of qualified candidates for licensure as psychologists and to grant licensure without delay in response to behavioral health workforce shortages, increasing access to behavioral health care services; and

Whereas, this legislation must take effect as soon as possible to better allow the board to quickly respond to the behavioral health workforce shortage; 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. 32 MRSA §3831, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2007, c. 402, Pt. Q, §9, is further amended to read:

1. Psychological examiner. A candidate for this license shall furnish the board with satisfactory evidence that the candidate is trustworthy and competent to practice as a psychological examiner in such manner as to safeguard the interests of the public; has had a master's degree reflecting comprehensive training in psychology from an accredited educational institution recognized by the board as maintaining satisfactory standards; has had at least one year of full-time supervised experience in psychology of a type considered by the board to be qualifying in nature; is competent as a psychological examiner as shown by passing such examinations, written or oral, or both, as the board determines necessary; ~~and is not considered by the board to be engaged in unethical practice; and has not within the preceding 6 months failed an examination.~~

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §3831, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2013, c. 262, §1, is further amended to read:

2. Psychologist. A candidate for this license shall furnish the board with satisfactory evidence that the candidate is trustworthy and competent to practice as a psychologist in such manner as to safeguard the interest of the public; has received a doctorate degree reflecting comprehensive training in psychology from an accredited institution recognized by the board as maintaining satisfactory standards, at the time the degree was granted; has had at least 2 years of experience in psychology of a type considered by the board to be qualifying in nature; is competent in psychology, as shown by passing such examinations as the board determines necessary; ~~and is not considered by the board to be engaged in unethical practice; and has not within the preceding 6 months failed an examination.~~ The board shall recognize that valid comprehensive training in psychology must be received in or accepted by a single program, but may be obtained through a degree given by administrative units other than a department of psychology, including programs approved by the National Association of School Psychologists or the American Psychological Association designation program or their successors or other organizations approved by the board. The board shall adopt a list of these programs. Individuals with degrees from programs not on that list must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Beginning January 1, 2020, a candidate for initial licensure shall furnish the board with satisfactory evidence that the candidate has successfully completed a minimum of 3 hours of course work in family or intimate

partner violence screening and referral and intervention strategies, including knowledge of community resources, cultural factors, evidence-based risk assessment and same-gender abuse dynamics. A candidate may fulfill this requirement through course work taken in fulfillment of other educational requirements for licensure or through separate course work provided through any combination of contact hours, Internet hours and distance learning programs, as evidenced by certification from an accredited educational institution. The board shall accept certification from the accredited educational institution from which the applicant is a graduate that verifies the applicant's satisfaction of this requirement within the applicant's completed course curriculum. A candidate for initial licensure that is unable to demonstrate completion of the requirement of 3 hours of course work at the time the initial application is submitted shall demonstrate to the board that this requirement has been fulfilled upon the candidate's first application for license renewal.

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

Effective March 19, 2026.

CHAPTER 578

H.P. 205 - L.D. 305

An Act Regarding the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Exemption for Leased Automobiles for Certain Veterans

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

Whereas, Public Law 2025, chapter 152 was enacted to prevent the misuse of the motor vehicle excise tax exemption for certain disabled veterans; and

Whereas, through the process of implementing Public Law 2025, chapter 152, it was uncovered that a significant group of disabled veterans lease, rather than own, their vehicles and was excluded from the excise tax exemption, creating an inequity that was not contemplated during legislative debate and runs counter to the spirit of the law; and

Whereas, leasing may be the most practical and affordable option for veterans living on fixed incomes or disability compensation; and

Whereas, this legislation must go into effect as soon as possible to address this matter; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of