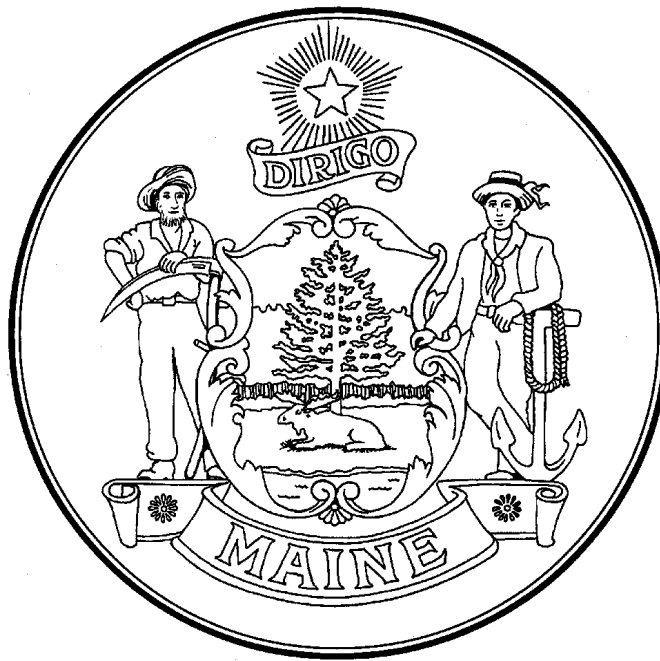


MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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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

attributable to rehabilitation, attorney's, physicians', nurses', hospital, medical, surgical or related fees or charges or any amount paid or payable under former Title 39, section 56-B or Title 39-A, section 212, subsection 3.

(2) The prorated lump-sum settlement must reduce the disability retirement benefit in the same manner and amount as monthly benefits under this subsection.

E. Any dispute about amounts paid or payable under the workers' compensation laws or the amount of the lump-sum settlement and its attributions must be determined on petition by a single member of the Workers' Compensation Board in accordance with Title 39-A. The determination may be appealed under Title 39-A, section 322.

Sec. 27. 5 MRSA §18532, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 1989, c. 409, §§11 and 12 and amended by PL 2021, c. 548, §45, is further amended to read:

3. Termination or reduction in benefits. At any time before the elimination of disability retirement benefit payments under section ~~18530~~ 18530-A, subsection ~~3~~ 1, the person may request that benefit payments be terminated, and the chief executive officer shall terminate benefit payments at the end of the month in which the request is received.

Sec. 28. Existing debt due to excess compensation before effective date of this Act. An individual who is required to reimburse the Maine Public Employees Retirement System for any excess payments due to the receipt of excess compensation from employment under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 17906, subsection 1; section 17930; section 18506, subsection 1; and section 18530 as of the effective date of this Act is no longer obligated to reimburse the Maine Public Employees Retirement System for that debt beginning on the effective date of this Act.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 599

H.P. 1261 - L.D. 1890

An Act to Facilitate the Development of Ambulatory Surgical Facilities by Increasing the Monetary Threshold for Certain Facilities Under the Requirement to Obtain a Certificate of Need and to Index the Threshold Annually Thereafter

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §329, sub-§4-A, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 424, Pt. A, §5 and affected by Pt. E, §1, is amended by amending subparagraph (1) to read:

(1) If it requires a capital expenditure of more than ~~\$3,000,000~~ \$7,500,000. Beginning January 1, 2027 and annually thereafter, the threshold amount for review must be updated by the commissioner to reflect the change in the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index medical care services index, with an effective date of January 1st each year; or

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 600

S.P. 814 - L.D. 2000

An Act to Update the Campaign Finance Laws

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 changes in this legislation may directly impact statewide campaigns during the 2026 election; and

Whereas, it is necessary to amend the requirements of certain campaign finance laws as soon as possible to avoid undue burdens and confusion; 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. 21-A MRSA §1017, sub-§2, ¶D, as amended by PL 2019, c. 323, §7, is further amended to read:

D. If the candidate has an opponent who is on the ballot or who is a declared write-in candidate, any single contribution of ~~\$1,000~~ \$10,000 or more received or any single expenditure of ~~\$1,000~~ \$10,000 or more made after the 14th day before the election and more than ~~24~~ 48 hours before 11:59 p.m. on the day of the election must be reported within ~~24~~ 48 hours of that contribution or expenditure. The candidate or treasurer is not required to include in this report expenditures for overhead expenses or compensation paid to an employee or other member of the campaign staff who has received payments at

regular intervals that have been disclosed in previously filed campaign finance reports. As used in this paragraph, "overhead expenses" includes, but is not limited to, rent, utility payments, taxes, insurance premiums or similar administrative expenses.

Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §1017, sub-§3-A, ¶C, as amended by PL 2019, c. 323, §8, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

C. If the candidate has an opponent who is on the ballot or who is a declared write-in candidate, any single contribution received or any single expenditure made after the 14th day before any election and more than 48 hours before 11:59 p.m. on the day of any election that is equal to or greater than the following thresholds must be reported within 48 hours of that contribution or expenditure:

- (1) For a candidate for State Senator, \$5,000;
- (2) For a candidate for county office, \$2,500;
- (3) For a candidate for State Representative, \$1,500; and
- (4) For a candidate for municipal office, \$1,500.

The candidate or treasurer is not required to include in this report expenditures for overhead expenses or compensation paid to an employee or other member of the campaign staff who has received payments at regular intervals that have been disclosed in previously filed campaign finance reports. As used in this paragraph, "overhead expenses" includes, but is not limited to, rent, utility payments, taxes, insurance premiums or similar administrative expenses.

Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §1017-A, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2019, c. 323, §11, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

2. Expenditures to influence campaign. A party committee shall report all expenditures made to influence a campaign, as defined in section 1052, subsection 1. For each expenditure, the party committee shall report:

- A. The candidate or ballot measure for which the expenditure was made;
- B. For a candidate, the office sought by the candidate and the district that the candidate seeks to represent;
- C. The date and amount of each expenditure;
- D. The purpose of each expenditure, including whether the expenditure was made to support or oppose the candidate or ballot measure; and
- E. The name and address of each payee.

Sec. 4. 21-A MRSA §1017-A, sub-§4-A, ¶E, as amended by PL 2019, c. 323, §12, is further amended to read:

E. If a state party committee is required to file a report 11 days before an election pursuant to paragraph B or C, the committee shall report any single contribution of ~~\$5,000~~ \$10,000 or more received or any single expenditure of ~~\$1,000~~ \$2,500 or more made after the 14th day before the election and more than 24 hours before 5:00 p.m. on the day of the election within 24 hours of that contribution or expenditure. The committee is not required to include in this report expenditures for overhead expenses or compensation paid to an employee or other member of the campaign staff who has received payments at regular intervals that have been disclosed in previously filed campaign finance reports. As used in this paragraph, "overhead expenses" includes, but is not limited to, rent, utility payments, taxes, insurance premiums or similar administrative expenses.

Sec. 5. 21-A MRSA §1017-A, sub-§4-B, ¶C, as amended by PL 2019, c. 323, §13, is further amended to read:

C. A committee shall report any single contribution of ~~\$5,000~~ \$10,000 or more received or any expenditure of ~~\$1,000~~ \$2,500 or more made after the 14th day before a general or special election and more than 24 hours before 11:59 p.m. on the day of the election within 24 hours of that contribution or expenditure. The committee is not required to include in this report expenditures for overhead expenses or compensation paid to an employee or other member of the campaign staff who has received payments at regular intervals that have been disclosed in previously filed campaign finance reports. As used in this paragraph, "overhead expenses" includes, but is not limited to, rent, utility payments, taxes, insurance premiums or similar administrative expenses.

Sec. 6. 21-A MRSA §1019-B, sub-§4, as amended by IB 2023, c. 4, §3, is further amended to read:

4. Report required; content; rules. A person, party committee or political action committee that makes any independent expenditure in excess of ~~\$250~~ \$1,000 during any one candidate's election shall file a report with the commission. In the case of a municipal election, the report must be filed with the municipal clerk.

A. A report required by this subsection must be filed with the commission according to a reporting schedule that the commission shall establish by rule that takes into consideration existing campaign finance reporting requirements. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are routine technical

rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

B. A report required by this subsection must contain an itemized account of the total contributions from each contributor, each expenditure in excess of ~~\$250~~ \$1,000 in any one candidate's election, the date and purpose of each expenditure and the name of each payee or creditor. The report must state whether the expenditure is in support of or in opposition to the candidate and must include, under penalty of unsworn falsification, as provided in Title 17-A, section 453, a statement whether the expenditure is made in cooperation, consultation or concert with, or at the request or suggestion of, the candidate or an authorized committee or agent of the candidate.

C. A report required by this subsection must be on a form prescribed and prepared by the commission. A person filing this report may use additional pages if necessary, but the pages must be the same size as the pages of the form. The commission may adopt procedures requiring the electronic filing of an independent expenditure report, as long as the commission adopts an exception for persons who lack access to the required technology or the technological ability to file reports electronically.

Sec. 7. 21-A MRSA §1052, sub-§2-A, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 217, §3, is amended to read:

2-A. Ballot question committee. "Ballot question committee" means a person that receives contributions or makes expenditures aggregating in excess of \$5,000 for the purpose of initiating or influencing a campaign, other than a campaign for the nomination or election of a candidate. The term "ballot question committee" does not include a ~~political action committee or an exempt donor party committee, an exempt donor or a political action committee not required to register as a ballot question committee under section 1052-A, subsection 1-A, paragraph A.~~

Sec. 8. 21-A MRSA §1059, sub-§2, ¶E, as amended by PL 2019, c. 323, §24, is further amended to read:

E. If a committee is required to file a report 11 days before an election pursuant to paragraph B or C, the committee shall report any single contribution of ~~\$5,000~~ \$10,000 or more received or single expenditure of ~~\$1,000~~ \$2,500 or more made after the 14th day before the election and more than 24 hours before 5:00 p.m. on the day of the election within 24 hours of that contribution or expenditure. The treasurer is not required to include in this report expenditures for overhead expenses or compensation paid to an employee or other member of the campaign staff who has received payments at regular intervals that have been disclosed in previously

filed campaign finance reports. As used in this paragraph, "overhead expenses" includes, but is not limited to, rent, utility payments, taxes, insurance premiums or similar administrative expenses.

Sec. 9. Qualifying period for Maine Clean Election Act in 2026. Notwithstanding the definition of "qualifying period" in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A, section 1122, subsection 8, for State Senate or State House of Representatives participating candidates who file with the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices a declaration of intent to seek certification as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate after January 15, 2026, the qualifying period ends at 5:00 p.m. on May 21, 2026.

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

Effective April 3, 2026.

CHAPTER 601

H.P. 1360 - L.D. 2030

An Act to Expand the Scope of Practice of Independent Practice Dental Hygienists

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

Whereas, this legislation allows an independent practice dental hygienist to administer local anesthesia or nitrous oxide analgesia as long as the independent practice dental hygienist has the appropriate licensure authority; and

Whereas, this legislation will provide more opportunities for persons in need of dental cleanings and other preventive dental services to access these services through an independent practice dental hygienist; and

Whereas, immediate enactment of this legislation is necessary to expand access to oral health care in this State; 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 §18375, sub-§1, ¶Q, as amended by PL 2023, c. 354, §8, is further amended to read: