

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

A. Establish and maintain a system for the proper collection, transportation and processing of waste dry cell mercuric oxide and rechargeable batteries for purchasers in this State;

B. Clearly inform each purchaser that intends to use these batteries of the prohibition on disposal of dry cell mercuric oxide and rechargeable batteries and of the available systems for proper collection, transportation and processing of these batteries;

C. Identify a collection system through which mercuric oxide and rechargeable batteries must be returned to the manufacturer or to a manufacturer-designated collection site; and

D. Include the cost of proper collection, transportation and processing of the waste batteries in the sales transaction or agreement between the manufacturer and any purchaser.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 609

H.P. 683 - L.D. 1054

An Act to Amend Certain Definitions in the Laws Governing Conservation Easements

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

Sec. 1. 33 MRSA §476, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 395, §3, is amended to read:

1. Conservation easement. "Conservation easement" means a nonpossessory interest of a holder in real property imposing limitations or affirmative obligations the purposes of which include retaining or protecting natural, scenic or open space values of real property; assuring its availability for agricultural, forest, recreational or open space use; protecting natural resources; ~~or maintaining or enhancing air or water quality of real property; or preserving the historical, architectural, archaeological or cultural aspects of real property.~~

Sec. 2. 33 MRSA §476, sub-§2, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1985, c. 395, §3, is amended to read:

A. A governmental body empowered to hold an interest in real property under the laws of this State or the United States, including a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in the State; or

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 610

S.P. 505 - L.D. 1216

An Act to Improve Behavioral Health Crisis Services and Suicide Prevention Services

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

Sec. 1. 34-B MRSA §1001, sub-§4-C is enacted to read:

4-C. 9-8-8. "9-8-8" means the telephone number designated as the universal telephone number within the United States for the purpose of the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system operating through the 9-8-8 suicide and crisis lifeline.

Sec. 2. 34-B MRSA §1001, sub-§4-D is enacted to read:

4-D. 9-8-8 suicide and crisis lifeline. "9-8-8 suicide and crisis lifeline" means a national network of local crisis services that provide free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis, behavioral health crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in the United States. The 9-8-8 suicide and crisis lifeline, or its successor, is the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system maintained by the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use under the federal Public Health Service Act, 42 United States Code, Section 290bb-36c.

Sec. 3. 34-B MRSA c. 3, sub-c. 3, art. 2, headnote is amended to read:

ARTICLE 2

CRISIS INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Sec. 4. 34-B MRSA §3621, as enacted by PL 1987, c. 349, Pt. H, §21, is repealed.

Sec. 5. 34-B MRSA §3625 is enacted to read:

§3625. Crisis intervention support

The department shall establish crisis intervention support services in all 16 counties. These services must be community-based programs that provide counseling, consultation, evaluation, treatment, referral, education and training services, delivered by a crisis intervention team, including mobile crisis intervention teams. The crisis intervention support services must include:

1. Emergency room services. Crisis intervention and psychiatric emergency services based in a hospital emergency room;

2. Outreach services. Outreach services and crisis intervention beyond the hospital setting; and

3. Telephone hotline services. A community-based telephone crisis intervention hotline, which must