

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

2. Other state and national criminal history record information required. Criminal history record information obtained from the Federal Bureau of Investigation pursuant to this section must include other state and national criminal history record information.

3. Fingerprinting. A person required to submit to a criminal history record check under this section shall submit to having fingerprints taken. The Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police, upon payment of the fee required under subsection 4, shall take or cause to be taken the person's fingerprints and shall forward the fingerprints to the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police, State Bureau of Identification. The State Bureau of Identification shall conduct the state and national criminal history record checks required under this section. Except for the portion of a payment, if any, that constitutes the processing fee for a criminal history record check charged by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, all money received by the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police under this section must be paid to the Treasurer of State, who shall apply the money to the expenses incurred by the Department of Public Safety in the administration of this section.

4. Fees. The fee for a criminal history record check under this section may not be less than \$31 or more than \$60. The fee must be paid by the applicant, registrant or registrant agent, except that if the applicant, registrant or registrant agent is a business entity, the fee must be paid by the business entity for any officer or director required to submit to a criminal history record check under this section.

5. Availability of criminal history record information. The subject of a Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal history record check pursuant to this section may obtain a copy of the criminal history record check by following the procedures outlined in 28 Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 16.32 and 16.33. The subject of a state criminal history record check pursuant to this section may inspect and review the criminal history record information pursuant to Title 16, section 709.

6. Use of criminal history record information. State and national criminal history record information obtained by the department under this section may be used only for the purpose of screening an applicant for a registry identification card or registration certificate, a registrant or a registrant agent under this chapter.

7. Confidentiality. All criminal history record information obtained by the department pursuant to this section is confidential, is for the official use of the department only and may not be disseminated outside of the department or disclosed to any other person or entity except as provided in subsection 5.

8. Rules. The department, after consultation with the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police, State Bureau of Identification, shall adopt rules to

implement this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 10. 25 MRSA §1542-A, sub-§1, ¶S, as repealed and replaced by PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §31, is amended to read:

S. Who is required to have a criminal history record check under Title 22, section ~~2425-A, subsection 3-A~~ 2425-B.

Sec. 11. 25 MRSA §1542-A, sub-§3, ¶R, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 343, Pt. G, §9; c. 399, §6; c. 402, §6; and c. 416, §6, is amended to read:

R. The State Police shall take or cause to be taken the fingerprints of the person named in subsection 1, paragraph S at the request of that person or the Department of Administrative and Financial Services under Title 22, section ~~2425-A, subsection 3-A~~ 2425-B.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 612

S.P. 816 - L.D. 2002

An Act to Extend the Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative to December 31, 2028

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-H, sub-§14-A, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 491, §1, is amended to read:

14-A.

Maine Lobster Marketing	\$55 Per Diem	12 MRSA
Collaborative	Plus Expenses	§6455-A

This subsection is repealed December 31, ~~2026~~ 2028.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6455-A, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 491, §2 and affected by §7, is amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

Members are appointed by the commissioner for staggered terms of 3 years. A person may not serve more than 2 consecutive 3-year terms as a member of the collaborative.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §6455-A, sub-§14, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 491, §2, is amended to read:

14. Repeal. This section is repealed December 31, ~~2026~~ 2028.

Sec. 4. Report. The Department of Marine Resources shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters no later than January 1, 2028 with

an update on the Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative as established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6455-A and work accomplished by the collaborative in 2026 and 2027. The committee may report out a bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 613

S.P. 831 - L.D. 2042

An Act to Clarify the Requirement for Municipalities to Provide Public Notice in a Newspaper

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

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §2007 is enacted to read:

§2007. Public notice

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a municipality required by this Title to place a notice in a newspaper may meet this requirement by placing the notice on the newspaper's publicly accessible website or the statewide repository for legal notices as described in Title 1, section 603, subsection 2, as long as either action is followed by placement of the notice in the next available print edition of the newspaper. The notice on the newspaper's publicly accessible website must contain all information required to be published in a newspaper.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 614

S.P. 844 - L.D. 2057

An Act to Support Rehabilitation and Development of Affordable Housing

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

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §4832, as amended by PL 2017, c. 234, §27, is further amended to read:

§4832. Construction loans

The Maine State Housing Authority may ~~participate with financial institutions in the State in the making of~~ make construction loans ~~for the purpose of land development and the construction of housing units or housing projects for persons of low income, to support programs authorized under this chapter and~~ under any

terms and conditions that the Maine State Housing Authority may establish by rule.

~~1. **Participation requirements.** Except as provided in paragraphs A and B, the Maine State Housing Authority may not participate in the making of construction loans unless a financial institution in the State agrees to participate in the loan at least to the extent of acting as escrow agent. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, financial institutions in the State may act as required by this subchapter.~~

~~A. The Maine State Housing Authority may make construction loans to state public bodies or other public instrumentalities and private nonprofit corporations without the participation of a financial institution.~~

~~B. If a project's financing requires that the Maine State Housing Authority participate in the construction loan at a level greater than 60%, the Maine State Housing Authority may make the whole construction loan without using an escrow agent.~~

2. **Rules.** The Maine State Housing Authority shall establish rules in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, Title 5, chapter 375, governing, without limitation, the following subjects and procedures for ~~participating in~~ the making of construction loans:

A. The submission, review and acceptance of requests from borrowers for construction loans under this section;

B. Qualifications of borrowers;

C. Limitation on and standards for location and construction of housing units or housing projects;

D. Schedules of fees and other charges made by the authority ~~and the financial institution~~ to the borrower in accepting, reviewing and acting upon applications for construction loans under this subchapter; and

E. Restrictions on the interest rates charged by the financial institutions and the authority on the construction loans or the return on those loans to be realized by ~~the~~ a financial institution, if the authority participates with a financial institution in making the construction loan.

Sec. 2. 30-A MRSA §4833, as amended by PL 2023, c. 218, §2, is repealed.

See title page for effective date.