

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

E. An irrevocable trust account; ~~or~~

~~F. In the case of a municipal solid waste disposal facility, any of the allowable financial assurance mechanisms set forth in applicable federal rules.~~

G. A corporate financial test that satisfies the requirements of 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 258.74(e);

H. A local government financial test that satisfies the requirements of 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 258.74(f);

I. A corporate guarantee that satisfies the requirements of 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 258.74(g); or

J. A local government guarantee that satisfies the requirements of 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 258.74(h).

~~1-A. Substitute requirements.~~ The department may substitute part of the acceptable forms of financial assurance under subsection 1 with one or more of the following requirements:

~~A. A current rating for its senior unsubordinated debt of AAA, AA, A or BBB as issued by Standard and Poor's Corporation or Aaa, Aa, A or Baa as issued by Moody's Investors Services, Inc.;~~

~~B. A ratio of less than 1.5 comparing total liabilities to net worth; or~~

~~C. A ratio of greater than 0.10 comparing the sum of net income plus depreciation, depletion and amortization, minus \$10,000,000, to total liabilities.~~

1-B. Review of financial assurance. A licensee subject to the requirements of this section shall annually review and, as necessary and in accordance with department rule, update its financial assurance mechanisms under this section. The department may require an applicant or licensee subject to the requirements of this section to conduct and submit to the department an independent 3rd-party financial review of any proposed form of financial assurance.

2. Report. An owner or operator of a solid waste processing facility that processes plastic waste through chemical plastic processing or of a solid waste disposal facility shall annually prepare a report containing a sworn statement providing the year-end balance or value of any ~~escrow, trust or reserve account form of financial assurance~~ established under this section. That report must be submitted to the commissioner by March

31st of each year or such other date as the commissioner may designate.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 622

H.P. 67 - L.D. 102

An Act to Notify the Public of Juveniles That Have Escaped a Department of Corrections Facility and to Direct the Department of Corrections to Study the Further Release of Juvenile Intelligence and Investigative Record Information

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

Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §3308-A, sub-§4-A is enacted to read:

4-A. Limited dissemination; escaped juveniles. Notwithstanding any provision of this Part or in Title 34-A, section 1216 to the contrary, when a juvenile has escaped from a Department of Corrections facility and there is probable cause to believe that the juvenile presents a serious risk to the juvenile's own safety or to public safety, the Commissioner of Corrections or the commissioner's designee may publicly disclose the following information for the purpose of identifying and apprehending the juvenile:

A. The juvenile's physical description;

B. A photograph of the juvenile;

C. Any recent location of the juvenile;

D. Any likely location of the juvenile;

E. The fact that the Department of Corrections is searching for the juvenile; and

F. Instructions for the public not to approach the juvenile, but to report any sightings or relevant information to a criminal justice agency.

Sec. 2. Department of Corrections to convene working group. The Department of Corrections shall convene a working group to examine best practices for apprehending a juvenile for whom a warrant of arrest has been issued, a juvenile who has escaped from arrest or a juvenile who has escaped from arrest during transport following arrest.

1. The working group's examination shall determine what juvenile intelligence and investigative record information, if any, should be made public to assist in the apprehension of wanted or escaped juveniles. In making this determination, the working group shall

consider both the purpose of the Maine Juvenile Code and the potential safety risks to a wanted or escaped juvenile and to the public. If the release of juvenile intelligence and investigative record information is determined appropriate by the working group, the working group shall further determine best methods for a criminal justice agency to petition a court seeking the release of juvenile intelligence and investigative record information to the public to assist in the apprehension of juveniles. For the purposes of this section, "juvenile intelligence and investigative record information" has the same meaning as in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 15, section 3308-A, subsection 1, paragraph E.

2. The Commissioner of Corrections, or the commissioner's designee, shall serve as a member of the working group and shall appoint, at a minimum, the following additional members to the working group:

- A. One member representing a statewide association representing sheriffs;
- B. One member representing a statewide association representing municipal chiefs of police;
- C. One member who is a defense attorney with experience in the juvenile justice system;
- D. One member who is a prosecuting attorney with experience in the juvenile justice system;
- E. One member who is an active or retired judge with experience in the juvenile justice system upon the recommendation of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court; and
- F. One member with experience in law and policy development for juveniles.

The Commissioner of Public Safety or the commissioner's designee shall serve as an ex officio member.

Sec. 3. Report. By January 1, 2027, the Commissioner of Corrections shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters that includes the findings, recommendations and any suggested legislation by the working group under section 2 for apprehending escaped and wanted juveniles. The joint standing committee may report out legislation based on the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 623

H.P. 1162 - L.D. 1744

An Act to Modify Provisions of the State Civil Service System Governing Employee Recruitment and Retention

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §7065, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1993, c. 705, §1, is further amended to read:

2. **Salary limits.** ~~No~~ A position may ~~not~~ be assigned a salary greater than the maximum or less than the minimum rates fixed in the compensation plan except as provided by subsection ~~2-D~~ 2-E.

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §7065, sub-§2-D, as corrected by RR 2023, c. 1, Pt. B, §38 and affected by §50, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §7065, sub-§2-E is enacted to read:

2-E. Recruitment and retention adjustments.
The following provisions govern the process of requesting a recruitment and retention adjustment.

A. An agency or bargaining agent shall file a request for a recruitment and retention adjustment with the Bureau of Human Resources on forms prescribed by the bureau.

B. When a request for a recruitment and retention adjustment is filed by an agency or bargaining agent with the Bureau of Human Resources under paragraph A, the officer shall conduct a preliminary review to determine the extent to which vacancy rates, turnover rates or other workforce indicators identified in the request are attributable to any of the following conditions:

(1) Statewide or departmental hiring freezes, position holds, delays in hiring authorizations or funding lapses;

(2) Management-directed attrition, including for the purposes of anticipated reorganizations, or programmatic changes affecting staffing levels;

(3) Temporary operational decisions or policy directives that limit recruitment or filling of vacancies; or

(4) Any other reasonable material, operational, fiscal or administrative circumstances that reasonably explain vacancy or turnover levels independent of compensation or labor market competitiveness.

If any of the conditions in subparagraphs (1) to (4) are determined to be present, the officer may