

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

have not been identified as a child with a disability pursuant to section 7001, subsection 1-B.

Sec. 14. 20-A MRSA §5201, sub-§2, ¶E is enacted to read:

E. A person who is at least 3 years of age and is identified as a child with a disability pursuant to section 7001, subsection 1-B may enroll in an available public preschool program at any time prior to enrolling in kindergarten.

Sec. 15. 20-A MRSA §15688-A, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 581, §10, is amended to read:

4. New or expanded public preschool programs for children 4 years of age. Beginning in fiscal year 2015-16 and for each subsequent fiscal year until the 2026-27 fiscal year, the commissioner may expend and disburse one-time, start-up funds to provide grants for expanded access to public preschool programs for children 4 years of age pursuant to chapter 203, subchapter 3. Beginning in fiscal year 2026-27 and for each subsequent fiscal year, the commissioner may expend and disburse one-time, start-up funds to provide grants for expanded access to public preschool programs for children 3 or 4 years of age pursuant to chapter 203, subchapter 3. The amounts of the grant funding provided to qualified school administrative units pursuant to chapter 203, subchapter 3 are limited to the amounts appropriated, allocated or authorized by the Legislature for the operation of public preschool programs. Any balance of funds appropriated, allocated or authorized by the Legislature remaining at the end of a fiscal year do not lapse and are carried forward to the next fiscal year to carry out the purposes of chapter 203, subchapter 3.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 634

S.P. 823 - L.D. 2130

An Act to Support Employment Opportunities for Military Spouses

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §7054-B, sub-§1, ¶C is enacted to read:

C. "Eligible service member" means a person who is serving on active duty in the United States Armed Forces including the Reserves of the United States Armed Forces and the National Guard and a person actively serving in the Reserves of the United States Armed Forces or the National Guard.

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §7054-B, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 438, §2, is amended to read:

2. Interview. In filling any position in the classified service, the employing agency shall offer an interview to any veteran ~~or~~ gold star spouse or spouse of an eligible service member who meets the minimum qualifications established for the position.

Sec. 3. 5 MRSA §7054-B, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 438, §2, is amended to read:

3. Retention preference. In any reduction in personnel in the state service, employees who are veterans ~~or~~ gold star spouses or spouses of eligible service members must be retained in preference to all other competing employees in the same classification with equal seniority, status and performance reviews.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 635

S.P. 830 - L.D. 2133

An Act Regarding Licensing of Community Paramedicine Services and Clinicians

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §2147, sub-§15, as corrected by RR 2023, c. 2, Pt. A, §30, is amended to read:

15. ~~Emergency medical services community~~ Community paramedicine services. ~~Ambulance services and nontransporting emergency medical~~ Community paramedicine services as defined in Title 32, section 83, subsection 9-C and licensed under Title 32, chapter 2-B, ~~that are authorized by the Emergency Medical Services' Board to provide community paramedicine services pursuant to Title 32, section 84, subsection 4.~~ This exemption applies for the express and exclusive purpose of delivering community paramedicine services, as long as:

A. The care is episodic. For the purposes of this paragraph, "episodic" means an encounter with a patient focused on presenting concerns and an identified medical condition in which neither the community paramedic nor the patient has the expectation of an ongoing general home care relationship; and

B. The Emergency Medical Services' Board adopts rules requiring authorized community paramedicine services to:

- (1) Comply with the Maine Background Check Center Act requirements as described in chapter 1691;
- (2) Conduct initial and ongoing training of all staff regarding their obligations as mandatory reporters;

(3) Meet licensing standards consistent with those required by section 2145, subsections 3 and 4; and

(4) Coordinate with home health agencies; and

Sec. 2. 24-A MRSA §4303-F, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2025, c. 34, §1 and affected by §2, is further amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

Notwithstanding this subsection, a carrier is not required to reimburse an ambulance service provider at the reimbursement rates required in this subsection for covered services delivered through community paramedicine in accordance with Title 32, section ~~84, sub-section 4~~ 85-D and a carrier may require an ambulance service provider to obtain prior authorization before providing services through community paramedicine.

Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §82, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2021, c. 220, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Licenses required. An ambulance service, ambulance, nontransporting emergency medical service, emergency medical services person, community paramedicine clinician, community paramedicine service, emergency medical services ambulance operator, emergency medical dispatch center or emergency medical dispatcher may not operate or practice unless duly licensed by the Emergency Medical Services' Board pursuant to this chapter, except as stated in subsection 2.

Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §83, sub-§9-A is enacted to read:

9-A. Community paramedicine. "Community paramedicine" means the practice by an emergency medical services provider, primarily in an out-of-hospital setting, of providing episodic patient evaluation, advice and treatment directed at preventing or improving a particular medical condition.

Sec. 5. 32 MRSA §83, sub-§9-B is enacted to read:

9-B. Community paramedicine clinician. "Community paramedicine clinician" means an emergency medical services person licensed under this chapter who has completed specialized education and training to operate in an expanded role, providing episodic, proactive and preventive health care services in nonemergency settings.

Sec. 6. 32 MRSA §83, sub-§9-C is enacted to read:

9-C. Community paramedicine service. "Community paramedicine service" means an ambulance service or other nontransporting emergency medical service licensed to provide community paramedicine.

Sec. 7. 32 MRSA §83, sub-§12-B is enacted to read:

12-B. Emergency medical services instructor. "Emergency medical services instructor" means the lead instructor in a Maine Emergency Medical Services licensure program.

Sec. 8. 32 MRSA §84, sub-§4, as repealed and replaced by PL 2023, c. 195, §4, is repealed.

Sec. 9. 32 MRSA §85-C is enacted to read:

§85-C. Community paramedicine clinicians

1. License required. A community paramedicine clinician must be licensed by the board in accordance with rules adopted by the board.

2. Minimum requirements for licensing. In adopting rules for the licensure of community paramedicine clinicians, the board shall ensure that a person is not licensed to provide community paramedicine unless that person's qualifications are at least those specified in this subsection.

A. The person has successfully completed training conducted by an emergency medical services instructor as specified in rules adopted by the board pursuant to the Maine Administrative Procedure Act.

B. The person has successfully demonstrated trustworthiness and competence to engage in the practice of community paramedicine in such a manner as to safeguard the interests of the public.

C. The person holds a separate license as an emergency medical services person.

Initial rules adopted pursuant to this section are major substantive rules and any subsequent amendments to rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 10. 32 MRSA §85-D is enacted to read:

§85-D. Community paramedicine services

1. License required. A community paramedicine service must be licensed and must operate in accordance with rules and protocols adopted for services under this chapter.

2. Mandatory qualifications. The board shall adopt rules governing the qualifications for and standards to be observed by community paramedicine services, including:

A. The identification of a primary care medical director with whom the community paramedicine service works;

B. The identification of an emergency medical services medical director;

C. The qualifications for a primary care medical director or emergency medical services medical director identified under paragraph A or B, except that the board may not restrict eligibility to only licensed physicians and shall permit eligibility for an individual serving as a volunteer or serving in a dual capacity as a community paramedicine service's primary care medical director and emergency medical services medical director;

D. Compliance with the Maine Background Check Center Act requirements as described in Title 22, chapter 1691;

E. Conducting initial and ongoing training of all staff regarding their obligations as mandatory reporters; and

F. Meeting licensing standards that address the following areas:

- (1) General requirements;
- (2) Qualifications for professional personnel;
- (3) Qualifications for paraprofessional personnel;
- (4) Treatment and services and their coordination;
- (5) Organizational structure, including lines of authority;
- (6) Treatment records;
- (7) Business records; and
- (8) Other aspects of community paramedicine that may be necessary to protect the public.

Initial rules adopted pursuant to this section are major substantive rules and any subsequent amendments to rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 636

S.P. 834 - L.D. 2135

An Act to Provide Funding to Keep Maine Veterans Housed

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

Sec. 1. 37-B MRSA §513-B is enacted to read:
§513-B. Veterans' Housing Provider Incentive Program; establishment; report

The Veterans' Housing Provider Incentive Program is established to provide grants to organizations to support permanent housing for veteran populations.

1. Fund established. The Veterans' Housing Provider Incentive Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established under the bureau for the purpose of receiving funds from state, federal and other sources, including donations from private citizens, corporations and entities for the purposes of this section.

2. Grants to support permanent housing. The bureau shall use the fund to award grants to organizations that have been determined by the United States Internal Revenue Service to be exempt from taxation under the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, Section 501(c)(3) and have as a core program supporting permanent housing for veteran populations. An organization awarded a grant under this section may use the funding for housing provider incentives, risk mitigation payments and past rental debt payments for veterans experiencing homelessness.

3. Rules. The bureau may adopt rules necessary to implement this section, including requirements for organizations to report on the use of grant funding received under this section. Rules adopted under this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

4. Report. The bureau shall submit a report by February 15, 2027, and by February 15th in any year in which a grant is issued, regarding grants awarded to organizations under this section, including information from the organizations on their use of that funding, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over veterans affairs.

Sec. 2. Transfer; Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit, Sports Wagering program, Other Special Revenue Funds account. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before June 30, 2027, the State Controller shall transfer \$90,000 from the Sports Wagering program, Other Special Revenue Funds account in the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit to the Veterans' Housing Provider Incentive Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account in the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services for a grant program to support permanent housing for veteran populations.

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF

Veterans' Housing Provider Incentive Fund N570

Initiative: Provides one-time funds to issue grants to eligible organizations to support permanent housing.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$90,000