

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) Is capable of charging from or discharging to the electrical system to which it is connected independently of any photovoltaic system; and

(3) Is intended to offset on-site electricity consumption by the retail electricity customer, perform energy arbitrage or participate in grid-support operations.

D. "Plug-in photovoltaic system" means a photovoltaic generation device that:

(1) Connects to a retail customer's electrical system wiring through a standard electrical outlet in a manner that is consistent with the requirements of interconnected electric power sources established in the National Electrical Code that is adopted by rule by the Electricians' Examining Board, established in Title 5, section 12004-A, subsection 13;

(2) Is intended primarily to offset part of the retail electricity customer's electricity consumption; and

(3) Uses inverters that are configured to shut off after 0.2 seconds if power is disrupted.

2. Authorization. Subject to the requirements of this section, a retail electricity customer may install and operate one or more eligible systems at the customer's service address for the purpose of offsetting on-site electricity consumption.

3. Capacity limitations. A retail electricity customer may install and operate one or more eligible systems with a combined inverter output of up to 420 watts, measured in alternating current, per service address. A retail electricity customer may install and operate plug-in photovoltaic systems and plug-in battery systems with combined inverter output exceeding 420 watts, but no more than 1,200 watts, per service address, as long as each system is installed by an electrician licensed in the State and uses a dedicated circuit with a single outlet and the customer complies with the notification requirement in subsection 5.

4. Net energy billing; prohibition. An eligible system installed and operated in accordance with the requirements of this section may not be used for net energy billing pursuant to sections 3209-A and 3209-B.

5. Notification for output exceeding 420 watts. A retail electricity customer that installs an eligible system in accordance with subsection 3 shall provide a notification to the transmission and distribution utility in whose service territory the eligible system is installed in a form prescribed by the commission within 30 days of installation. The notification must include, but is not limited to, the retail customer's service address, the inverter capacity of the eligible system and a statement that the retail electricity customer is in compliance with the requirements of this section. A transmission and dis-

tribution utility may not deny the installation of an eligible system that complies with the requirements of this section.

6. Prohibitions. A transmission and distribution utility may not require a retail electricity customer that installs or operates an eligible system in accordance with the requirements of this section to:

A. Obtain approval from the transmission and distribution utility prior to installation or operation;

B. Submit an interconnection application, execute an interconnection agreement or undergo an interconnection study in connection with the eligible system;

C. Pay any fee or charge to the transmission and distribution utility related to the eligible system; or

D. Install additional controls or equipment beyond what is integrated into the eligible system.

7. Liability. A transmission and distribution utility is not liable for any damage or injury caused by the installation or operation of an eligible system by a retail electricity customer in accordance with this section.

8. Structural and code compliance; installation or removal. A retail electricity customer that installs or operates an eligible system on or in a structure the customer does not own shall ensure that the installation or operation does not compromise the integrity of the structure or violate any state or local building, fire or zoning codes. Upon removal of an eligible system from a structure the customer does not own, the customer shall restore the structure to its condition prior to the installation.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 645

S.P. 825 - L.D. 2007

An Act Regarding the Prohibition of Online Sweepstakes Games

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

Sec. 1. **5 MRSA §20006-B, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 657, Pt. AA, §24, is further amended to read:

1. Fund established. The Gambling Addiction Prevention and Treatment Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established for the purpose of supporting gambling addiction analysis, prevention and treatment to be administered by the department. The fund is a dedicated, nonlapsing fund into which payments are received in accordance with Title 8, section

1036, subsection 2 and Title 8, section 1352, subsection 1.

Sec. 2. 8 MRSA c. 38 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 38

ONLINE SWEEPSTAKES GAMES PROHIBITED

§1351. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. Board. "Board" means the Gambling Control Board established under section 1002.

2. Direct consideration. "Direct consideration" means a coin, token or other representation of value that may be purchased by a person or received through a bonus or promotion and that is used for playing or participating in an online sweepstakes game.

3. Dual-currency system of payment. "Dual-currency system of payment" means a system of payment that allows a person to play or participate with direct consideration or indirect consideration or that is otherwise designed in a manner that:

A. Prevents a person from directly purchasing coins, tokens or other representations of value that are redeemable for any cash prize, cash award or cash equivalents or the chance to win any cash prize, cash award or cash equivalents; and

B. Encourages a person to purchase services, products, coins, tokens or other representations of value that are not exchangeable for a prize, award, cash or cash equivalents or a chance to win a prize, award, cash or cash equivalents in order for that person to obtain the coins, tokens or other representations of value that are exchangeable for prizes, awards, cash or cash equivalents or a chance to win a prize, award, cash or cash equivalents.

The unit may adopt rules to further define what constitutes a dual-currency system of payment. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

4. Indirect consideration. "Indirect consideration" means a coin, token or other representation of value that:

A. Is provided for free through a promotion or bonus or with the purchase of a related product, service or activity; and

B. May be exchanged for a prize, award, cash or cash equivalents or a chance to win a prize, award, cash or cash equivalents.

As used in this subsection, "related product, service or activity" includes a coin, token or other representation of value that may be used for direct consideration.

5. Licensee. "Licensee" means a person that holds any one of the following licenses:

A. A license issued under chapter 31;

B. A license issued under chapter 33;

C. A license issued under chapter 35;

D. A license issued under chapter 39; or

E. A license issued under Title 17, chapter 62.

6. Online sweepstakes game. "Online sweepstakes game" means any game, contest or promotion that:

A. Is available on the Internet and accessible on a mobile telephone, computer terminal or similar access device;

B. Uses a dual-currency system of payment; and

C. Simulates casino-style gaming, including, but not limited to, slot machines, poker and other table games, lottery games, bingo or sports wagering.

7. Unit. "Unit" means the Gambling Control Unit established as a bureau within the Department of Public Safety under Title 25, section 2902, subsection 12.

§1352. Online sweepstakes games prohibited; fines; other penalties

A person that operates or promotes an online sweepstakes game or supports the operation or promotion of an online sweepstakes game commits a civil violation.

1. Fine. A person that violates this section is subject to a fine of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000. All fines adjudged pursuant to this section must be collected by the unit and distributed to the Gambling Addiction Prevention and Treatment Fund established in Title 5, section 20006-B.

2. Revocation of license. If a licensee is convicted of unlawful gambling under Title 17-A, section 954, subsection 1-B or is otherwise found to be in violation of this section through the administrative process applicable to the license held by the licensee, the unit or board, whichever is responsible for administering the license, shall revoke the licensee's license.

3. Ineligible for license. A person that is found to be in violation of this section is ineligible to receive a license described in section 1351, subsection 5.

Sec. 3. 17-A MRSA §954, sub-§1-B is enacted to read:

1-B. A person is guilty of unlawful gambling if the person operates or promotes an online sweepstakes game or supports the operation or promotion of an online sweepstakes game. For the purposes of this sub-

section, "online sweepstakes game" has the same meaning as in Title 8, section 1351, subsection 6.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 646

H.P. 1368 - L.D. 2038

An Act to Require Maine Transmission and Distribution Utility Participation in a Regional Transmission Organization

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3133-B is enacted to read:

§3133-B. Mandatory participation in regional transmission organization

1. Regional transmission organization; definition. For the purposes of this section, "regional transmission organization" has the same meaning as in section 10102, subsection 8.

2. Participation mandatory. Except as provided in subsection 3, a transmission and distribution utility may not own or control a transmission and distribution plant located in the State unless the transmission and distribution utility participates in a regional transmission organization.

3. Exceptions. The provisions of this section do not apply to:

A. A consumer-owned transmission and distribution utility as defined in section 3501, subsection 1; or

B. A transmission and distribution utility that owns or controls a transmission and distribution plant located in an area of this State in which the retail electricity market is administered by the independent system administrator for northern Maine.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 647

H.P. 1375 - L.D. 2051

An Act to Ensure Access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program in Maine

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3104-A, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2013, c. 368, Pt. OO, §§1 and 2, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3104-A, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Food assistance. The department shall provide food assistance to households that would be eligible for assistance under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, 7 United States Code, Section 2011 et seq. but for having an immigration status that does not qualify for federal food assistance benefits as follows.

A. An individual who was receiving food assistance under former subsection 1 as of July 1, 2011 may continue to receive assistance, as long as the individual remains eligible without regard to interruptions in coverage or gaps in eligibility for service.

B. A noncitizen who was neither receiving assistance on July 1, 2011 nor had an application pending for assistance on July 1, 2011 who was later approved is not eligible for food assistance through a state-funded program unless that noncitizen has both a qualifying immigration status under subparagraph (1) and at least one of the qualifying conditions under subparagraph (2), as follows:

(1) The individual is lawfully present in the United States but does not have an immigration status that qualifies for federal food assistance benefits and is not lawfully present solely as a temporary worker, student or tourist. Lawfully present individuals include:

(a) Qualified aliens under 8 United States Code, Section 1641;

(b) Lawful permanent residents who do not meet the special conditions for federal assistance under 8 United States Code, Section 1613;

(c) Asylees under Section 208 of the federal Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 United States Code, Section 1158;

(d) Individuals who have a pending application for asylum or withholding of removal with the Department of Homeland Security or the Department of Justice Immigration Court;

(e) Refugees under Section 207 of the federal Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 United States Code, Section 1157;

(f) Individuals with Temporary Protected Status;

(g) Individuals with Special Immigrant Juvenile Status; and