

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

11. Public safety answering point. "Public safety answering point" has the same meaning as in section 2921, subsection 7.

Sec. 4. 25 MRSA §4202, as amended by PL 2019, c. 89, §6, is repealed.

Sec. 5. 25 MRSA §4203 is enacted to read:

§4203. Critical incident stress management and peer support; testimony; confidentiality; disclosure

1. Consent to testify. A peer support person, peer team or member of a peer team or an individual who participates in a structured critical incident stress management or peer support activity may not be compelled to testify in any civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding at law or in equity regarding any information that may have been acquired in providing, receiving or participating in critical incident stress management or peer support, except at the request of, or with the consent of, the relevant affected person.

2. Confidentiality. Proceedings, communications and records connected with the provision of critical incident stress management or peer support are confidential and are not subject to subpoena, discovery or introduction into evidence in a civil or criminal action unless the confidentiality is waived by the relevant affected person. Statistical data that does not identify a person seeking the assistance of a critical incident stress management team or peer team must be made available for statistical evaluation and may not be made available for any other purpose.

3. Disclosure required by law. This section does not prohibit disclosure by a person that provides critical incident stress management or peer support of information concerning an affected person if the disclosure is required pursuant to any applicable law or the person that provides critical incident stress management or peer support reasonably believes, in that person's judgment, that the affected person presents a danger to the affected person or to others. This subsection does not modify or affect the provisions of Title 22, sections 4011-A to 4015.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 679

H.P. 180 - L.D. 276

**An Act Related to All-terrain
Vehicle Registration**

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §13155, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2021, c. 215, §6 and c. 411, §8, is further amended to read:

3. Application and issuance. The commissioner, or an agent designated by the commissioner, may register and assign a registration number to an ATV upon application and payment of a fee by the owner. A copy of the signed form under section 13161, subsection 1-A must be supplied by the owner in order to register an ATV. The commissioner shall charge a fee of \$1 in addition to the fee for each registration issued by an employee of the department. The registration number in the form of stickers issued by the commissioner must be clearly displayed on the front and rear of the vehicle. An annual registration is valid for one year commencing July 1st of each year, except that any registration issued prior to July 1st but after May 1st is valid from the date of issuance until June 30th of the following year. A registration agent shall provide to the person who requests to register an oversized ATV under subsection 5-B a written form developed and provided by the department explaining the size and weight restrictions for registering that ATV, including whether it qualifies for registration, and explaining the provisions of section 13157-A regarding the operation of oversized ATVs on designated state-approved ATV trails. The department shall develop a form for use by registration agents under this subsection.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §13161, sub-§1-A, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 215, §12, is amended to read:

1-A. Dealer to provide registration information. A dealer may not sell a new or used oversized ATV without providing to the purchaser a written form developed and provided by the department explaining the size and weight restrictions for registering that ATV under section 13155, subsection 5-B and the provisions of section 13157-A regarding the use of oversized ATVs on designated state-approved ATV trails. The department shall develop a form for use by dealers under this section, which must include a check box, to be filled out by the dealer, indicating whether the ATV is oversized or not, and a place for a purchaser to sign acknowledging receipt of the form. The dealer shall provide the purchaser and the department with a copy of the signed form after the sale. For purposes of this subsection, "oversized ATV" has the same meaning as ~~defined~~ in section 13155, subsection 5-B.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 680

S.P. 49 - L.D. 32

**An Act Regarding the
Interconnection Ombudsman
Position at the Public Utilities
Commission**

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §107, sub-§1, ¶B, as amended by PL 2023, c. 307, §1, is further amended to read:

B. With the approval of the Attorney General, a general counsel; and

Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §107, sub-§1, ¶C, as amended by PL 2023, c. 307, §1, is further amended to read:

C. An assistant administrative director; ~~and~~

Sec. 3. 35-A MRSA §107, sub-§1, ¶D, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 307, §1, is repealed.

Sec. 4. 35-A MRSA §107, sub-§2, ¶F, as repealed and replaced by PL 2025, c. 110, §1, is repealed.

Sec. 5. 35-A MRSA §3474, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2023, c. 643, Pt. WWW, §1, is further amended to read:

4. Interconnection ombudsman; fund. The commission shall designate an interconnection ombudsman ~~appointed pursuant to section 107, subsection 1~~ shall to assist persons seeking interconnections governed by rules adopted under subsection 3. The ~~commission shall appoint an~~ interconnection ombudsman ~~who possesses~~ designated by the commission must possess technical expertise related to interconnection and interconnection procedures.

A. The duties of the interconnection ombudsman include but are not limited to:

- (1) Tracking interconnection disputes;
- (2) Facilitating the efficient and fair resolution of disputes between customers seeking to interconnect and investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities;
- (3) Reviewing investor-owned transmission and distribution utility interconnection policies to assess opportunities for reducing interconnection disputes;
- (4) Convening stakeholder groups as necessary to facilitate effective communication between interconnection stakeholders;
- (5) Preparing reports that detail the number, type, resolution timeline and outcome of interconnection disputes; and
- (6) Any other technical or regulatory work involving public utilities.

B. The commission by rule shall establish a fee to be paid by persons seeking interconnections to fund the interconnection ombudsman. Notwithstanding Title 5, section 8071, rules adopted under this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

C. The interconnection ombudsman fund is established within the commission as a nonlapsing fund for the purposes of offsetting costs for interconnection-related activities undertaken by the interconnection ombudsman pursuant to paragraph A, subparagraphs (1), (2), (3), (4) and (5). The commission shall deposit all fees collected under this subsection into the fund and all money in the fund must be used to fund the interconnection ombudsman. In addition to the fees established in accordance with this subsection, the fund may accept federal money and contributions from private and public sources.

Any activities undertaken by the interconnection ombudsman pursuant to paragraph A, subparagraph (6) must be funded in accordance with section 116.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 681

S.P. 386 - L.D. 897

An Act Regarding the Nonwires Alternative Process and Required Negative Pricing Provisions in Contracts for Energy Resulting from Competitive Solicitations Conducted by the Public Utilities Commission

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3132-B, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 298, §13, is amended to read:

1. Planning study. Each investor-owned transmission and distribution utility in this State shall annually complete and submit to the commission and to the Office of the Public Advocate, for review by the nonwires alternative coordinator, a planning study for small transmission projects and distribution projects. In completing the planning study, an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility shall develop and use system planning models. The study must:

- A. Analyze system needs for the next 5 years and provide a schedule of proposed projects and associated costs;
- B. Describe system capacity and load by substation and circuit; and
- C. Identify corresponding planned and anticipated growth-related investments.

After review of a planning study submitted under this subsection, the nonwires alternative coordinator may provide comments or recommendations, which may in-