

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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

D. "Terror attack" means an attack that causes serious bodily injury or death to multiple persons or causes substantial damage to a structure and is made for the purpose of intimidating or coercing a civilian population or to affect the conduct of government.

2. Program established. The Maine Nonprofit Security Grant Program is established in the agency to provide grants to assist nonprofit organizations to improve security at property owned or occupied by those nonprofit organizations to protect against hate crimes and terror attacks.

3. Eligibility. To be eligible for a grant from the program, a nonprofit organization must:

A. Be a tax-exempt organization under 26 United States Code, Section 501(c)(3); and

B. Demonstrate that the organization or the organization's facilities are at high risk of a hate crime or terror attack.

4. Use of grants. A nonprofit organization awarded a grant from the program shall use that grant for:

A. Physical security enhancements;

B. The cost of security personnel; or

C. The development or enhancement of security plans and protocols.

5. Administration. The agency shall administer the program and shall develop guidelines and criteria to award grants to eligible nonprofit organizations under subsection 3 using a request for proposals process.

6. Rules. The agency may adopt routine technical rules as described in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A to implement this section.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF

Administration - Maine Emergency Management Agency 0214

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to provide grants to assist nonprofit organizations in improving security to protect against hate crimes and terror attacks. A portion of allocated funds may be used by the Maine Emergency Management Agency for program administration. Any balance remaining in the Maine Nonprofit Security Grant Program, General Fund account at the end of any fiscal year must be carried forward for use in the next fiscal year.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$200,000

GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$200,000
--------------------	-----	-----------

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 729

H.P. 1439 - L.D. 2124

An Act to Support Emergency Shelter Funding Using Revenue from the Real Estate Transfer Tax

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §4641-B, sub-§4-B, ¶E-4 is enacted to read:

E-4. Notwithstanding paragraphs E-1 and E-2, the State Controller shall first credit \$1,012,617 in fiscal year 2026-27 of the revenues available to the Maine State Housing Authority under paragraph E-2, subparagraph (2), division (c) for the Housing Production Fund established in Title 30-A, section 4773 to the Maine State Housing Authority, which shall deposit the funds in the authority's shelter operating subsidy program to support emergency homeless shelters in the State.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE

Housing Production Fund N557

Initiative: Reduces allocations to reflect a one-time decrease in revenue from shifting 2% of real estate transfer tax revenue from the Housing Production Fund program to the Maine State Housing Authority to be used for the shelter operating subsidy program.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	(\$1,012,617)

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	(\$1,012,617)
-----------------------------------	-----	---------------

Shelter Operating Subsidy 0661

Initiative: Provides a one-time allocation to support emergency homeless shelters in the State through the authority's shelter operating subsidy program.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$1,012,617

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$1,012,617
-----------------------------------	-----	-------------

HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$0	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$0

Sec. 3. Effective date. This Act takes effect September 1, 2026.

Effective September 1, 2026.

CHAPTER 730 S.P. 836 - L.D. 2137

An Act to Modify Provisions of Law Governing Parking Enforcement on Property Accessible to the Public

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

Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §1500-LL, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Exemption. A municipality that has adopted an ordinance that regulates any parking rule applicable to property owned by the municipality and accessible to the public for the parking of motor vehicles and that includes fines, fees or charges for a violation of the ordinance is exempt from the requirements of subsection 1.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 731 S.P. 859 - L.D. 2141

An Act Regarding Enforcement of the Annual Reporting Requirement of the Laws Governing Unclaimed Beverage Container Deposits

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

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §3119, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2025, c. 241, §18, is further amended by enacting at the end a new first blocked paragraph to read:

An initiator of deposit that fails to report annually to the department in accordance with the requirements of this subsection commits a violation of this chapter, is subject to penalties under section 3111 and, as long as the violation exists, is prohibited from selling or distributing in the State any beverage container subject to the requirements of this chapter. A distributor or dealer

may not sell or distribute in the State any such containers of the initiator, and the department may remove from sale any such containers of the initiator.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 732 H.P. 1443 - L.D. 2154

An Act to Establish the Health Information Technology Fund to Support a State-designated Statewide Health Information Exchange

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1730-B is enacted to read:

§1730-B. Health Information Technology Fund

The Health Information Technology Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established within the department.

1. Use of fund. The fund must be used to support the operation and sustainability of a state-designated statewide health information exchange operated in accordance with section 1711-C, subsection 18 and to meet the State's matching fund requirements to obtain federal funding to support the operation and sustainability of such an exchange. Funds received pursuant to subsection 2 may be used only for purposes directly related to the operation and sustainability of a state-designated statewide health information exchange. The department shall administer the fund in a manner that maximizes eligibility for available federal matching funds.

2. Source of funds; separate account; interest; nonlapsing fund. The fund is administered by the department. The fund consists of money appropriated or allocated by the Legislature, federal funds, grants, gifts and other funds from public or private sources. The fund must be held separate and apart from all other money, funds and accounts. Interest earned by the fund must be credited to the fund. Any unexpended balances remaining in the fund at the end of the fiscal year do not lapse and must be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

Sec. 2. Transfer of settlement funds. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State Controller shall transfer \$350,000 from the Administration - Attorney General, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of the Attorney General from funds received from settlement agreements to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund no later than June 30, 2027.

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