

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

GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$4,310,037
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$4,310,037
SECTION TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$4,311,605
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$0	\$216,358
SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$4,527,963

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 748

H.P. 434 - L.D. 666

An Act to Prevent Domestic Violence by Providing Adequate Funding Support for Court-ordered Certified Domestic Violence Intervention Programs

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

Sec. 1. Transfer of settlement funds. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State Controller shall transfer \$500,000 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. 2. Reallocation of existing funds. Any existing funds allocated to the Department of Corrections, Office of Victim Services for the purpose of funding partial reimbursement of certified domestic violence intervention program indigent participant fees must be reallocated to similarly provide ongoing funding for certified domestic violence intervention programs.

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

CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF Office of Victim Services 0046

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for certified domestic violence intervention programs.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$500,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$500,000

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 749

H.P. 437 - L.D. 669

An Act to Provide a Death Benefit for Department of Transportation Workers

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §1532, sub-§6, as amended by PL 2019, c. 658, §1, is further amended to read:

6. Death benefits. The Governor shall allocate funds from the stabilization fund as needed to pay benefits due pursuant to Title 25, chapter 195-A. Allocations may be made upon written request of the Chief of the State Police, the State Fire Marshal, the Director of Maine Emergency Medical Services or the Commissioner of Corrections or the Commissioner of Transportation and after consultation with the State Budget Officer.

Sec. 2. 25 MRSA c. 195-A, headnote is amended to read:

CHAPTER 195-A

DEATH BENEFITS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, FIREFIGHTERS, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONS, DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND CORRECTIONS OFFICERS AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION EMPLOYEES WHO DIE WHILE IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Sec. 3. 25 MRSA §1611, sub-§1-D is enacted to read:

1-D. Department of Transportation employee. "Department of Transportation employee" means a person who is employed by the Department of Transportation and who performs official duties:

A. On state or state aid highways;

B. On bridges, culverts and related structures;

C. On rail, port, aviation or transportation facilities under the authority or supervision of the Department of Transportation;

D. In transportation construction or maintenance zones; or

E. On any other transportation project or property owned, maintained or administered by the Department of Transportation.

A Department of Transportation employee is considered to be performing official duties when acting within the scope of employment or authorization by the Department of Transportation.

Sec. 4. 25 MRSA §1612, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2023, c. 433, §4, is further amended to read:

1. Amount; recipients. In a case in which the chief determines under rules adopted pursuant to this section that a law enforcement officer has died while in the line of duty, in a case in which the State Fire Marshal determines under rules adopted pursuant to this section that a firefighter has died while in the line of duty, in a case in which the director determines under rules adopted pursuant to this section that an emergency medical services person has died while in the line of duty ~~or~~, in a case in which the Commissioner of Corrections determines under rules adopted pursuant to this section that a Department of Corrections law enforcement officer or corrections officer has died while in the line of duty prior to July 1, 2021 or in a case in which the Commissioner of Transportation determines under rules adopted pursuant to this section that a Department of Transportation employee has died while performing official duties, the State shall pay a benefit of \$100,000. When determining whether an individual has died while in the line of duty, the chief, the State Fire Marshal, the director or the Commissioner of Corrections, as applicable, shall evaluate whether an individual who died by suicide died as a result of events or actions experienced by the individual while in the line of duty.

Beginning July 1, 2021 and annually thereafter, the benefit amount must be indexed to the Consumer Price Index whenever there is a percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index from July 1st to June 30th of the previous year. A firefighter, law enforcement officer, emergency medical services person, Department of Corrections law enforcement officer or corrections officer who dies while in the line of duty, or a Department of Transportation employee who dies while performing official duties, must be paid the benefit amount as indexed immediately prior to that firefighter's, law enforcement officer's, emergency medical services person's, Department of Corrections law enforcement officer's or corrections officer's or Department of Transportation employee's death. ~~The Department of Administrative and Financial Services shall adopt rules to calculate the annual percentage increase in the death benefit.~~

The State shall pay the benefit as follows:

A. If there is no surviving child of the firefighter, law enforcement officer, emergency medical services person, Department of Corrections law enforcement officer or corrections officer or Department of Transportation employee, to the surviving spouse of the person;

B. If there is a surviving child or children and a surviving spouse of the firefighter, law enforcement officer, emergency medical services person, Department of Corrections law enforcement officer or corrections officer or Department of Transportation

employee, 1/2 to the surviving child or children in equal shares and 1/2 to the surviving spouse;

C. If there is no surviving spouse of the firefighter, law enforcement officer, emergency medical services person, Department of Corrections law enforcement officer or corrections officer or Department of Transportation employee, to the child or children in equal shares; or

D. If there is no surviving child or spouse, to the parent or parents of the firefighter, law enforcement officer, emergency medical services person, Department of Corrections law enforcement officer or corrections officer or Department of Transportation employee in equal shares.

Sec. 5. 25 MRSA §1612, sub-§2, ¶E is enacted to read:

E. When the Commissioner of Transportation determines upon showing of need and prior to final action that the death of a Department of Transportation employee is a death for which a benefit will probably be paid, the commissioner may make an interim benefit payment not exceeding \$3,000 to the individual or individuals entitled to receive a benefit under subsection 1 in the manner set out in subsection 1.

Sec. 6. 25 MRSA §1612, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2023, c. 433, §7, is further amended to read:

4. Repayment of interim payment; waiver. If a final benefit is not paid, the recipient or recipients of any interim payment under subsection 2 are liable for repayment of the amount received. The State Fire Marshal in the case of a firefighter, the chief in the case of a law enforcement officer, the director in the case of an emergency medical services person ~~or~~, the Commissioner of Corrections in the case of a Department of Corrections law enforcement officer or a corrections officer or the Commissioner of Transportation in the case of a Department of Transportation employee may waive all or part of the repayment if that official determines that undue hardship would result from that repayment.

Sec. 7. 25 MRSA §1612, sub-§8, as amended by PL 2019, c. 658, §6, is further amended to read:

8. Rulemaking. The State Fire Marshal, the chief, the Emergency Medical Services' Board ~~and~~, the Department of Corrections and the Department of Transportation shall adopt rules to carry out the purposes of this section, ~~except that the Department of Administrative and Financial Services shall adopt rules as required by subsection 1.~~ Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 8. State shall pay death benefits to families of James Brown and Dwayne Campbell. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary,

the State shall pay a death benefit in the amount of \$100,000 to the family of James Brown and in the amount of \$100,000 to the family of Dwayne Campbell from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund, as established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1532, indexed to the Consumer Price Index, as defined in Title 25, section 1611, subsection 1-A and as described in Title 25, section 1612, subsection 1.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 750

S.P. 294 - L.D. 679

An Act to Increase the Funding to the Live Fire Service Training Facilities Fund

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

Sec. 1. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MAINE

Live Fire Service Training Facilities Fund Z269

Initiative: Provides one-time funds for the Maine Fire Service Institute to provide funds for the construction and repair or replacement of regional live fire service training facilities in the State awarded by the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission for fiscal year 2026-27 only.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$500,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$500,000

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 751

H.P. 442 - L.D. 703

An Act to Establish a Health Care Gap Year Program for Recent College Graduates

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

Sec. 1. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF

Employment Services Activity 0852

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for a health care gap year program that incentivizes recent college graduates to work in critical health care positions, particularly in underserved and rural communities.

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

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 752

H.P. 444 - L.D. 705

An Act to Correct Technical Errors in Public Law 2025, Chapter 650

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §5124-C, sub-§1-B, ¶A, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 412, Pt. ZZZ, §5, is amended by amending subparagraph (1) to read:

(1) For single individuals and married persons filing separate returns, ~~\$12,000~~ \$15,000;

Sec. 2. PL 2025, c. 650, Part N, section 8 is amended to read:

Sec. N-8. Application. This ~~Act~~ Part applies to taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2026.

Sec. 3. PL 2025, c. 650, Part FF, section 4 is amended to read:

Sec. FF-4. Cost-of-living adjustment for essential support workers; MaineCare rates. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Department of Health and Human Services shall submit a request to seek approval from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to implement a cost-of-living adjustment of 3.07% for reimbursement rates subject to rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Sections 13, 65 and 92 and rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Sections 2, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 26, 28, 29, 40, 67, 96 and 97 Appendix C effective January 1, 2027 and for reimbursement rates subject to rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 97 Appendix B and Section 97 Appendix D effective July 1, 2026. The department shall submit the request required to seek approval under this section to implement the cost-of-living adjustment as soon as practicable.

Sec. 4. Transfer from MaineCare Stabilization Fund; General Fund. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before June 30, 2027, the State Controller shall transfer \$1,653,131 from the MaineCare Stabilization Fund Other Special