

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

FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND	\$0	\$159,198
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$4,646,695

HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE**Low-income Home Energy Assistance - MSHA 0708**

Initiative: Provides ongoing funding for low-income electric ratepayer assistance.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$7,500,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$7,500,000

Low-income Home Energy Assistance - MSHA 0708

Initiative: Deappropriates one-time funding for low-income electric ratepayer assistance.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	(\$7,500,000)
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	(\$7,500,000)

**HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE
DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$0

SECTION TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$1,653,131
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$0	\$2,834,366
FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND	\$0	\$159,198
SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$4,646,695

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 753**S.P. 373 - L.D. 840**

An Act to Modernize the State Supplement to Supplemental Security Income by Removing Marriage Disincentives

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3271, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2023, c. 405, Pt. A, §65, is further amended to read:

2. The department, to the extent allowed by Title XVI of the United States Social Security Act, as amended, and regulations promulgated thereunder, shall establish standard levels of state supplemental income benefits for blind, disabled and elderly people. The benefits must be provided under a modified flat benefit system, and may vary by ~~marital status, and by living arrangements~~ to the extent allowed by Title XVI of the United States Social Security Act, as amended, and regulations promulgated thereunder. The benefits may not be based on individual budgeted need and may not vary by category or geographical area. Benefits for a couple, ~~except as provided under section 3273, sub-section 1, paragraph B,~~ must be equal to the sum of the amount of benefit for ~~an each individual and 50% of the benefit for an individual in the couple.~~ an each individual.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §3272, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 790, §3, is amended to read:

1. **Standard.** The standard utilized to determine need ~~shall must~~ be the current annual budget at the lower level of living for ~~a retired couple~~ an individual as most recently determined by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, for Portland, Maine, or budgets ~~which that~~ are consistent with such a budget at the lower level of living, taking into account budget variances by ~~marital status and living arrangements permitted~~ permitted pursuant to Title XVI of the United States Social Security Act, as amended, and regulations promulgated thereunder.

Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §3273, sub-§1, ¶A, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 790, §3, is amended to read:

A. Increase the minimum monthly federal payment standard, in addition to that established pursuant to federal law, by an amount of at least \$8 per month for an individual ~~and \$12 per month for a couple;~~

Sec. 4. 22 MRSA §3273, sub-§1, ¶C, as enacted by PL 1973, c. 790, §3, is amended to read:

C. For a beneficiary who resides in a living arrangement ~~which that~~ meets a living arrangement classification established by the department, but who does not reside in an adult foster home or boarding home, in addition to the minimum federal payment level as adjusted pursuant to paragraph A, provide, based on such living arrangement classification, an amount not to exceed \$42 per month for an individual ~~and \$63 per month for a couple.~~

Sec. 5. 22 MRSA §3273, sub-§6, ¶B-1, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 528, Pt. E, §25 and affected by Pt. RRR and enacted by c. 591, Pt. E, §25, is amended to read:

B-1. On July 1st of every year, the sum of the monthly amount of any state supplemental income

benefit authorized by subsection 1, paragraphs A and C, plus the amount of the minimum monthly federal supplemental security income in effect at that time must be increased by a percentage amount equal to the percentage rise in the United States Consumer Price Index for April 1st of that year over the level of the Index for April 1st of the previous year plus any additional percentage amount as is recommended annually by the department. Such an increase may be made only insofar as appropriations are available. In determining the additional percentage amount, consideration must be given to the goal of reaching, within a reasonable time, a benefit level equal to or consistent with the current budget at the lower level of living for ~~a retired couple~~ an individual established by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, for Portland, Maine.

If, on April 1st of any year, the sum of the monthly amount of any state supplemental payment authorized by subsection 1, paragraphs A and C, plus the amount of the minimum monthly federal supplemental security income in effect at that time, is equal to or exceeds the amount resulting from 12 divided into the current annual budget at the lower level of living for ~~a retired couple~~ an individual as most recently established by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, for Portland, Maine, or taking into account variances by ~~marital status and~~ living arrangements as established by the department, a budget that is not inconsistent with that annual budget divided by 12, the increase provided on July 1st next following is limited to the percentage rise in the Consumer Price Index.

~~This paragraph takes effect July 1, 1993.~~

Sec. 6. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

State Supplement to Federal Supplemental Security Income 0131

Initiative: Provides funding to make the state supplemental income benefit payment for a couple, both of whom qualify for the benefit, equal to the sum of the amount of the benefit for each individual in the couple.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$36,828
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$36,828

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 754

H.P. 562 - L.D. 876

An Act to Support the Maine Service Fellows Program

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.

MAINE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Maine Service Fellows Program Z417

Initiative: Provides one-time funds for 3 program fellows to participate in the Maine Service Fellows Program.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$90,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$90,000

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 755

S.P. 408 - L.D. 981

An Act to Facilitate the Establishment of an Automated Crime Victim Notification System

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

Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §2107-A is enacted to read:

§2107-A. Automated crime victim notification system; minimum requirements

A facility that is required by section 2106 to provide notification to a victim of a defendant's release or escape or that is required by section 2107 to provide notification to a victim of a defendant's release on preconviction bail and that provides such notification using an automated crime victim notification system shall ensure that:

1. Optional use of automated system. A victim is not required to receive the notifications under section 2106 or 2107 using the automated crime victim notification system and may elect to receive the notification through other methods specified in section 2106 or 2107;

2. Disclosure of protected information. The automated crime victim notification system is designed to protect from disclosure the name, contact information and any other personally identifying information about