

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	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$140,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$140,000

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 756

H.P. 650 - L.D. 1003

An Act Establishing the Retirement Improvement Fund

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA c. 421, sub-c. 4, art. 10 is enacted to read:

ARTICLE 10

RETIREMENT IMPROVEMENT FUND

§17446. Retirement Improvement Fund

1. Establishment of fund. The Retirement Improvement Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established within and administered by the retirement system as an interest-bearing, nonlapsing fund for the payment of retirement benefit improvements.

2. Content of fund. The fund consists of all money transferred to the fund under this section and other money made available to the fund, which may include but is not limited to legislative appropriations from the General Fund or any other fund, the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund or any other source or fund identified or established through law.

3. Use of fund. Money in the fund must be used to pay for retirement benefit improvements. Whenever the fund has sufficient capital to pay for an increase in the amount of at least \$1,000 on the benefit base on which the annual cost-of-living adjustment is applied pursuant to section 17806, subsection 1, paragraph A, for all beneficiaries in the retirement system, that increase must be applied but only until the benefit base reaches \$40,000.

4. Reporting. By March 1, 2029 and annually thereafter, the retirement system shall submit a report regarding implementation of this section to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over retirement matters that includes the following information for that fiscal year and the prior 3 fiscal years:

A. The amount of money transferred to the fund pursuant to subsection 2;

B. The total increases made to the benefit base on which the annual cost-of-living adjustment must be applied in accordance with subsection 3;

C. The amount of any payment made or required to be made toward any remaining obligation for the unfunded actuarial liability; and

D. The balance in the fund.

Sec. 2. Legislative intent. It is the intention of the Legislature through this Act to provide for a sufficient retirement by increasing the cost-of-living adjustment for retired state employees, teachers and their beneficiaries, to the greatest extent possible within existing state resources, including the future use of current state appropriations dedicated to the payment of the unfunded actuarial liability when those funds are no longer needed for payment of the existing liability.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Retirement Improvement Fund N521

Initiative: Provides base allocations to authorize the expenditure of funds to pay for retirement benefit improvements for retired state employees and teachers and their beneficiaries.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$500

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 757

H.P. 651 - L.D. 1004

An Act to Adjust Certain Implementation and Reporting Dates in Legislation Held by the Governor That Became Law

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

PART A

Sec. A-1. 10 MRSA §31, sub-§4, as enacted by PL 2025, c. 500, §2, is amended to read:

4. Report. The council shall submit a report to the Governor and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over economic development matters by February 1, ~~2026~~ 2027 and annually thereafter regarding the activities of the council during the preceding calendar year. The report must include recommendations as determined appropriate by the council to effectuate its purpose under this section. After reviewing the report under this subsection, the joint standing

committee may report out legislation relating to the report.

PART B

Sec. B-1. PL 2025, c. 508, §2, last ¶ is amended to read:

No later than January 1, ~~2026~~ 2027, the University of Maine System shall submit a report to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs and to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary~~ joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters and judiciary matters outlining its plan for implementation of the rural practice track at the University of Maine School of Law, including any recommendations for legislative or other action. After reviewing the report, either committee may report out legislation related to the report to the ~~Second Regular Session of the 132nd~~ 133rd Legislature in 2027.

PART C

Sec. C-1. 25 MRSA §2808-B, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2025, c. 510, §3, is amended to read:

1. Publishing of policies and procedures. Except as provided by subsection 4, by January 1, ~~2026~~ 2027, a law enforcement agency shall publish and make publicly available in clear and understandable language the agency's policies and procedures required under section 2803-B, including:

- A. A summary of each key policy of the agency;
- B. A comprehensive list of agency rules and guidelines governing law enforcement officer conduct, including any updates or revisions; and
- C. Contact information for a member of the public to request access to information under paragraph A or B.

PART D

Sec. D-1. PL 2025, c. 512, §3 is amended to read:

Sec. 3. Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy; medical cannabis research grant program rule-making. On or before January ~~9, 2026~~ 8, 2027, the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy shall provisionally adopt and submit for legislative review rules necessary to implement the medical cannabis research grant program in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 2430, subsection 5. Rules adopted by the office pursuant to this section are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

PART E

Sec. E-1. 32 MRSA §99, sub-§10, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2025, c. 520, §3, is amended to read:

B. Submit a report containing the results of the commission's studies, findings and recommendations to the Governor and to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public safety matters by January 1, ~~2026~~ 2027 and annually thereafter. As resources permit, the report must include, but is not limited to:

- (1) An assessment of existing and needed resources and expected resource needs within the State's emergency medical services system and recommendations for funding those needs;
- (2) An evaluation of existing emergency medical services programs, initiatives and resources, including recommendations for improvements, new programs and initiatives and funding options for oversight and administration of the State's emergency medical services system;
- (3) Recommendations regarding effective management of resources within the State's emergency medical services system, enhancing the collection and distribution of emergency medical services data, methods to evaluate the State's emergency medical services system and recruitment and retention of emergency medical services persons, both paid and volunteer; and
- (4) The status of municipal emergency medical services plans adopted and submitted pursuant to Title 30-A, section 3172 and an analysis of those plans.

After reviewing the report submitted under this paragraph, the committee may report out legislation relating to the report;

Sec. E-2. PL 2025, c. 520, §5, last ¶ is amended to read:

On or before December ~~3, 2025~~ 15, 2026, Maine Emergency Medical Services shall submit a report describing the findings of its analysis and including recommendations and any proposed legislation to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety~~ joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public safety matters. After reviewing the report, the committee may report out legislation relating to the report to the ~~Second Regular Session of the 132nd~~ 133rd Legislature in 2027.

Sec. E-3. PL 2025, c. 520, §6 is amended to read:

Sec. 6. Maine Emergency Medical Services structural reorganization proposal. By December ~~3, 2025~~ 15, 2026, the Department of Public Safety, Maine Emergency Medical Services shall submit to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety~~ joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public safety matters a report,

including proposed draft legislation, for the reorganization of the Emergency Medical Services' Board, established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12004-A, subsection 15, consistent with the document titled "Maine EMS: Two-Year Action Plan" published by Maine Emergency Medical Services on October 27, 2023. The report must include, but is not limited to, identification of the necessary statutory changes and funding needs associated with the reorganization of the Emergency Medical Services' Board and any associated structural and organizational changes within Maine Emergency Medical Services and within the state and regional governance system for the emergency medical services program, as outlined in the document titled "Maine EMS: Two-Year Action Plan." After reviewing the report, the committee may report out legislation relating to the report to the ~~Second Regular Session of the 132nd~~ 133rd Legislature in 2027.

Sec. E-4. PL 2025, c. 520, §7 is amended to read:

Sec. 7. Maine Emergency Medical Services public information campaign; report. The Department of Public Safety, Maine Emergency Medical Services shall, as resources allow, develop and, not later than July 1, ~~2026~~ 2027, implement a public information campaign designed to enhance the public's understanding and appreciation of the delivery of emergency medical services, the design and funding of the emergency medical services system in the State and the essentiality of the services provided by emergency medical services entities.

On or before December ~~3, 2025~~ 15, 2026, Maine Emergency Medical Services shall submit a report to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety~~ joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public safety matters regarding its development and anticipated implementation of the public information campaign required under this section. The report must include, but is not limited to, an assessment of the resource needs associated with the public information campaign and identification of any anticipated resource needs not currently available within the existing budgeted resources of Maine Emergency Medical Services necessary for successful implementation of the campaign. After reviewing the report, the committee may report out legislation relating to the report to the ~~Second Regular Session of the 132nd~~ 133rd Legislature in 2027.

PART F

Sec. F-1. 22 MRSA §8111, as enacted by PL 2025, c. 522, §1, is amended to read:

§8111. Closure notice requirements for children's residential care facilities

After October 1, ~~2025~~ 2026, the department shall notify the joint standing committee of the Legislature

having jurisdiction over health and human services matters whenever a children's residential care facility ceases to operate no later than 2 weeks after the facility has ceased operations. The notification to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters must include information about the facility, including but not limited to the name of the facility, the services provided, the number of beds, the number of employees, the stated reasons for closure and a de-identified summary of the transition and discharge plan for the children who were in the facility at the time of closure. The notification must also include a description of any actions taken by the department to prevent the closure.

Sec. F-2. PL 2025, c. 522, §3 is amended to read:

Sec. 3. Provider engagement and needs assessment. The Department of Health and Human Services shall convene a stakeholder group of child residential treatment providers to identify the short-term and long-term staffing and resources needs to ensure the sustainability of child residential treatment providers. The department shall submit a report, no later than ~~December 3, 2025~~ January 15, 2027, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters with its findings, a needs assessment and recommendations. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters is authorized to report out legislation related to the report to the ~~Second Regular Session of the 132nd~~ 133rd Legislature in 2027.

Sec. F-3. PL 2025, c. 522, §5, first ¶ is amended to read:

Sec. 5. Children's behavioral health services data and policy report. The Department of Health and Human Services shall develop and submit a report, no later than ~~December 3, 2025~~ January 15, 2027, to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services~~ joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters that includes data and policy efforts as follows:

PART G

Sec. G-1. PL 2025, c. 523, §3 is amended to read:

Sec. 3. Effective date. This Act takes effect ~~January 1, 2026~~ 90 days after adjournment of the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

PART H

Sec. H-1. 20-A MRSA §6304-A, as enacted by PL 2025, c. 529, §1, is amended to read:

§6304-A. Policy for access to automated external defibrillators

Beginning in the ~~2026-2027~~ 2027-2028 school year, a school administrative unit shall develop and implement a policy that provides access to automated external defibrillators at all school-sponsored athletic events in which students are participating on school property, including team practices. The policy must include how a person can access an automated external defibrillator while attending a school-sponsored athletic event. An automated external defibrillator acquired by a school administrative unit pursuant to this section must be tested and maintained according to the manufacturer's operational guidelines. Appropriate first aid, ambulance, rescue service or other appropriate local emergency medical service providers must be notified of the location and type of automated external defibrillator acquired.

PART I

Sec. I-1. 8 MRSA §374, sub-§6, as enacted by PL 2025, c. 536, §2, is amended to read:

6. Tick laboratory lottery game. No later than July 1, ~~2026~~ 2027, the commission, in consultation with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, shall develop and initiate a tick laboratory instant lottery game designed to raise funds for the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Laboratory Operations Fund established in Title 7, section 2481. Tickets for the instant lottery game established under this subsection must be sold for \$4 and must be changed by the commission periodically throughout the year. The commission shall annually provide 20% of the net proceeds of the lottery game established in accordance with this subsection to the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Laboratory Operations Fund and 80% to the General Fund.

Sec. I-2. PL 2025, c. 536, §6 is amended to read:

Sec. 6. Report. By December 15, ~~2028~~ 2029, the State Liquor and Lottery Commission shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over lottery matters detailing the status of the tick laboratory instant lottery game established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 8, section 374, subsection 6, including revenues received by the General Fund and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Tick Laboratory Operations Fund established in Title 7, section 2481. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over lottery matters may report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 134th Legislature in 2029.

PART J

Sec. J-1. Resolve 2025, c. 119, §1 is amended to read:

Sec. 1. Child assertive community treatment team. Resolved: That, by March 1, ~~2026~~ 2027,

the Department of Health and Human Services shall issue a request for applications for a grant to establish a pilot program to develop one child assertive community treatment team to serve the Lewiston or Bangor geographic area. The request for applications must require the awardee of the grant to use workforce incentives designed to attract, train and retain child assertive community treatment staff. The department shall engage in a competitive process to determine the awardee. The term of the contract may not exceed 2 years.

PART K

Sec. K-1. Resolve 2025, c. 121, §1 is amended to read:

Sec. 1. Maine Arts Commission study. Resolved: That the Maine Arts Commission shall study federal and national efforts to protect artists from copyright infringement by businesses and others promoting, creating, disseminating or using artificial intelligence software applications and federal and national efforts to monitor the educational use of copyrighted work. The commission shall consult with the Office of the Attorney General on the subject of the study. In its study, the commission may consider any relevant work of or obtain information from the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts and the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, as well as any other similar organizations. The commission may also consider the proposed federal No Fakes Act of 2024, the proposed federal No AI FRAUD Act and Tennessee's Ensuring Likeness, Voice, and Image Security Act of 2024, as well as other relevant law or case law, including *Waits v. Frito-Lay, Inc.*, 978 F.2d 1093 (9th Cir. 1992) and *Midler v. Ford Motor Co.*, 849 F.2d 460 (9th Cir. 1988). The commission shall report its findings, including any suggested legislation, to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs~~ joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs by December 3, 2025 January 15, 2027. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the ~~Second Regular Session of the 132nd~~ 133rd Legislature in 2027 based on the report.

PART L

Sec. L-1. Resolve 2025, c. 122, §2 is amended to read:

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, by January 15, ~~2026~~ 2027, the Department of Education shall submit a report based on the data collected in section 1 to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs~~ joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters. The committee is authorized to submit legislation related to the report to the ~~Second Regular Session of the 132nd~~ 133rd Legislature in 2027.

PART M

Sec. M-1. Resolve 2025, c. 124, §2 is amended to read:

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, by February 15, ~~2026~~ 2027, the Department of Education shall submit a report to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters~~ based on the review conducted pursuant to section 1. The joint standing committee may report out legislation related to the report to the ~~Second Regular Session of the 132nd~~ 133rd Legislature in 2027.

PART N

Sec. N-1. Resolve 2025, c. 125, §1, last ¶ is amended to read:

The Department of Education shall submit a report based on the results of the survey to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters~~ no later than January 15, ~~2026~~ 2027.

Sec. N-2. Resolve 2025, c. 125, §2, first ¶ is amended to read:

Sec. 2. Working group. Resolved: That, beginning in January ~~2026~~ 2027, the Department of Education shall convene a working group of relevant stakeholders to develop recommendations on increasing accessibility to personal finance education to students in the State of all grade levels based on the findings of the report developed pursuant to section 1. The working group must examine professional development, curriculum resources, instructional time, staffing and any other supports the working group considers necessary to expand and strengthen personal finance instruction in school administrative units. The membership of the working group must include, but is not limited to:

Sec. N-3. Resolve 2025, c. 125, §2, last ¶ is amended to read:

The Department of Education shall submit a report based on the findings and recommendations of the working group to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters~~ no later than March 1, ~~2026~~ 2027.

PART O

Sec. O-1. Resolve 2025, c. 126, §1, last ¶ is amended to read:

The department shall distribute the best practices for training in de-escalation and behavior intervention to all school administrative units in the State no later than September 1, ~~2026~~ 2027.

PART P

Sec. P-1. Resolve 2025, c. 127, §2 is amended to read:

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That the Department of Education shall submit a report no later than February 1, ~~2026~~ 2027 to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters~~ on the findings of the review described in section 1. The report must include data regarding the frequency and duration of abbreviated school day placements and input from stakeholders, including, but not limited to, school personnel and parents. The report must also include information about the impacts that abbreviated school day placements may have on school funding and on student outcomes. The ~~Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs joint standing committee~~ may report out a bill based on the report to the ~~Second Regular Session of the 132nd~~ 133rd Legislature in 2027.

PART Q

Sec. Q-1. Resolve 2025, c. 128, §4 is amended to read:

Sec. 4. Report. Resolved: That the council shall submit a report, no later than January 31, ~~2026~~ 2027, that includes a summary of the findings of the work group along with recommendations and any suggested legislation to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters~~. The committee shall review the findings and recommendations of the report and may report out legislation to implement recommendations related to the report in the ~~Second Regular Session of the 132nd~~ 133rd Legislature in 2027.

PART R

Sec. R-1. Resolve 2025, c. 130, §1 is amended to read:

Sec. 1. Department of Corrections to study achieving gender equality. Resolved: That the Department of Corrections shall study the extent of gender inequality present in the programs, services, facilities and policies administered or overseen by the department and shall report its findings to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters by December 3, 2025~~ January 15, 2027. The report must include potential solutions for eliminating gender inequality in those areas, including, but not limited to, the construction or redesignation of current facilities and the reallocation of resources, programs and opportunities. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the ~~Second Regular Session of the 132nd~~ 133rd Legislature in 2027 based on the report.

PART S

Sec. S-1. Resolve 2025, c. 131, §1, first ¶ is amended to read:

Sec. 1. Data related to renewable energy construction projects. Resolved: That the ~~Governor's Energy Office~~ Department of Energy Resources, referred to in this resolve as "the ~~office~~ department," shall coordinate with state agencies that permit, regulate or provide state assistance to renewable energy construction projects, including, but not limited to, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Labor, the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Public Utilities Commission, to evaluate how to display and maintain data regarding renewable energy construction projects in an efficient, meaningful and publicly accessible manner for the purposes of identifying renewable energy trends in this State, including through the development of a database. For the purposes of this resolve, "renewable energy construction project" or "project" means a source of electrical generation that has a nameplate capacity of 500 kilowatts or more and relies on a source of generation described in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3210, subsection 2, paragraph C, subparagraph (2). The evaluation must provide a method to make the data publicly available and, to the extent practicable, a method for obtaining information from renewable energy construction project developers, including, but not limited to:

Sec. S-2. Resolve 2025, c. 131, §2, first ¶ is amended to read:

Sec. 2. Evaluation criteria. Resolved: That the ~~office's department's~~ evaluation required under section 1 must consider:

Sec. S-3. Resolve 2025, c. 131, §2, sub-§7 is amended to read:

7. Whether and through what mechanism the ~~office~~ department may or could be given the authority to require the provision of timely and accurate information by project developers or owners;

Sec. S-4. Resolve 2025, c. 131, §2, sub-§8 is amended to read:

8. Whether additional staff or financial resources may be necessary to develop and maintain the data under section 1 or if it is feasible to maintain this data within existing resources of the ~~office~~ department; and

Sec. S-5. Resolve 2025, c. 131, §3 is amended to read:

Sec. 3. Report. Resolved: That the ~~office~~ department, in consultation with the state agencies listed in section 1, shall submit a report on the evaluation under this resolve to the ~~Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology~~ joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy, utilities and technology matters by February 1, ~~2026~~ 2027. The report must contain recommendations related to how to display and maintain data regarding renewable energy construction projects in an efficient, meaningful

and publicly accessible manner for the purposes of identifying renewable energy trends in this State. The committee may report out a bill to the ~~Second Regular Session of the 132nd~~ 133rd Legislature in 2027 based on the report.

PART T

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

ARTS COMMISSION, MAINE

Arts - Administration 0178

Initiative: Appropriates funding for a consultant to research and analyze the impact of unauthorized usage by artificial intelligence on an artist's work as required by Resolve 2025, chapter 121.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$25,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$25,000

ARTS COMMISSION, MAINE

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$25,000
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$25,000

EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF

Higher Education and Educator Support Services Z082

Initiative: Appropriates funding to support the working group established by Resolve 2025, chapter 125 to develop recommendations on increasing accessibility to personal finance education to students of all grade levels in the State.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$5,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$5,000

Innovative Teaching and Learning Z394

Initiative: Appropriates funding to contract for staffing services to perform a review of teacher mentoring programs in public schools and to prepare a report as required by Resolve 2025, chapter 124.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$15,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$15,000

EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT TOTALS

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$20,000

DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$20,000
SECTION TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$45,000
SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$45,000

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 758 H.P. 725 - L.D. 1106

An Act to Provide Funds for the Redevelopment of the Island Nursing Home in Hancock County into Affordable Senior Housing

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

Sec. 1. Accountability and reporting. The Maine State Housing Authority shall submit a detailed report regarding the conversion of the Island Nursing Home in Hancock County to apartments for individuals 55 years of age or older whose household income does not exceed 80% of the median income for the area as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development under the United States Housing Act of 1937, Public Law 75-412, 50 Stat. 888, Section 8, as amended, to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs within 12 months of receipt of funding provided pursuant to section 2. The report must include:

1. A breakdown of how the funds have been used;
2. A progress update; and
3. A financial summary of additional funds raised and any additional funding needs.

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

HOUSING AUTHORITY, MAINE STATE

Housing Authority - State 0442

Initiative: Provides one-time funds to support the conversion of the Island Nursing Home in Hancock County into 24 apartments for eligible individuals 55 years of age or older.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$250,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$250,000

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 759 H.P. 811 - L.D. 1236

An Act to Address Employee Retention of State Employees Who Are Firefighters at Bangor International Airport

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §17851-A, sub-§1, ¶H, as amended by PL 1999, c. 493, §5, is further amended to read:

H. Firefighters Until September 30, 2026, fire-fighters in the employment of the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management at Bangor International Airport on July 1, 1998, or hired thereafter, provided as long as the Federal Government pays annually to the retirement system the full employer cost of the participation of these employees;

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §17851-D is enacted to read:

§17851-D. Special plan for firefighters in employment of Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management at Bangor International Airport

1. Establishment and applicability. Effective October 1, 2026, there is established a special retirement plan for firefighters in the employment of the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management at Bangor International Airport, referred to in this section as "the special plan." The special plan applies to firefighters in the employment of the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management at Bangor International Airport on or after July 1, 1998, if the Federal Government pays annually to the retirement system the full employer cost of the participation of these employees.

2. Qualification for benefits. A member employed under subsection 1 qualifies for a service retirement benefit after completing 25 years of creditable service in that capacity, whether or not the creditable service included in determining that the 25-year requirement has been met was earned under the special plan established in this section or prior to its establishment.

3. Purchase of service credit to be used for qualification for benefits. This subsection governs the use of purchased service credit in order to qualify for benefits under this section. For the purpose of meeting the qualification requirement of subsection 2:

A. Service credit purchased by repayment of an earlier refund of accumulated contributions following termination of service is included if the time to which the refund relates was served in the position described in subsection 1, regardless of whether the