

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

time was served before or after the establishment of the special plan;

B. Service credit purchased under section 17760 is considered service under the special plan; and

C. Service credit purchased other than as provided under paragraphs A and B is not included.

4. Computation of benefits. The amount of the service retirement benefit for members qualified under subsection 2 is 1/2 of the member's average final compensation and an additional 2% of the member's average final compensation for each year of membership service not included in determining qualification under subsection 2.

5. Contributions. Notwithstanding any provision of subchapter 3 to the contrary, after September 30, 2026, a member in a position described in subsection 1 shall contribute to the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program or have pick-up contributions made at the rate of 8.65% of earnable compensation until the member has completed 25 years of creditable service as provided in this section and at the rate of 7.65% thereafter.

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

DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF

Military Training and Operations 0108

Initiative: Allocates ongoing funds for the prospective costs of certain employees within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management who are firefighters at Bangor International Airport being allowed to participate in a special retirement plan that allows for those employees to retire after 25 years of service regardless of age effective October 1, 2026.

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	2025-26	2026-27
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Personal Services	\$0	\$1,759
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FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$1,759
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DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
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FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$0	\$1,759
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DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$1,759
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RETIREMENT SYSTEM, MAINE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Retirement System - Retirement Allowance Fund 0085

Initiative: Provides one-time funds for the increase in the unfunded actuarial liability as a result of allowing the service retirement benefits for certain employees within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management who are firefighters at Bangor International Airport earned under the 1998 Special Plan to be calculated under a special retirement plan that allows for those employees to retire after 25 years of service regardless of age.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$522,078

GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$522,078
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RETIREMENT SYSTEM, MAINE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
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GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$522,078
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DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$522,078
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SECTION TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
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GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$522,078
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$0	\$1,759

SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$523,837
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See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 760

H.P. 852 - L.D. 1277

An Act Regarding Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Activities

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §7246, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2023, c. 544, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Controlled substance. "Controlled substance" means a controlled substance included in schedules II, III, IV or V of 21 United States Code, Section 812 or 21 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1308, except anabolic steroids.

Sec. 2. Information concerning anabolic steroids. Immediately upon the effective date of this Act, the Department of Health and Human Services shall purge from the records of the Controlled Sub-

stances Prescription Monitoring Program, as established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 7248, all existing information concerning the prescribing and dispensing of anabolic steroids.

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

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
DEPARTMENT OF**

Office of Behavioral Health Z199

Initiative: Provides funding for database maintenance to implement the exception of anabolic steroids from the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$0	\$62,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$62,000

Office of Behavioral Health Z199

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to purge records from the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program.

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

**HEALTH AND HUMAN
SERVICES, DEPARTMENT
OF**

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2025-26	2026-27
GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$77,000
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$77,000

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 761
H.P. 876 - L.D. 1353**

**An Act Regarding Required
Landings in the Menhaden
Fishery**

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6502-C, sub-§1-C, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 169, §2 and affected by §5, is amended to read:

1-C. Menhaden license limited entry system. Notwithstanding subsection 1-B, the commissioner ~~may~~ **shall** establish by rule a limited entry system under which a person who did not hold a commercial menhaden license in the previous calendar year may become

eligible to obtain that license when the total number of commercial menhaden licenses is less than 350 licenses and as long as the fishery exit ratio is one to one. The rules for a limited entry system must include provisions for the method and administration of the system. ~~Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.~~

Prior to the adoption of rules pursuant to this subsection, when the total number of commercial menhaden licenses is less than 350 licenses and as long as the fishery exit ratio is one to one, the commissioner shall provide preference to individuals:

A. Who meet the requirements of subsection 1-E; and

B. Based on an individual's municipality of residence. The commissioner shall fulfill the requirements of this paragraph by providing preference to an individual whose municipality of residence is located the farthest east in the State and subsequently to an individual whose municipality of residence is located the next farthest east in the State. If more than one individual resides in the municipality, the commissioner shall determine randomly which individual is given first preference.

Rules establishing a limited entry system in accordance with this subsection must be adopted by December 31, 2027. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6502-C, sub-§1-E is enacted to read:

1-E. Commercial menhaden fishing license eligibility. Prior to the adoption of a limited entry system pursuant to subsection 1-C, the commissioner may issue a resident commercial menhaden fishing license or a nonresident commercial menhaden fishing license to an individual if that individual:

A. Possessed a license to fish commercially for menhaden in at least one of the following 3 years, 2019, 2020 or 2021;

B. According to department records, reported legal landings of menhaden of 20,000 pounds or more under a commercial menhaden fishing license in at least one of the following 3 years, 2019, 2020 or 2021; and

C. Did not qualify for or receive a license for any period of time under subsection 1-A.

Documentation, acceptable to the department, showing that the landing requirement in paragraph B has been met must be based on information reported to the department prior to January 1, 2023.

Sec. 3. Assignment of licenses according to preference as soon as practicable; suspension until eligible individuals offered license. The