

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

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

Commissioner of Marine Resources shall assign limited entry commercial menhaden licenses pursuant to the priorities established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6502-C, subsection 1-C, paragraphs A and B as soon as practicable following the effective date of this section.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Title 12, section 6502-C, subsections 1-C and 1-E, rules adopted by the commissioner establishing 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 are suspended until each individual who meets the preference requirements established in Title 12, section 6502-C, subsection 1-C, paragraphs A and B has been offered the opportunity to obtain a commercial menhaden license.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 762

H.P. 966 - L.D. 1474

An Act to Strengthen the Teaching of Wabanaki Studies in Maine Schools

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §14 is enacted to read:

§14. Wabanaki studies specialist

The Wabanaki studies specialist, referred to in this section as "the specialist," is established in the department to ensure the inclusion of Wabanaki studies in the parameters for essential instruction and graduation requirements as required by section 4706, subsection 4.

1. Duties. The specialist, in consultation with the contracted Wabanaki advisors, shall:

A. Assist school administrative units and educators in the exploration of a wide range of educational materials and resources relating to Wabanaki studies;

B. Identify materials and resources for implementing the instruction of Wabanaki studies;

C. Involve organizations and individuals able and willing to assist with the requirements under this subsection, including, but not limited to, museums and educators; and

D. Make recommendations to the department regarding:

(1) Wabanaki studies curricula;

(2) Wabanaki studies courses that count toward the requirements of teacher certification; and

(3) Implementation of teacher education programs and summer teacher institutes.

2. Reporting. The specialist shall annually report to the commissioner and the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission regarding the implementation of the instruction of Wabanaki studies as required by section 4706, subsection 4 and regarding:

A. Educational materials and resources that are appropriate to assist school administrative units and educators in the State to include Wabanaki studies as required by section 4706, subsection 4; and

B. Opportunities for professional development, training and technical assistance that must be provided to assist school administrative units and educators in the State in implementing Wabanaki studies as required by section 4706, subsection 4.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §4706, first ¶, as amended by PL 2021, c. 247, §1 and affected by §3, is further amended to read:

Instruction in American history, African American studies, government, citizenship, Maine studies ~~and~~, the history of genocide and Wabanaki studies must be aligned with the parameters for essential instruction and graduation requirements established under section 6209.

Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §4706, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2023, c. 537, §2, is further amended to read:

2. Maine studies. Maine history, including the Constitution of Maine, Maine geography and environment and the natural, industrial and economic resources of Maine and Maine's cultural and ethnic heritage, must be taught. ~~A required component of Maine studies is Wabanaki studies, and Wabanaki studies may be taught as a component of other content areas, as appropriate, including but not limited to the content areas of English language arts, mathematics, science and fine arts. Wabanaki studies and Maine African American studies must be included in the review of content standards and performance indicators of the learning results conducted in accordance with section 6209, subsection 4. Wabanaki studies must address the following topics:~~

~~A. Wabanaki governments and political systems and their relationship with local, state, national and international governments;~~

~~B. Wabanaki cultural systems and the experience of tribal people throughout history;~~

~~C. Wabanaki territories; and~~

~~D. Wabanaki economic systems.~~

Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §4706, sub-§4 is enacted to read: