

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

desired applicants, including recruitment done directly by an employer or indirectly through a 3rd party. "Posting" includes postings made electronically or with a printed hard copy.

B. "Range of pay" means the range of pay that an employer anticipates relying on in setting wages for a position, including, but not limited to, reference to:

- (1) Any applicable pay scale;
- (2) A previously determined range of wages for the position;
- (3) The actual range of wages for those currently holding equivalent positions; or
- (4) The budgeted amount for the position.

"Range of pay" does not include compensation that is based solely on commission.

2. Employer with 10 or more employees. An employer that has 10 or more employees shall ensure that a posting includes a statement that lists the prospective range of pay the employer will offer to a successful applicant unless the position that is the subject of the posting is compensated solely on the basis of commission, in which case the required posted statement must indicate that the compensation for the position is based solely on commission.

3. Pay disclosure; records. Upon the request of an employee, an employer shall disclose the range of pay the employer offers for the position the employee holds. An employer shall maintain a record of each position held by an employee and the pay history of the employee in each position for the duration of the employee's employment with the employer and for 3 years after the termination of the employee's employment.

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

LABOR, DEPARTMENT OF

Regulation and Enforcement 0159

Initiative: Provides ongoing funds for one Labor and Safety Inspector position and provides funding for related All Other costs to enforce the requirement that employers disclose pay ranges and maintain records of employees' pay histories.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
POSITIONS -	0.000	1.000
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL		
Personal Services	\$0	\$75,336
All Other	\$0	\$6,065
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$81,401

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 772

S.P. 874 - L.D. 2155

An Act to Exempt, for Licenses Issued Prior to December 21, 2025, Persons Holding a Majority Ownership Interest from the Restriction on the Number of Manufacturing Facility Licenses and On-premises Retail Licenses

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

Sec. 1. 28-A MRSA §1355-A, sub-§2-C is enacted to read:

2-C. Grandfathering of certain licenses issued prior to December 21, 2025. The bureau may not suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a license issued under this section or chapter 43 that was initially issued prior to December 21, 2025 solely on the basis that the person or persons holding a majority ownership interest in the licensed manufacturing facility were determined by the bureau after the license was initially issued to hold a majority ownership interest in more than the allowable number of on-premises retail licenses issued under chapter 43 if the on-premises retail licenses issued under chapter 43 were also initially issued prior to December 21, 2025.

A license grandfathered pursuant to this subsection may not be sold, transferred or otherwise conveyed.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 773

H.P. 223 - L.D. 323

An Act to Fund Staff Support for the State Board of Education

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.

EDUCATION, STATE BOARD OF

State Board of Education 0614

Initiative: Provides one-time funds for the State Board of Education to contract for staffing services. Funds may not be used to establish or fund a permanent position.

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

GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$25,000
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See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 774

S.P. 628 - L.D. 1544

An Act to Support Families by Improving the Court Process for Child Protection Cases

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §4002, sub-§1-B, ¶C, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 715, Pt. B, §1, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §4034, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2015, c. 501, §9, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

1. Request. A petitioner may add to a child protection petition a request for a preliminary protection order or may request a preliminary protection order separately from the child protection petition. A request for a preliminary protection order must be sworn and must include at least the following:

A. A summary of facts to support the request:

B. A detailed summary of how the department weighed the trauma to the child of removal from the child's home against the alleged immediate risk of serious harm to the child and the specific factors the department considered; and

C. The specific services offered and provided under section 4036-B, subsection 3 to prevent the removal of the child from the child's home.

Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §4034, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2001, c. 696, §25, is further amended to read:

2. Order. If the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence presented in the sworn summary or otherwise that there is an immediate risk of serious harm to the child, it may order any disposition under section 4036. In considering whether to grant a preliminary protection order, the court shall consider the trauma to the child of removal from the child's home and whether the department has exhausted the options to mitigate the immediate risk of serious harm to the child and avoid the removal of the child from the child's home. A preliminary protection order automatically expires at the time of the issuing of a final protection order under section 4035 or a judicial review order under section 4038.

Sec. 4. 22 MRSA §4034, sub-§4, as amended by PL 2015, c. 501, §10, is further amended to read:

4. Summary preliminary hearing. The court shall schedule a summary preliminary hearing on a preliminary protection order within 14 days but not less

than 7 days after issuance of the preliminary protection order, except that counsel for a parent may request that the hearing take place sooner. Upon request of counsel, the court may conduct the summary preliminary hearing as expeditiously as the court determines the interests of justice require. If a parent, custodian or legal guardian appears for the summary preliminary hearing and does not consent to the preliminary protection order, the court shall conduct a hearing at which the petitioner bears the burden of proof. At a summary preliminary hearing, the court shall consider the trauma to the child of removal from the child's home in determining whether to continue the preliminary protection order and whether the department has exhausted the options to mitigate the immediate risk of serious harm to the child and avoid the removal of the child from the child's home. The court may limit testimony to the testimony of the caseworker, parent, custodian, legal guardian, guardian ad litem, foster parent, preadoptive parent or relative providing care and may admit evidence, including reports and records, that would otherwise be ~~inadmissible~~ inadmissible as hearsay evidence. If after the hearing the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that returning the child to the child's custodian would place the child in immediate risk of serious harm, it shall make findings explaining why the risk of harm to the child is outweighed by the trauma of the child's removal from the child's home and that the department has exhausted the options to mitigate the immediate risk of serious harm and avoid the removal of the child from the child's home and continue the order or make another disposition under section 4036. If the court's preliminary protection order includes a finding of an aggravating factor, the court may order the department not to commence reunification or to cease reunification, in which case the court shall conduct a hearing on jeopardy and conduct a permanency planning hearing. The hearings must commence within 30 days of entry of the preliminary protection order.

If the petitioner has not been able to serve a parent, custodian or legal guardian before the scheduled summary preliminary hearing, the parent, custodian or legal guardian may request a subsequent summary preliminary hearing within 10 days after receipt of the petition.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 775

S.P. 871 - L.D. 2150

An Act to Enhance Notice to Individuals Whose Access to State Property Has Been Restricted

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §60 is enacted to read: