

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

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective March 3, 2026.

CHAPTER 13

S.P. 833 - L.D. 2043

An Act to Raise the Ogunquit Sewer District Debt Limit

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

Sec. 1. P&SL 1963, c. 87, §17, first ¶, as amended by P&SL 2021, c. 15, §14, is further amended to read:

Sec. 17. Authorized to borrow money and to issue bonds and notes. To procure funds for the purposes of this Act and for such other expenses as may be necessary for the carrying out of the purposes, the district without a district vote but by action of its board of trustees is authorized to raise funds from sources other than operational activities by receiving governmental aid and also by borrowing money in accordance with this section. The district may issue its notes and bonds in one series or in separate series from time to time, as long as the aggregate outstanding principal balance at any one time does not exceed ~~\$12,000,000~~ \$17,000,000, unless a higher debt obligation limit is established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 1054, except that the district may employ the procedures set forth in Title 30-A, section 2354 as an alternative to the procedures in Title 30-A, chapter 121.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 14

H.P. 1447 - L.D. 2158

An Act to Address Vacancies on the Knox County Budget Committee

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, current law establishes the Knox County budget committee and requires the membership, consisting of 9 members, to be elected to the budget committee in an even-numbered year; and

Whereas, under the Knox County charter, business may not be conducted without the presence of a quorum, which is at least 5 members; and

Whereas, due to vacancies on the budget committee and the failure to fill those vacancies at the 2024 election, the budget committee no longer has a quorum; and

Whereas, this legislation provides for a temporary alternative method of appointment of members to the budget committee; and

Whereas, this legislation must take effect as soon as possible to allow the budget committee to complete its work on the Knox County budget for 2026; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. Temporary appointment of members to Knox County budget committee. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 751 or in the Knox County charter regarding the election of members to the Knox County budget committee and the filling of vacancies on the Knox County budget committee, the following provisions apply.

1. Definitions. As used in this Act, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Budget committee" means the Knox County budget committee established in Title 30-A, section 751.

B. "County commissioners" means the county commissioners of Knox County.

C. "District" means the budget committee districts established in Title 30-A, section 757, subsection 2.

D. "Eligible resident" means an individual registered to vote in Knox County who is a resident of the district for which that individual is nominated and elected.

2. Appointment of eligible residents. The county commissioners may appoint an eligible resident to fill a vacancy on the budget committee when there are fewer than 5 members of the budget committee who have been duly elected or who have been appointed pursuant to this subsection and seated.

3. Candidates recommended by municipalities. Notwithstanding Title 30-A, section 751, subsection 1, paragraph B, a municipality may submit a written recommendation identifying an eligible resident to fill a vacancy on the budget committee. The county commissioners shall give due regard to such a recommendation

when making an appointment to the budget committee pursuant to subsection 2.

4. Term of appointed members. A member of the budget committee appointed to fill a vacancy pursuant to this section fills the vacant seat for the balance of the unexpired term.

5. Voting status of appointed members. A member of the budget committee appointed to fill a vacancy pursuant to this section is a full voting member of the budget committee.

6. Authority to fill vacant seats when quorum exists unaffected. This section does not affect the requirement in Title 30-A, section 751, subsection 1, paragraph D that the budget committee fill a vacancy occurring on the budget committee when it has a quorum to act.

7. Termination of authority. The authority granted in this Act expires December 31, 2028.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective March 14, 2026.

CHAPTER 15

H.P. 1441 - L.D. 2152

An Act to Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2027

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

Sec. 1. Allocation. Gross revenues of the Maine Turnpike Authority for the calendar year ending December 31, 2027 must be segregated, apportioned and disbursed as designated in the following schedule.

MAINE TURNPIKE AUTHORITY		2027
Administration		
Personal Services		\$1,743,073
All Other		1,988,572
TOTAL		\$3,731,645
Accounts and Controls		
Personal Services		\$4,522,635
All Other		2,075,653
TOTAL		\$6,598,288

Highway Maintenance

Personal Services	\$8,107,865
All Other	5,473,270
TOTAL	\$13,581,135

Equipment Maintenance

Personal Services	\$1,889,717
All Other	3,983,550
TOTAL	\$5,873,267

Fare Collection

Personal Services	\$11,968,837
All Other	4,458,974
TOTAL	\$16,427,811

Public Safety and Special Services

Personal Services	\$772,225
All Other	9,253,515
TOTAL	\$10,025,740

Building Maintenance

Personal Services	\$1,027,086
All Other	861,627
TOTAL	\$1,888,713

Subtotal of Line Items Budgeted \$58,126,599

General Contingency - 10% of line items budgeted for 2027 (10% allowed) \$5,812,660

MAINE TURNPIKE AUTHORITY
TOTAL REVENUE FUNDS \$63,939,259

Sec. 2. Transfer of allocations. Any balance of the allocation for "General Contingency" made by the Legislature for the Maine Turnpike Authority may be transferred at any time prior to the closing of the books to any other allocation or subdivision of any other allocation made by the Legislature for the use of the Maine Turnpike Authority for the same calendar year. Any balance of any other allocation or subdivision of any other allocation made by the Legislature for the Maine Turnpike Authority that at any time is not required for the purpose named in the allocation or subdivision may be transferred at any time prior to the closing of the books to any other allocation or subdivision of any other allocation made by the Legislature for the use of the Maine Turnpike Authority for the same calendar year subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters. Financial statements describing the transfer, other than a transfer from "General Contin-