

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 4, 2024 to March 21, 2025

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
March 25, 2025 to June 25, 2025

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS
JUNE 20, 2025

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS
SEPTEMBER 24, 2025

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine
2025

CHAPTER 46
S.P. 170 - L.D. 375

**Resolve, Directing the
University of Maine System to
Study the Feasibility of
Distance Learning Programs at
the University of Maine School
of Law**

Sec. 1. University of Maine System to study feasibility of distance learning courses at University of Maine School of Law. Resolved: That the University of Maine System shall study the feasibility of expanding the current juris doctor degree program at the University of Maine School of Law to offer distance learning courses and examine providing a new juris doctor degree program that provides 100% distance learning. The feasibility study must include the following:

1. The costs of operating the current juris doctor degree program with distance learning courses and the anticipated effect the offering of distance learning courses will have on student enrollment in the program;
2. The costs of operating a new juris doctor degree program that provides 100% distance learning courses and the anticipated enrollment of students in such a program;
3. The process and costs of the University of Maine School of Law to apply to the American Bar Association for acquiescence, as necessary, to offer a juris doctor degree program with distance learning, whether by expanding the current juris doctor degree program to offer distance learning courses or by providing a new juris doctor degree program that provides 100% distance learning; and
4. The anticipated benefits and disadvantages of expanding and operating the current juris doctor degree program to offer distance learning courses and of providing a new juris doctor degree program providing 100% distance learning courses.

The University of Maine System shall submit a report detailing its findings, including any suggested legislation, no later than November 4, 2026, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters. The joint standing committee may report out a bill related to the contents of the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 47
S.P. 142 - L.D. 356

**Resolve, Directing the Board of
Pesticides Control to Prohibit
the Use of Rodenticides in
Outdoor Residential Settings**

Sec. 1. Board of Pesticides Control to prohibit use of rodenticides. Resolved: That the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control shall prohibit the use of rodenticides, including rodenticidal baits, in outdoor residential settings. A certified applicator as defined under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 1471-C, subsection 4 is exempt from the prohibition under this section. The board shall submit a report with an update on the prohibition under this section to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry no later than January 15, 2026. The joint standing committee may submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature relating to the subject matter of the report.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 48
H.P. 365 - L.D. 546

**Resolve, to Require the
Preparation of Preapproved
Building Types**

Sec. 1. Preapproved building types. Resolved: That the Maine Office of Community Affairs, referred to in this resolve as "the office," shall contract with an appropriate consultant to establish a set of building types that municipalities may adopt as preapproved building types in order to reduce the cost and time associated with processing building permit applications.

The office shall:

1. Require the consultant to develop no fewer than 5 and no more than 8 preapproved building types. Preapproved building types may include, but are not limited to, single-family homes, duplexes, triplexes, quadplexes and mixed-use residential and retail buildings. Each preapproved building type must include no fewer than 8 and no more than 10 design options for building components. For purposes of this section, "building components" include dormers, rear and side additions, windows, porches, stoops, cross gables and other elements that add volume to a building. For each preapproved building type, multiple design options must be prepared to reflect the vernacular architecture in the State, with a range of building components that allow for permitted modifications for each preapproved

building type. For purposes of this section, "vernacular architecture" means an architectural style that is designed based on local needs, availability of construction materials and local traditions. Preapproved building types must be designed to fit on lots with dimensions that commonly exist in the State and that allow for efficient use of private and public infrastructure. Preapproved building types must be designed to meet any applicable state or federal building and energy codes and have prototypical site plans for each preapproved building type in order to identify the location of the building on the lot, location of parking on the lot, access to parking on the lot, setbacks and build-to lines;

2. Determine the area median income for each county in the State and require the consultant to develop preapproved building types that include units that can be rented at a cost that does not exceed 30% of the area median income in the county where the building may be used as a preapproved building type;

3. Ensure a process of public engagement with the consultant as the consultant develops the preapproved building types, including, but not limited to, in-person focus groups, online crowdsourced visual preference surveys and at least 2 rounds of public crowdsourced feedback on draft preapproved building types and prototypical site plans;

4. Require the consultant to work with the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal to determine compliance of each preapproved building type with the National Fire Protection Association Life Safety Code adopted by the office;

5. Require the consultant to create a final proposed work product that includes a catalog of preapproved building types and prototypical site plans, including a publicly accessible website with information and forms relating to preapproved building types; and

6. Seek input from a postsecondary institution in the State with a program that uses new technologies in developing methods to produce materials and develop building methods designed to make housing more efficient and affordable.

Sec. 2. Maine Office of Community Affairs to provide report. Resolved: That the office shall submit a report no later than November 4, 2026 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over housing matters with findings and recommendations relating to preapproved building types established under section 1. The report must include recommended legislation to ensure that when a municipality adopts preapproved building types, applications for permits to develop a preapproved building type must be deemed administratively approved when the preapproved building types are located along existing streets or within designated growth areas served by a public, special district or other centrally managed water system and a public, special district or other comparable sewer

system. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over housing matters may report out legislation relating to the subject matter of the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved: That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

MAINE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Maine Office of Community Affairs Z396

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to contract with a consultant to establish a set of building types that municipalities may adopt as preapproved building types in order to reduce the cost and time associated with processing building permit applications.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$200,000	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$200,000	\$0

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 49

S.P. 556 - L.D. 1341

Resolve, Directing the Department of Marine Resources to Evaluate How to Effectively Allow 2 Licensed Individuals to Fish for Lobsters or Scallops from a Single Vessel

Sec. 1. Operation from single vessel review; lobster fishery. Resolved: That the Department of Marine Resources shall evaluate how 2 individuals who each hold a valid Class I, Class II or Class III lobster and crab fishing license and who are fishing concurrently from the same vessel may fish for or take lobsters from a single vessel without this resulting in increased harvest. In completing its review, the department may consult with and seek input from the Lobster Advisory Council under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6462-A and lobster management policy councils established pursuant to Title 12, section 6447.

Sec. 2. Operation from single vessel review; scallop fishery. Resolved: That the Department of Marine Resources shall evaluate how 2 individuals who each hold a scallop dragging license and who are fishing concurrently from the same vessel may fish for or take scallops from a single vessel without this resulting in increased harvest. In completing its review, the department may consult with and seek input from the Scallop Advisory Council under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6729-B.