

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

Sec. 3. Report. Resolved: That the Department of Marine Resources shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources by March 1, 2026 describing the review process in sections 1 and 2.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 50

S.P. 387 - L.D. 898

Resolve, to Support Rural Health Care Workforce Recruitment

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

Whereas, the State is experiencing a serious shortage of health care providers, particularly in rural communities; and

Whereas, the changes to the Department of Labor's rules relating to equal pay provided for in this legislation are designed to alleviate that health care provider shortage; 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

Sec. 1. Department of Labor; rulemaking. Resolved: That the Department of Labor shall initiate rulemaking to amend its Bureau of Labor Standards rule Chapter 12: Rules Relating to Equal Pay, as follows:

1. The rule must be amended in Section I(G) to clarify, for the purposes of the definition of "establishment," that different entities or facilities operated by a hospital or health care entity at different physical locations are not considered a single establishment; and

2. The rule must be amended in Section I(K) to clarify, for the purposes of the definition of "seniority system," that preference under a seniority system must be given to workers based on years of service or based on pertinent experience or credentials.

The rule changes directed under this section must be finally adopted by the department no later than October 1, 2025. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

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

Effective June 9, 2025.

CHAPTER 51

H.P. 1320 - L.D. 1976

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 379: Compensation for Impacts to High-Value Agricultural Land from Solar Energy Development, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection

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

Whereas, the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A requires legislative authorization before major substantive agency rules may be finally adopted by the agency; and

Whereas, a major substantive rule has been submitted to the Legislature outside the legislative rule acceptance period; and

Whereas, immediate enactment of this resolve is necessary to record the Legislature's position on final adoption of the rule; 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

Sec. 1. Adoption. Resolved: That final adoption of Chapter 379: Compensation for Impacts to High-Value Agricultural Land from Solar Energy Development, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Environmental Protection that has been submitted to the Legislature for review pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A outside the legislative rule acceptance period, is authorized.

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

Effective June 9, 2025.