

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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

2. "Lobster management policy council" or "council" means a council established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6447, subsection 1.

3. "Secondary zone" means a lobster management zone listed on a lobster and crab fishing license, in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6446, subsection 1-A, as a zone in which the licensee intends to fish some, but not the majority, of the licensee's lobster traps.

Sec. 2. Input from lobster management policy councils; report. Resolved: That the department shall seek input from the lobster management policy councils to obtain feedback regarding what percentage of a lobster and crab fishing licensee's lobster traps a licensee may fish in a secondary zone. The department shall develop recommendations regarding the percentage based on the input received from the councils. By December 3, 2025, the department shall submit to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources a report that includes the department's recommendations. The committee may submit legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 66

H.P. 1193 - L.D. 1782

Resolve, Regarding Host Community Compensation for the Juniper Ridge Landfill in the City of Old Town

Sec. 1. Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services to initiate negotiation regarding host community compensation agreement for Juniper Ridge Landfill. Resolved: That the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services shall work with the contract operator of the state-owned Juniper Ridge Landfill and the City of Old Town to initiate a negotiation with those parties for further amendment of the Host Community Compensation and Facility Oversight Agreement dated December 8, 2005 and signed by the State of Maine, the City of Old Town and Casella Waste Systems, Inc. to ensure that the City of Old Town is fairly and adequately compensated for the burden of hosting the Juniper Ridge Landfill, taking into account changes in circumstances since the execution of that agreement; any ongoing or future processes relating to a proposed capacity expansion at the landfill; any ongoing or future processes relating to a proposed extension of the operating services agreement for the operation of the landfill; and any other factors determined by the parties.

The bureau shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that any negotiation for further amendment of the Host Community Compensation and Facility Oversight Agreement described in this section is conducted concurrently with any ongoing or future processes relating to a proposed capacity expansion at the landfill and any ongoing or future processes relating to a proposed extension of the operating services agreement for the operation of the landfill.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 67

H.P. 1073 - L.D. 1619

Resolve, to Direct the Governor's Energy Office to Solicit Information Regarding the Creation of a Thermal Energy Networks Program in Maine

Sec. 1. Request for information. Resolved: That the Governor's Energy Office shall, within existing resources, issue a request for information regarding the creation of a thermal energy networks program in the State. For the purposes of this resolve, "thermal energy network" means a system of interconnected piping that circulates thermal transfer water for the purpose of providing low-emissions heating and cooling to 2 or more buildings through the use of water source heat pumps at each building connected to the system. The primary thermal energy source for such a network may include, but is not limited to, geothermal resources or recovered thermal energy, such as waste heat captured from buildings or wastewater systems. When issuing the request for information, the office shall solicit information from stakeholders regarding:

1. Any relevant available research, framework, pilot projects and other information on the total cost, cost savings and efficiencies realized in thermal energy networks across the country;

2. The feasibility and applicability of thermal energy networks for residential, commercial and industrial sectors in the State, which may include information related to:

- A. Geophysical considerations;
- B. Compatibility with incumbent air source heat pumps and other heating, ventilating and air-conditioning systems;
- C. Permitting and right-of-way considerations;
- D. Constraints around geographic density; and
- E. Other considerations that demonstrate the total building heating and cooling load potential of thermal energy networks;

3. Recommended processes for facilitating and encouraging thermal energy networks pilot projects, including ownership structures and cost recovery mechanisms;

4. Life-cycle costs and benefits of thermal energy networks, including comparisons to incumbent heating and cooling technologies;

5. Potential electric grid impacts, such as smoothing winter and summer peaks and lowering system costs by avoiding or deferring investments in additional electrical generation, transmission and distribution infrastructure;

6. The suitability of thermal energy network technology for helping to meet the State's statutory emissions reduction goals;

7. Labor and workforce needs associated with developing thermal energy networks in the State, including consideration of job quality, supplying a skilled and ready workforce, licensing and registered apprenticeship and certified preapprenticeship programs;

8. Funding opportunities and cost recovery mechanisms, including, but not limited to:

A. Leveraging applicable tax credits available under the federal Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 and other federal assistance;

B. Funding from the New England Heat Pump Accelerator;

C. The Thermal Energy Investment Program established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 10128; and

D. Rebates for heat pumps through the Efficiency Maine Trust; and

9. The role thermal energy networks can play in increasing the affordability of housing, development and energy.

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That the Governor's Energy Office shall prepare, in consultation with the Efficiency Maine Trust and the Public Advocate, a summary report regarding the information received by the office in accordance with section 1 and, by January 15, 2026, submit the report to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. The office may develop and include in the report recommendations regarding the development of a thermal energy networks program in the State. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature based on the report.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 68 H.P. 768 - L.D. 1163

Resolve, Directing the State Board of Education to Amend Its Educator Credentialing Rules to Create a Pathway for an Industrial Arts Endorsement

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

Whereas, this legislation must take effect before the end of the 90-day period so that educators in the State may take advantage of the industrial arts endorsement provided for in this legislation as soon as possible;

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. State Board of Education rule; industrial arts endorsement. Resolved: That the State Board of Education shall amend its rule Chapter 115: The Credentialing of Education Personnel, Part II: Requirements for Specific Certificates and Endorsements to create a pathway for an industrial arts endorsement for a teacher certificate. Components of industrial arts for which a teacher may obtain an endorsement must include, but are not limited to, automotive body repair, diagnostics and mechanics, welding, electrical, carpentry and computer-aided design. Eligibility requirements for obtaining the endorsement must include, but are not limited to, completion of a registered apprenticeship; completion of a 2-year certificate from an accredited technical institution; and completion of a minimum number of hours of experience learning and paid applied employment or teaching in the trade for which an endorsement is sought.

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

Effective June 12, 2025.