

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

the Legislative Council may grant authority for the commission to meet and conduct its business. The commission may not meet more than 8 times.

Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved: That the commission shall review all related laws and rules addressing the State's public policy on higher education, including, but not limited to, the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 10902, and make recommendations for potential legislative changes. In conducting its review, the commission shall analyze present and future goals, including, but not limited to, expanding access to affordable high-quality higher education to help students achieve postsecondary success. To assist the commission in carrying out its review, the Department of Education, the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System and the Maine Maritime Academy shall each provide to the commission any data and information the commission considers relevant to its work. At the discretion of the chairs, the commission may seek input from any students, faculty or staff in the State's public institutions of higher education, groups that have an interest in the State's public institutions of higher education and other stakeholders.

Sec. 6. Agreement for outside staffing. Resolved: That the Legislative Council shall enter into an agreement with the Maine Education Policy Research Institute to provide staffing services to the commission, for which the Legislature shall provide \$5,000.

Sec. 7. Report. Resolved: That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, no later than November 4, 2026, the commission shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, 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 report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

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

Effective January 11, 2026.

CHAPTER 121

H.P. 74 - L.D. 109

Resolve, Directing the Maine Arts Commission to Study Federal and National Efforts to Protect Artists from Copyright Infringement by Artificial Intelligence Companies and Users and to Monitor Educational Use

Sec. 1. Maine Arts Commission study. Resolved: That the Maine Arts Commission shall study

federal and national efforts to protect artists from copyright infringement by businesses and others promoting, creating, disseminating or using artificial intelligence software applications and federal and national efforts to monitor the educational use of copyrighted work. The commission shall consult with the Office of the Attorney General on the subject of the study. In its study, the commission may consider any relevant work of or obtain information from the Maine State Cultural Affairs Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts and the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, as well as any other similar organizations. The commission may also consider the proposed federal No Fakes Act of 2024, the proposed federal No AI FRAUD Act and Tennessee's Ensuring Likeness, Voice, and Image Security Act of 2024, as well as other relevant law or case law, including *Waits v. Frito-Lay, Inc.*, 978 F.2d 1093 (9th Cir. 1992) and *Midler v. Ford Motor Co.*, 849 F.2d 460 (9th Cir. 1988). The commission shall report its findings, including any suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 3, 2025. The joint standing committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature based on the report.

Sec. 2. Funding. Resolved: That the Maine Arts Commission may accept grants, private contributions and any additional outside funding for the study under this resolve.

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

ARTS COMMISSION, MAINE

Arts - Administration 0178

Initiative: Provides one-time funds for a consultant to research and analyze the impact of unauthorized usage by artificial intelligence on an artist's work.

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

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 122

S.P. 162 - L.D. 370

Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Collect Data on Secondary School Mathematics Requirements

Sec. 1. Secondary school mathematics requirements. Resolved: That the Department of Education shall, within existing resources, collect data on

the number of mathematics classes required for a high school diploma at secondary schools in the State. Data collected must include, but is not limited to:

1. The number of secondary schools that require 2 years of mathematics for a high school diploma;
2. From secondary schools that require 2 years of mathematics for a high school diploma, estimated costs associated with raising the mathematics requirements from 2 to 3 years;
3. The number of secondary schools that require more than 2 years of mathematics for a high school diploma; and
4. The number of secondary schools that accept credits from alternative mathematics classes, such as accelerated 8th-grade mathematics classes and early college classes, toward fulfillment of the mathematics requirements for a high school diploma.

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, by January 15, 2026, the Department of Education shall submit a report based on the data collected in section 1 to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. The committee is authorized to submit legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 123 H.P. 265 - L.D. 411

Resolve, Directing the Attorney General to Update Rules Relating to the Disposition of Forfeited Firearms

Sec. 1. Attorney General to update rules. Resolved: That the Attorney General shall update the rules regarding the disposition of forfeited firearms to clarify that the proceeds from the auctioning of forfeited firearms by the State must be placed in the Safe Homes Program Fund pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 25, section 7001, subsection 4, except that the Department of Administrative and Financial Services may retain 12% of the proceeds and the Department of Public Safety, Maine State Police, sheriff's departments and municipal police departments may retain the proceeds resulting from the auction of firearms forfeited to their respective departments.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 124

S.P. 209 - L.D. 470

Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Review Teacher Mentoring Programs in Maine Public Schools

Sec. 1. Teacher mentoring programs; review. Resolved: That the Department of Education, in collaboration with the Maine Education Association, the Maine School Management Association and Educate Maine, shall conduct a review of teacher mentoring programs in public schools in the State. The review must include, but is not limited to:

1. The number of teachers holding emergency teacher certificates, conditional teacher certificates and new teacher certificates with less than 3 years of experience employed at each school administrative unit;
2. Verification that every teacher holding an emergency teacher certificate, a conditional teacher certificate or a new teacher certificate with less than 3 years of experience is assigned a mentor;
3. Interviews with public school principals about teacher mentoring programs; and
4. A compilation of descriptions of basic requirements of teacher mentoring programs throughout the State, including the structure of each program, training and available stipends.

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, by February 15, 2026, the Department of Education shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs based on the review conducted pursuant to section 1. The joint standing committee may report out legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

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

EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF

Higher Education and Educator Support Services Z082

Initiative: Provides one-time funds to contract for staffing services to perform a review of teacher mentoring programs in public schools and to prepare a report.

GENERAL FUND	2025-26	2026-27
All Other	\$5,000	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$5,000	\$0

See title page for effective date.