

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

price for the land or, if needed, obtain an appraisal that must be paid by the buyer.

Sec. 3. Director of Bureau of Parks and Lands authorized to exchange certain land in Presque Isle, Aroostook County. Resolved: That the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may engage in a minor land exchange of less than 0.25 acres with Towers North, Inc. in the City of Presque Isle. The land swap will rectify a recently identified boundary issue in which a communication tower occupies a very small portion of state land. Towers North, Inc. must pay all transaction costs, including legal and recording costs for the transaction.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 135

H.P. 1358 - L.D. 2028

Resolve, to Rename a Bridge in West Forks Plantation and The Forks Plantation the Gordon Clifton Berry, Sr. Bridge

Sec. 1. Bridge in West Forks Plantation and The Forks Plantation renamed. Resolved: That the Department of Transportation shall designate Bridge 2841 on Route 201, which crosses the Kennebec River between West Forks Plantation and The Forks Plantation and is currently known as the Forks Bridge, the Gordon Clifton Berry, Sr. Bridge.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 136

H.P. 1363 - L.D. 2033

Resolve, to Designate Route 3 in Trenton as the Deputy Luke Gross Memorial Highway

Sec. 1. Designate Route 3 in Trenton the Deputy Luke Gross Memorial Highway. Resolved: That the Department of Transportation shall designate Route 3 in the Town of Trenton the Deputy Luke Gross Memorial Highway and shall erect appropriate signs to identify Route 3 as the Deputy Luke Gross Memorial Highway.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 137

H.P. 94 - L.D. 161

Resolve, Directing the Maine Office of Community Affairs to Convene a Working Group Tasked with a Comprehensive Overhaul and Modernization of Maine's Subdivision Laws

Sec. 1. Maine Office of Community Affairs to establish working group; purpose. Resolved: That the Maine Office of Community Affairs, established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 3202, shall convene and administer a working group composed of representatives from the Maine Office of Community Affairs, the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Department of Environmental Protection to review the subdivision laws in Title 12, chapter 206-A; Title 30-A, chapter 187, subchapter 4; and Title 38, chapter 3, subchapter 1, article 6. The purpose of the review is to make recommendations on how to overhaul and modernize the regulation of residential, commercial and industrial development.

Sec. 2. Commissioners to assign representatives. Resolved: That the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall assign one or more employees to represent their respective departments as members in the working group established pursuant to section 1. An assigned employee must have experience and knowledge relevant to the purpose of the working group and the working group's assigned tasks as specified in section 3.

Sec. 3. Working group tasks. Resolved: That the working group established pursuant to section 1 shall, within existing resources, undertake the following tasks with respect to the State's subdivision laws:

1. Develop recommendations on how to overhaul and consolidate the subdivision laws in a manner that reduces inconsistencies and ambiguities;
2. Develop recommendations on how to streamline the application processes under the subdivision laws; and
3. Identify policy conflicts, opportunities to clarify policies and ways to promote improved outcomes for housing, economic development, conservation and other matters identified by the working group.

If the working group is unable to achieve consensus on any finding or recommendation identified through its work, the working group shall include in the report required in section 6 an explanation of the issue lacking consensus, the possible solutions to the issue and the areas of disagreement.

Sec. 4. Consultation. Resolved: That the working group established pursuant to section 1 shall consult and engage persons with knowledge of and experience with the State's subdivision laws, including, but not limited to:

1. Land surveyors;
2. Civil engineers;
3. Code enforcement officers;
4. Municipal government officials who are responsible for interpreting subdivision law and represent different geographic areas of the State and municipalities of varying population sizes;
5. Regional planning agencies;
6. Real estate developers;
7. Commercial and residential builders;
8. The Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 5154;
9. Community land trusts engaged in affordable housing development;
10. Organizations engaged in environmental preservation and conservation; and
11. Attorneys admitted to the Maine Bar with experience in subdivision law.

Sec. 5. Work plan; public comment; submission to committees. Resolved: That the working group established pursuant to section 1 shall develop a work plan for completing the tasks required by this resolve. The working group shall solicit public comments on a draft work plan after posting the draft work plan on the publicly accessible websites of the Maine Office of Community Affairs, the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and the Department of Environmental Protection. By November 4, 2026, the working group shall prepare a final work plan and shall submit it to the Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic Development. By January 1, 2027, the working group shall submit the final work plan to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over housing matters.

Sec. 6. Report. Resolved: That, by February 15, 2027, the Maine Office of Community Affairs, on behalf of the working group established pursuant to section 1, shall submit a report that includes the working group's findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over subdivision law matters under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, chapter 206-A; Title 30-A, chapter 187, subchapter 4; and Title 38, chapter 3, subchapter 1, article 6. The joint standing committees that receive the report may report

out legislation related to the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 138

H.P. 1456 - L.D. 2167

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 100: Enforcement Procedures, a Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Health Data Organization

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 for review; 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 portions of Chapter 100: Enforcement Procedures, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Maine Health Data Organization that has been submitted to the Legislature for review pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A, is authorized.

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

Effective March 19, 2026.
