

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

8. Known instances of students bypassing Internet restrictions on school-issued technology devices; and

9. Suggestions for state policies and guidance to assist and support local action and policy development regarding the use of technology in schools.

Sec. 3. Guidance. Resolved: That the Maine Education Policy Research Institute shall gather information on current guidance about best practices for safe instructional technology use for children from state and national experts. The guidance must include, but is not limited to, a review of neuropsychological and developmental studies, comparative academic performance data and behavioral and environmental observations that provide insight on the impact of digital consumption on cognitive development. The institute shall share this guidance with its steering committee to facilitate distribution to its stakeholders.

Sec. 4. Report. Resolved: That, by December 1, 2026, the Maine Education Policy Research Institute shall submit a report based on the survey and research under sections 1 to 3, including recommendations to the Department of Education and suggested legislation, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs is authorized to submit legislation related to the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

Sec. 5. Funding. Resolved: That funding for the requirements of this resolve must be incorporated into the Maine Education Policy Research Institute's fiscal year 2026-27 cooperative project agreement with the Legislature.

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

Effective April 3, 2026.

CHAPTER 150

H.P. 1459 - L.D. 2171

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 305: Natural Resources Protection Act - Permit by Rule Standards and Portions of Chapter 335: Significant Wildlife Habitat, Major Substantive Rules 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, major substantive rules have 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 rules; 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 305: Natural Resources Protection Act - Permit by Rule Standards and portions of Chapter 335: Significant Wildlife Habitat, provisionally adopted major substantive rules of the Department of Environmental Protection that have 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 April 3, 2026.

CHAPTER 151

H.P. 1460 - L.D. 2172

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 33: Rule Governing Physical Restraint and Seclusion, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education, State Board of Education

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