

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

2. The plan for the expenditure of the remaining funds in the fund;

3. The planned cycle for rebasing reimbursement rates; and

4. The use of the fund to pay for cost-of-living increases for staff pay compared to the use of other funding sources for other cost-of-living increases for direct care services.

The stakeholder group shall submit a report, no later than January 15, 2027, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters. The committee is authorized to report out legislation 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 April 13, 2026.

CHAPTER 158 H.P. 1521 - L.D. 2242

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 6: Standards Relating to Prescriptive Authorities and Collaborative Relationship for Naturopathic Doctors, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation

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 portions of Chapter 6: Standards Relating to Prescriptive Authorities and Collaborative Relationship for Naturopathic Doctors, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation 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 April 13, 2026.

CHAPTER 159 H.P. 1513 - L.D. 2238

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 348: Exemption for On-farm Raising, Slaughter, and Processing of Less than 1,000 Ready-to-cook Whole Poultry, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

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 348: Exemption for On-farm Raising, Slaughter, and Processing of Less than 1,000 Ready-to-cook Whole Poultry, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conser-

vation and Forestry 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 April 13, 2026.

CHAPTER 160
H.P. 1463 - L.D. 2175

**Resolve, Regarding Legislative
Review of Portions of Chapter
115: The Credentialing of
Education Personnel, a Major
Substantive Rule of the
Department of Education,
State Board of Education**

Sec. 1. Adoption notwithstanding truncated comment period. Resolved: That final adoption of portions of Chapter 115: The Credentialing of Education Personnel, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Education, State Board of Education that has been submitted to the Legislature for review pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A, is authorized, notwithstanding that the filing period for written statements and arguments concerning the proposed rule closed 9 days after the public hearing, only if:

1. In the rule Part II: Requirements for Specific Certificates and Endorsements, Section 1: Teachers and Educational Specialists: General Certificates and Endorsements, a new Section 1.19 establishing a Mathematics Specialist Certificate is added;

2. In the rule Part II: Requirements for Specific Certificates and Endorsements, Section 2.1: Endorsement 282: Teacher of Children with Disabilities, the grade level specifications of birth to school age 5, preschool through grade 8 and grades 6 through 12 are established;

3. In the rule Part II: Requirements for Specific Certificates and Endorsements, Section 2.1: Endorsement 282: Teacher of Children with Disabilities, a transitional pathway is added to allow holders of an endorsement 282 with a grade span inclusive of kindergarten to earn an endorsement 282 with a grade span inclusive of preschool and elementary grades without the need for additional coursework; and

4. Any existing certificate or endorsement established for grades 7 through 12 is amended to grades 6 through 12.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 161
H.P. 1515 - L.D. 2240

**Resolve, Regarding Legislative
Review of Chapter 10:
Significant Wildlife Habitat, a
Late-filed Major Substantive
Rule of the Department of
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife**

Sec. 1. Adoption. Resolved: That final adoption of Chapter 10: Significant Wildlife Habitat, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 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.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 162
S.P. 858 - L.D. 2140

**Resolve, to Establish a Demand
Response Program to Lower
Electric Bills and Improve
Grid Reliability**

Sec. 1. Demand response program; established. Resolved: That the Efficiency Maine Trust, referred to in this resolve as "the trust," currently administering behind-the-meter demand management programs in the State, shall establish the demand response program, referred to in this resolve as "the program," to encourage electricity customers to reduce their consumption of electricity during periods of peak demand to help lower their electric bills and improve grid reliability. The trust shall administer the program through the end of fiscal year 2027-28. The trust may extend the program beyond that date, in its discretion, if such an extension is proposed and approved in the trust's next triennial plan pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 10104, subsection 4.

Sec. 2. Savings and reliability through reduction of peak demand. Resolved: That, as a part of the program, the trust shall develop an outreach and education campaign to increase participation in the State's transmission and distribution utilities opt-in time-of-use rates to encourage shifting electricity consumption to off-peak periods. The trust may not require an electricity customer to participate in the program. The program must be designed to focus on savings opportunities most appropriate for the State's electrical loads, grid planning and climate.