

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
132ND LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

August 2025

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

LD 8 An Act Regarding the Term of Appointment of Judicial Officers

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 124 clarifies that the term of appointment of a judicial officer appointed pursuant to the Constitution of Maine begins on the date of swearing in and that the requirement in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 6 that all public officers must qualify to perform the duties of their office within 30 days after being commissioned does not apply to such a judicial officer.

LD 20 An Act Regarding the First Judicial District and the District Court Locations in the Judicial Divisions of Androscoggin and Western Aroostook

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 436 amends the statute establishing the judicial divisions of the District Court to require the District Court for the division of Androscoggin to be held in Lewiston, not in either Lewiston or Auburn, and to require the District Court for the division of Western Aroostook to be held only in Fort Kent, not also in Madawaska. The law also authorizes the Chief Judge of the District Court to issue an order, which must be made publicly available, reallocating any municipality or unorganized territory between the Western Aroostook and Eastern Aroostook judicial divisions. Finally, the law directs the Chief Judge to submit a report by January 15, 2026 to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary with recommendations for redrawing the geographic boundaries between any of the judicial divisions in the State and authorizes the committee to report out legislation based on the report.

LD 83 An Act Concerning the Filing of Marriage Licenses and the Recording of Intentions as Part of the Electronic Vital Records System

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 130 clarifies the requirements for parties applying for and filing marriage licenses, including by requiring the attachment of electronic copies of marrying parties' intentions and all completed marriage licenses in the State's vital records system. The law also clarifies that, when a completed marriage license is returned more than 15 working days after the date of solemnization, it must be marked as a late filing. By contrast, if the parties to a marriage apply for a certificate of marriage for a marriage that occurred more than one year previously but for which no record can be found, it must be marked as a delayed marriage registration. Finally, the law specifies that municipal clerks are no longer required to give to all marrying parties the Department of Health and Human Services' brochure about the effects of alcohol and drugs on a fetus.