

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
132<sup>ND</sup> 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 122 An Act to Update Certain Laws Regarding Extended Care and Adoption**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 272 makes the following changes to the State's child protection laws.

1. It provides that, if the child who is the subject of the child protection proceeding is at least 14 years of age, the child must be given written notice of all judicial review hearings and the opportunity to be heard at the judicial review hearing.
2. It provides that, if the individual who was the subject of the child protection proceeding chooses to participate in the extended care program, the court must conduct an annual judicial review while the individual is age 18, 19 or 20 but is not required to conduct an annual judicial review while the individual is age 21 or 22. Regardless of whether an annual judicial review is required, however, either the individual who is part of the extended care program or the Department of Health and Human Services may file a motion for judicial review at any time.
3. It provides that the transition grant program, which provides financial support and navigator services to individuals ages 23 to 26 who were formerly part of the extended care program, is available not only to students enrolled in postsecondary education institutions but also to students enrolled in postsecondary education training programs. It also removes the statutory requirement that the advisory committee established by the department to oversee the transition program must include employers.

Finally, Public Law 2025, chapter 272 amends the Maine Uniform Probate Code to remove a provision authorizing the department to share with a court considering a petition for adoption the results of criminal background checks conducted by the department but retains the provision authorizing the court, in its discretion, to conduct its own criminal background check for any prospective adoptive parent who is not already a parent of the child.

### **LD 141 An Act to Provide Limited Immunity to Maine Human Rights Commission Mediators**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 80 amends the Maine Human Rights Act to provide limited immunity to Maine Human Rights Commission mediators while acting as mediators for the commission's third-party neutral mediation program.