

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

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
STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

August 2025

MEMBERS:

SEN. JOSEPH M. BALDACCI, CHAIR
SEN. PINNY BEEBE-CENTER
SEN. JOSEPH E. MARTIN

REP. SUZANNE M. SALISBURY, CHAIR
REP. ANN HIGGINS MATLACK
REP. LYNN H. COPELAND
REP. DAVID M. ROLLINS
REP. WAYNE K. FARRIN
REP. RANDALL ADAM GREENWOOD
REP. JEFFREY SEAN ADAMS
REP. KIMBERLY J. POMERLEAU
REP. JOSEPH F. UNDERWOOD
REP. WILLIAM R. TUELL

STAFF:

KRISTIN K. BISHOP, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla>

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

LD 254 An Act to Designate November as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 24 designates the month of November of each year as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month and directs the Governor to issue annually a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe the month through appropriate activities.

LD 286 An Act to Allow County Commissioners Greater Flexibility When Establishing a Payment Schedule for Municipalities to Pay County Tax Bills

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 100 amends the law governing the date of payment for a county tax bill by municipalities by allowing county commissioners to establish a due date or dates for payment of the tax.

LD 321 An Act to Make May Progressive Supranuclear Palsy Month

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 81 designates the month of May of each year as Progressive Supranuclear Palsy Month and directs the Governor to issue annually a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State to observe the month through appropriate activities.

LD 358 An Act to Increase Fees Paid to Registers of Deeds

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 328 increases fees paid to a county register of deeds for certain services in the following ways.

1. It increases fees applicable to electronic or printed images from a county registry of deeds website and increases the surcharge a register of deeds may collect per document.
2. It repeals a \$13 fee for requests for more than one previously recorded instrument, removes all references to the term “electronic abstract” and repeals the definition of “electronic abstract”.
3. It requires county registers of deeds to send an electronic or paper copy of transfers received to the assessors of the appropriate municipality in the format requested by the assessors within 30 days of recordation instead of requiring county registers of deeds to send a photocopy of each warranty or quitclaim deed received as provided under current law. The law also clarifies that county registers of deeds may charge a reasonable fee for a paper copy provided.

ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

4. It establishes a flat fee for receiving, recording and indexing any instrument that may be recorded and for which a specific fee is not set forth in current law. These fees are \$25 per instrument recorded at the request of the State or a municipality and \$35 per instrument recorded at the request of all other persons.
5. It changes from 5¢ to 25¢ per image the cost for acquiring downloads of 1,000 or more consecutive electronic images from a county registry of deeds that is equipped to and voluntarily agrees to provide downloads of 1,000 or more consecutive electronic images pursuant to a written agreement with the person requesting the downloads.
6. It changes the number of electronic images or printed images a person can acquire in a calendar year for no charge from the first 500 electronic images or printed images to the first 400 electronic images. The law provides that the charge of 50¢ per subsequent electronic image after 400 images acquired in the same calendar year does not apply to municipalities and it introduces a \$1.00 charge per printed image, not including any applicable postage rates set by the county.

LD 434 An Act to Authorize the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to Issue Additional Securities for the Replacement of the Legislative Management System for the Senate and the House of Representatives

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 454 authorizes the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to issue additional securities in an amount not to exceed \$8,000,000 outstanding at any one time for paying the costs associated with planning, purchasing, customizing and implementing an integrated electronic legislative management system to replace the existing system for the Senate and the House of Representatives.

LD 556 An Act to Preserve Heating and Energy Choice by Prohibiting a Municipality from Prohibiting a Particular Energy System or Energy Distributor

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 456 prohibits municipalities from prohibiting an individual or entity from using a heating or energy system for that individual's or entity's own heating or energy needs, including the heating or energy needs of a motor vehicle, or engaging the services of a person or energy distributor of that individual's or entity's choice unless the prohibition is otherwise authorized by statute.