

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 586 An Act to Provide a Court Authority to Issue Proximity Restrictions in Protection from Abuse Orders

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Beginning January 1, 2026, Public Law 2025, chapter 22 authorizes a court to issue a final protection order directing a defendant to refrain from knowingly being within a specified distance of a plaintiff or from being present at a specific location.

LD 640 An Act Requiring That Certain Fees Charged by the Courts for Court-ordered Payments Be Capped and Paid by the Defendant

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 260 requires a court to inform all prospective parties to a court judgment or decree that a 5% fee will be assessed on all accrued interest whenever a court receives any money to be held by the court, to be paid by the nonprevailing party of the action.

LD 654 An Act to Increase the Maximum Small Claim Limit

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 261 raises the maximum small claim limit from \$6,000 to \$10,000. The law takes effect January 1, 2026.

LD 670 An Act to Address Coercive Control in Domestic Abuse Cases

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 379 amends the definition of “abuse” for purposes of the protection from abuse laws to include compelling a person by coercion to engage in conduct from which the person has a right or privilege to abstain or to abstain from conduct in which the person has a right to engage.

LD 753 An Act to Authorize the Use of Funds Resulting from the Issuance of Securities by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority for the Purpose of Developing or Improving New or Existing Court Facilities in Penobscot County

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 462 authorizes the use of securities issued for the purpose of planning, purchasing, financing, acquiring, constructing, renovating, furnishing, equipping, improving,

ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

extending, enlarging and consolidating new and existing facilities and projects relating to the judicial branch to include such facilities in Penobscot County.

LD 779 An Act to Fund the Aroostook County Drug Treatment Court

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 463 provides funds in fiscal year 2026-2027 related to the creation of a drug treatment court in Aroostook County.

LD 809 An Act to Allow a Motion to Extend a Protection from Abuse Order After Expiration of the Original Order

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 157 authorizes a court to reinstate an expired final protection from abuse order pending a hearing on the plaintiff's motion to extend the expired order if the court finds that the plaintiff has shown good cause for filing the motion to extend after expiration of the protection order and if the motion was filed within a reasonable amount of time based on the underlying circumstances.

LD 922 An Act to Amend the Procedure for Filing a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights and Responsibilities

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 20 amends the law authorizing a parent to file a petition to terminate another parent's parental rights and responsibilities by removing the requirement that the petition be filed in the same case as any prior adjudication of parental rights and responsibilities.

LD 950 An Act to Increase Access to Protection from Abuse Orders by Allowing Children to File Protection from Abuse Orders on Their Own Behalf

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 158 authorizes a child to file a complaint for a protection from abuse order on the child's own behalf.