

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
132<sup>ND</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

May 2026

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**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

**LD 14 An Act to Provide Indigenous Peoples Free Access to State Parks**

Public Law 2025, chapter 707 provides that a member of a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in Maine is not required to pay a fee for admission to any state-owned park, historic site, camping area or beach managed by the State. The law also specifies that to qualify for free admission, a person is required to present a qualifying tribal identification, as approved by the respective tribal government, to the park attendant or other designee of the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

**LD 468 An Act to Address Food Insecurity by Helping Maine Residents Access Locally Produced Food**

Public Law 2025, chapter 745 provides one-time funding in the amount of \$500,000 in fiscal year 2026-27 to the Fund To Address Food Insecurity and Provide Nutrition Incentives to be used to match contributions from private and public sources.

**LD 473 Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Enter into Rulemaking Regarding Rule Chapter 30: Quarantine (Potato)**

Resolve 2025, chapter 172 directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to temporarily prohibit the importation of seed potatoes from the State of Colorado until the department has finally adopted an amended version of rule Chapter 30: Quarantine (Potato), a routine technical rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. The law directs the department to initiate rulemaking on or before May 31, 2026 and to continue to collaborate with representatives of the potato industry to prevent, to the extent practicable, the introduction of harmful potato pests that may affect the health, yield and marketability of the State's potato crops.

The law requires the department to submit a report, no later than February 2, 2027, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agriculture, conservation and forestry matters on current standards for certification of seed potatoes in the State, including, but not limited to, importation requirements, testing requirements and existing quarantines prohibiting or restricting the transportation of seed potatoes capable of carrying plant disease or insect infestation. It also authorizes the joint standing committee to submit legislation to the 133rd Legislature in 2027 based on the subject matter of the report.

Resolve 2025, chapter 172 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 21, 2026.

**LD 870 An Act Regarding Membership of the Maine Land Use Planning Commission**

Public Law 2025, chapter 534 amends the membership of the Maine Land Use Planning Commission by increasing the number of members from nine to 11 with the Governor appointing two members. The law directs the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of

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Representatives to jointly appoint one member to the commission and adds qualifications to be considered by the Governor when appointing members to the commission.

Public Law 2025, chapter 534 was finally enacted in both the House and the Senate prior to the adjournment sine die of the First Special Session in 2025 as an emergency measure but was not signed by the Governor. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Public Law 2025, chapter 534 became law without the Governor's signature on January 11, 2026.

**LD 1054 An Act to Amend Certain Definitions in the Laws Governing Conservation Easements**

Public Law 2025, chapter 609 changes the definitions of “conservation easement” and “holder” in the provisions of law governing property and the conveyance of real estate. “Conservation easement” means a nonpossessory interest of a holder in real property imposing limitations or affirmative obligations for certain purposes. This law adds preserving the historical, architectural, archaeological or cultural aspects of real property as one of those purposes. The law also clarifies that “holder” includes a federally recognized Indian nation, tribe or band in the State.

**LD 1141 An Act to Increase the Procurement of Maine Foods by Certain State Institutions**

Public Law 2025, chapter 521 clarifies existing state policy governing food procurement by state institutions to require rather than encourage the procurement of Maine foods and food products by state institutions.

The law defines “state institutions” as the Department of Corrections; the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center and the Riverview Psychiatric Center within the Department of Health and Human Services; and the Maine Veterans’ Homes for the purpose of the Maine foods procurement program. It also specifies the responsibilities of the institutional food procurement coordinator within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. The law also authorizes the coordinator to convene an annual meeting to the extent practicable and within existing resources.

The law provides that state institutions may negotiate directly with Maine food producers and execute agreements for off-contract purchases of food by commodity type and provides that food or food products purchased under an off-contract purchase agreement may be priced up to 15% higher than the same food or food product available under contract.

Public Law 2025, chapter 521 was finally enacted in both the House and the Senate prior to the adjournment sine die of the First Special Session in 2025 as an emergency measure but was not signed by the Governor. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Public Law 2025, chapter 521 became law without the Governor's signature on January 11, 2026.