# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## STATE OF MAINE

 $132^{\text{ND}}$  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 1801 An Act to Make Technical Changes to the Laws Governing the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 415 makes the following changes to the laws governing the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services.

- 1. It makes technical amendments to the definitions of "employed counsel" and "public defender."
- 2. It provides that training materials prepared or obtained by the commission in connection with providing or preparing to provide training and evaluation programs for attorneys who are or may seek to become assigned counsel, employed counsel, public defenders or contract counsel are confidential, even if those materials are disseminated in the furtherance of the commission's duties, for example at a commission-offered training.
- 3. It provides that a court must, on request, disclose otherwise confidential records associated with child protection actions to the commission for purposes of assigning, evaluating or supervising counsel.

LD 1813 An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Right to Know Advisory Committee Concerning State Boards and Commissions

### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 187 requires members of state boards and commissions established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 379 to complete a course of training on the requirements of the laws relating to public records and proceedings. The law also requires a board or commission established under Title 5, chapter 379 to designate a public access officer. The public access officer may serve as the contact person for more than one board or commission if the boards or commissions are within the same office or agency.

LD 1826 An Act to Protect the Confidentiality of Personally Identifiable Information in Records of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Tribal Populations

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 188 provides that personally identifiable information obtained by the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Tribal Populations in furtherance of its statutory duty to carry out research necessary to determine the status of historically disadvantaged racial, indigenous and tribal populations is confidential, except that the executive director of the commission may authorize disclosure of the information if the executive director