

# 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 TAXATION**

August 2025

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## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

5. It requires the task force to submit a final report by December 15, 2026, and an interim report by January 15, 2026. Both reports may include proposed legislation based on the task force's findings and recommendations.

Resolve 2025, chapter 108 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective July 1, 2025.

### **LD 1783 An Act to Clarify Municipal Affordable Housing Tax Increment Financing**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 252 changes the affordable housing development program by allowing the program to start and end during any tax years approved by the municipal legislative body, with the duration not exceeding 30 years after the affordable housing is placed in service or 35 years after the district designation is approved, whichever comes first. The law also requires municipalities with affordable housing development districts to submit annual reports to the director, certifying that the public purpose of the district is being met, accounting for any property sales within the district and ensuring that rental units remain affordable.

### **LD 1876 An Act to Change the Name and Duties of the Taxpayer Advocate to Increase the Use of State Tax Credits**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 486 changes the title of the taxpayer advocate in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services to the taxpayer advocate and experience officer and revises the duties of the position. The law requires the taxpayer advocate and experience officer to study and develop recommendations to increase the use of individual state tax credits by individuals in this State by examining the following: current use of state tax credits; services offered by large tax preparation firms with respect to assisting customers to access state tax credits; the role of State Government in promoting public awareness of individual state tax credits; and municipal efforts to promote public awareness of individual state tax credits. The law requires the taxpayer advocate and experience officer to submit to the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation by November 4, 2026 a report consisting of the taxpayer advocate and experience officer's findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation. The committee may report out legislation related to the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

The law also permits the State Controller to transfer \$50,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the All Other line category in the University of Maine System, New Ventures Maine program, Other Special Revenue Funds account to support a coalition of approximately 50 organizations providing free volunteer tax assistance and other financial education services to low-income individuals and families statewide.

The law requires the Chancellor of the University of Maine System, in maintaining the so-called New Ventures Maine program pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 10922,

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES**

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to submit a report no later than December 1, 2027 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters that includes a description of how the coalition utilizes the funding, how many individuals and families the coalition has served and how many individuals the coalition assisted in filing their taxes with those funds.

### **LD 1895 An Act to Require the Removal from a Property Tax Lien the Name of a Previous Owner Who Paid Prorated Property Taxes**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 351 allows the municipal treasurer or their designee to prepare and record a discharge of a tax lien mortgage if the party named on the mortgage has sold or transferred the property, provided they show proof of payment for their share of taxes due. The discharge is recorded in the same way as real estate mortgages, and a facsimile signature of the treasurer or designee may be used. The discharge applies only to the seller and must include a statement confirming that the assignee did not owe property taxes on the released property. The seller is responsible for the cost of recording the discharge.

### **LD 1951 An Act to Promote Food Processing and Manufacturing Facility Expansion and Create Jobs**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 489 makes the following changes to the laws governing the income tax credit for major food processing and manufacturing facility expansion for certified applicants for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2027.

1. It removes the requirement that an applicant's headquarters are, and have been for each of the last five years prior to application for a certificate of approval, located in the State.
2. It requires that an applicant employ or will employ within 12 months of the start-up of the facility at least 40 full-time employees based in the State.
3. It changes the criteria to be considered a qualified and certified applicant.
4. It increases the total value of certificates of approval that the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development may issue from \$100,000,000 to \$200,000,000. It also increases the cap on an individual certificate of approval from \$85,000,000 to \$100,000,000.
5. It increases the amount of the credit a certified applicant is allowed from an amount equal to 1.8% of the certified applicant's qualified investment to an amount equal to 2% of the certified applicant's qualified investment.