

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
132ND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

May 2026

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**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

LD 1519 An Act to Create a Stewardship Program for Electronic Smoking Devices and Related Products

Public Law 2025, chapter 769 requires that, on or before November 1, 2027, a producer of electronic smoking devices, individually, collectively or through a stewardship organization, must submit to the Department of Environmental Protection for review and approval a plan for the establishment of a stewardship program to manage unwanted electronic smoking devices sold by the producer at the end of the device's life. One hundred eighty days after a stewardship plan is approved by the department, a producer of electronic smoking devices may not sell or offer for sale in the State an electronic smoking device unless the producer participates, individually, collectively or through a stewardship organization, in an approved electronic smoking device stewardship program.

LD 1870 Resolve, to Assess the Total Cost to the State of Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Resolve 2025, chapter 168 directs the Department of Environmental Protection to conduct an assessment of the costs to the State of the emission of greenhouse gases for the period that began on January 1, 1995 and ended on December 31, 2024. The department may contract with a consultant to conduct that assessment. On or before January 1, 2028, the department is required to submit a report containing the results of that assessment to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources matters, labor matters, judiciary matters and energy, utilities and technology matters. After reviewing the report, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources matters may report out a bill relating to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd Legislature.

LD 1904 An Act to Establish the Municipal Shoreline Protection Legal Fund

Public Law 2025, chapter 715 establishes the Municipal Shoreline Protection Legal Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection to provide financial assistance to municipalities that have incurred or expect to incur legal costs in pursuing shoreland zoning violations. In accordance with rules adopted by the department, a municipality that receives financial assistance from the fund may be required to reimburse the fund following the settlement or final adjudication of the legal claim for which the financial assistance was received.

Public Law 2025, chapter 715 also amends the Natural Resources Protection Act to direct that, of the total penalties paid by all persons found to have violated that Act in any fiscal year, the Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall ensure that \$100,000 of that amount, or the total amount of penalties paid in the fiscal year if that amount is less than \$100,000, is deposited in the Municipal Shoreline Protection Legal Fund.

Public Law 2025, chapter 715 also directs the State Controller, on or before September 1, 2026, to transfer \$100,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of

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Environmental Protection, Municipal Shoreline Protection Legal Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account and provides a corresponding allocation.

LD 2037 An Act to Update the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Allowances

Public Law 2025, chapter 550 amends certain provisions governing the regional greenhouse gas initiative. The law amends the amount of carbon dioxide emissions allowances the State may auction as a participant in the regional greenhouse gas initiative for the year 2027 and each subsequent year. It also eliminates requirements for establishing and developing carbon dioxide offset project categories.

LD 2063 An Act to Clarify Activities Allowed Under the Natural Resources Protection Act

Public Law 2025, chapter 590 amends several provisions in the Natural Resources Protection Act.

1. It adds the hand planting of native vegetation, the hand planting of native dune vegetation and certain corrective actions to the list of activities for which a permit is not required.
2. It clarifies the provisions regarding the circumstances under which a permit is not required when an emergency activity is conducted to alleviate a threat caused by a flood event.
3. It adds great ponds and habitat for state endangered and state threatened species that is significant wildlife habitat to the list of areas under the Department of Environmental Protection's compensation program and provides the department with 3rd-party enforcement rights to enforce deed restrictions or conservation easements executed to meet a requirement under its compensation program.

LD 2070 An Act to Improve the Management of Landfill Leachate and Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge at Solid Waste Landfills

Public Law 2025, chapter 651 does the following.

1. It provides that a facility requiring an air emission license that processes or incinerates sludge must implement best available control technology for any new source and best practical treatment for any existing source to minimize emissions of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances from the facility to the ambient air.
2. It provides that, in accordance with a schedule approved by the Department of Environmental Protection, a new or expanded solid waste landfill that requires for its construction or expansion a permit under the Natural Resources Protection Act for the alteration of freshwater wetlands must incorporate a leak detection system into the landfill's engineering design; integrate into the landfill's water quality monitoring plan the use of that leak detection system and the sampling and analysis of groundwater on the landfill site for perfluoroalkyl and