

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**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 LABOR**

August 2025

**STAFF:**

STEVEN LANGLIN, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
SOPHIA PADDON, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla>

**MEMBERS:**

SEN. MIKE TIPPING, CHAIR  
SEN. JOSEPH E. RAFFERTY  
SEN. RICHARD T. BRADSTREET

REP. AMY J. ROEDER, CHAIR  
REP. VALLI D. GEIGER  
REP. MATTHEW D. BECK  
REP. CHARLES A. SKOLD  
REP. RAFAEL LEO MACIAS  
REP. MARSHALL F. ARCHER  
REP. GARY A. DRINKWATER  
REP. LAUREL D. LIBBY  
REP. ALICIA COLLINS  
REP. MICHAEL SOBOLESKI

## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR

having jurisdiction over energy matters, to develop a fact sheet and technical resource guide that outlines the requirements, opportunities, expectations and responsibilities detailed in state labor laws, rules and priority selection opportunities for entities developing assisted projects in the State with a nameplate capacity of one megawatt or more. The responsible entity developing an assisted project and its prime contracting entity must each separately attest, under penalty of perjury, that each entity has reviewed the fact sheet and technical resource guide and that each entity is aware of resources available to assist in the entity's understanding and compliance and that all contractors and subcontractors are aware of the requirements in the fact sheet and technical resource guide.

Public Law 2025, chapter 377 also requires that the department supply an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters beginning February 15, 2027.

### **LD 1861 An Act to Require Training on Textured Hair for Aestheticians, Barber Hair Stylists, Cosmetologists and Hair Designers**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 257 amends the laws governing the powers and responsibilities of the Director of the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation to adopt rules that require educational programs for aestheticians, barber hair stylists, cosmetologists and hair designers to include training on the styling and treatment of textured hair.

### **LD 1947 An Act to Amend the Laws Pertaining to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 221 makes the following changes to the laws governing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

1. The law establishes a definition of “duly acknowledged.”
2. The law establishes a definition of “survive” or “surviving.”
3. The law removes the minimum waiting period for a member to receive a refund of contributions.
4. The law removes the requirement for continuous service before a member can be eligible for disability retirement benefits without meeting preexisting condition criteria.
5. The law provides more flexibility in how overpayments of disability benefits are recovered.
6. The law clarifies the definition of “earnable compensation.”

## **JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR**

7. The law clarifies membership eligibility for coaches and adult education employees.
8. The law clarifies procedural requirements before initiating court action to recover overpaid benefits.
9. The law corrects a cross-reference and adds a cross-reference that was omitted from a previously enacted law.
10. The law clarifies termination of employment requirements for retirees to be restored to service.
11. The law clarifies the payment of group life insurance benefits.
12. The law permits the chief administrative officer of a participating local district to clarify ambiguities in actions taken by the governing body regarding plan participation.
13. The law changes what constitutes a quorum for the Participating Local District Advisory Committee.
14. The law repeals the requirement for a minimum percentage of members of a local district in order to participate in the group life insurance program.
15. The law removes or updates obsolete, unclear or inconsistent language.

### **LD 1956 An Act to Amend the Law Governing the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program and Establish the Community Workforce Connections Program**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 396 eliminates the peer workforce navigator pilot program and establishes the Community Workforce Connections Program beginning January 1, 2026 to provide peer support and community-based workforce navigation services to unemployed and underemployed individuals facing barriers to employment to help them increase their economic security. This program is to be funded by the Competitive Skills Scholarship Fund.

Public Law 2025, chapter 396 also amends the law governing the Competitive Skills Scholarship Program to authorize an added method of service delivery through an educational cohort model targeted to assist low-income individuals and individuals who may face barriers to education or successful workforce participation participating in a shared curriculum or program; increases the ways in which individuals can qualify for the program; and changes the application, decision and appeal process. The law also requires the Commissioner of Labor to submit a financial report on the Competitive Skills Scholarship Fund to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor by November 1, 2026.