

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 125th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2011

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Legislative Document

No. 1024

H.P. 760

House of Representatives, March 10, 2011

### An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Land Surveyors

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Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Heather J.R. Priest'.

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST  
Clerk

Presented by Representative McCABE of Skowhegan.  
Cosponsored by Senator MARTIN of Kennebec and  
Representatives: CAREY of Lewiston, CURTIS of Madison, EVES of North Berwick,  
HARVELL of Farmington, O'BRIEN of Lincolnville, PILON of Saco.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 33 MRSA §801**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 689, §1 and affected by §7, is  
3 further amended to read:

4 **§801. Definition**

5 The systems of plan coordinates that have been established by the National Ocean  
6 Survey and the National Geodetic Survey or its successors for defining and stating the  
7 geographic positions of locations of points on the surface of the earth within the State are  
8 hereafter to be known and designated as the Maine Coordinate System of 1927, the  
9 Maine Coordinate System of 1983 ~~and~~ the Maine Coordinate System of 2000 and the  
10 Maine Coordinate System of 2012.

11 For the purpose of the use of these systems the State is divided into a "~~West Zone,~~" a  
12 "~~Central Zone~~" and an "East Zone" and a "West Zone" as follows.

13 ~~**1. West Zone.** The West Zone is the area bounded by the following: Beginning at~~  
14 ~~the point determined by the intersection of the Maine State line and the County Line~~  
15 ~~between Aroostook and Somerset Counties, thence following the Somerset County line~~  
16 ~~Easterly to the Northwest corner of the Somerset and Piscataquis county line, thence~~  
17 ~~Southerly along this county line to the northeast corner of the Athens town line, thence~~  
18 ~~westerly along the town line between Brighton Plantation and Athens to the westerly~~  
19 ~~corner of Athens, and continuing southerly to the southwest corner of the town of Athens~~  
20 ~~where it meets the Cornville town line, thence westerly along the Cornville—Solon town~~  
21 ~~line to the intersection of the Cornville—Madison town line, thence southerly and~~  
22 ~~westerly following the Madison town line to the intersection of the Norridgewock—~~  
23 ~~Skowhegan town line, thence southerly along the Skowhegan town line to the Fairfield~~  
24 ~~town line, thence easterly along the Fairfield town line to the Clinton town line (being~~  
25 ~~determined by the Kennebec River), thence southerly along the Kennebec River to the~~  
26 ~~Augusta city line, thence easterly along the city line to the Windsor town line, thence~~  
27 ~~southerly along the Augusta—Windsor town line to the northwest corner of the Lincoln~~  
28 ~~County line, thence southerly along the westerly Lincoln county line to the boundary of~~  
29 ~~the State of Maine as determined by Maritime law, thence following the State boundary~~  
30 ~~on the westerly side of the state to the point of beginning.~~

31 ~~**2. Central Zone.** The Central Zone is the area bounded by the following: Beginning~~  
32 ~~at the point determined by the intersection of the Maine State line and the County Line~~  
33 ~~between Aroostook and Somerset Counties, thence northeasterly along the state line to~~  
34 ~~the intersection of the Fort Kent—Frenchville town line, thence southerly along this town~~  
35 ~~line to the intersection with the New Canada Plantation—T17 R5 WELS town line, thence~~  
36 ~~continuing southerly along town lines to the northeast corner of Penobscot County,~~  
37 ~~thence continuing southerly along the Penobscot County line to the intersection of the~~  
38 ~~Woodville—Mattawamkeag town line (being determined by the Penobscot River), thence~~  
39 ~~along the Penobscot River to the Enfield—Lincoln town line, thence southeasterly along~~  
40 ~~the Enfield—Lincoln town line and the Enfield—Lowell town line to the Passadumkeag—~~  
41 ~~Edinburg town line, thence south-southeasterly along town lines to the intersection of the~~  
42 ~~Hancock County line, thence southerly along the county line to the intersection of the~~

1 ~~Otis—Mariaville town line, thence southerly along the Otis—Mariaville town line to the~~  
2 ~~Ellsworth city line, thence southerly along the Ellsworth city line to the intersection of the~~  
3 ~~Surry—Trenton town line, thence southerly along the easterly town lines of Surry, Blue~~  
4 ~~Hill, Brooklin, Deer Isle, and Stonington to the Knox County line, thence following the~~  
5 ~~Knox County line to the boundary of the State of Maine as determined by Maritime law,~~  
6 ~~thence following the State boundary westerly to the intersection of the Sagadahoc—~~  
7 ~~Lincoln county line, thence northerly along the easterly boundary of the Maine 2000~~  
8 ~~West Zone, as defined, to the point of beginning.~~

9 ~~**3. East Zone.** The East Zone is the area bounded by the following: Beginning at the~~  
10 ~~point determined by the intersection of the Maine State line and the Fort Kent—~~  
11 ~~Frenchville town line, thence continuing easterly and then southerly along the state line to~~  
12 ~~the boundary of the State of Maine as determined by Maritime law, thence following the~~  
13 ~~State boundary westerly to the intersection of the Knox and Hancock County line, thence~~  
14 ~~northerly along the easterly boundary of the Maine 2000 Central Zone, as defined, to the~~  
15 ~~point of beginning.~~

16 ~~The area now included in the following counties constitutes the East Zone:~~  
17 ~~Aroostook, Hancock, Knox, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Waldo and Washington.~~

18 ~~The area now included in the following counties constitutes the West Zone:~~  
19 ~~Androscoggin, Cumberland, Franklin, Kennebec, Lincoln, Oxford, Sagadahoc, Somerset~~  
20 ~~and York.~~

21 ~~**Sec. 2. 33 MRSA §802,** as amended by PL 1999, c. 689, §1 and affected by §7, is~~  
22 ~~further amended to read:~~

23 ~~**§802. East and West Zones**~~

24 ~~As established for use in the East Zone, the Maine Coordinate System of 1927, the~~  
25 ~~Maine Coordinate System of 1983 ~~or~~, the Maine Coordinate System of 2000 or the Maine~~  
26 ~~Coordinate System of 2012 must be named, and in any land description in which it is~~  
27 ~~used, it must be designated the "Maine Coordinate System of 1927 East Zone," "Maine~~  
28 ~~Coordinate System of 1983 East Zone," ~~or~~ "Maine Coordinate System of 2000 East~~  
29 ~~Zone" or "Maine Coordinate System 2012 East Zone."~~

30 ~~As established for use in the Central Zone, the Maine Coordinate System of 2000~~  
31 ~~must be named and, in any land description in which it is used, it must be designated the~~  
32 ~~"Maine Coordinate System of 2000 Central Zone."~~

33 ~~As established for use in the West Zone, the Maine Coordinate System of 1927, the~~  
34 ~~Maine Coordinate System of 1983 ~~or~~, the Maine Coordinate System of 2000 or the Maine~~  
35 ~~Coordinate System of 2012 must be named and, in any land description in which it is~~  
36 ~~used, it must be designated the "Maine Coordinate System of 1927 West Zone," "Maine~~  
37 ~~Coordinate System of 1983 West Zone," ~~or~~ "Maine Coordinate System of 2000 West~~  
38 ~~Zone" or Maine Coordinate System of 2012 West Zone."~~

39 ~~**Sec. 3. 33 MRSA §803,** as amended by PL 1999, c. 689, §1 and affected by §7, is~~  
40 ~~further amended to read:~~

1           **§803. Plane coordinates of a point**

2           The plane coordinate values for a point on the earth's surface, used to express the  
3 geographic position or location of such point in the appropriate zone of this system, must  
4 consist of 2 distances in expressed United States Survey feet and decimals of a foot when  
5 using the Maine Coordinate System of 1927 and expressed in meters and decimals of a  
6 meter when using the Maine Coordinate System of 1983 ~~or~~ the Maine Coordinate  
7 System of 2000 or the Maine Coordinate System of 2012. One of these distances, to be  
8 known as the "x-coordinate," ~~or "Easting Coordinate,"~~ gives the position in an east-and-  
9 west direction; the other, to be known as the "y-coordinate," ~~or "Northing Coordinate,"~~  
10 gives the position in a north-and-south direction. These coordinates must be made to  
11 depend upon and conform to plane rectangular coordinate values for the monumented  
12 points of the North American Horizontal Geodetic Control Network as published by the  
13 National Ocean Survey and the National Geodetic Survey, or its successors, and whose  
14 plane coordinates have been computed on the systems defined in this chapter. Any such  
15 station may be used for establishing a survey connection to any of the Maine Coordinate  
16 Systems.

17           **Sec. 4. 33 MRSA §803-A, 2nd ¶**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 689, §2 and  
18 affected by §7, is further amended to read:

19           Nothing contained in this chapter requires a purchaser or mortgagee of real property  
20 to rely wholly on a land description, any part of which depends exclusively upon ~~any of~~  
21 ~~the either~~ Maine Coordinate Systems System.

22           **Sec. 5. 33 MRSA §804**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 689, §3 and affected by §7, is  
23 further amended to read:

24           **§804. Land extending from one zone to another**

25           When any tract of land to be defined by a single description extends from one into  
26 ~~another~~ the other of the ~~above~~ coordinate zones, the positions of all points on its  
27 boundaries may be referred to any either of the 2 zones ~~crossed~~, the zone that is used  
28 being specifically named in the description.

29           **Sec. 6. 33 MRSA §805, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

30           **4. Maine Coordinate System of 2012.** For purposes of more precisely defining the  
31 Maine Coordinate System of 2012, the following definition by the National Ocean  
32 Survey and the National Geodetic Survey is adopted.

33           The "Maine Coordinate System of 2012 East Zone" is a transverse Mercator projection of  
34 the North American Datum of 2012, having a central meridian 68°30' west of Greenwich  
35 on which meridian the scale is set one part in 10,000 too small. The origin of coordinates  
36 is at the intersection of the meridian 68°30' west of Greenwich and the parallel 43°40'  
37 north latitude. This origin is given the coordinates: x = 300,000 meters and y = 0 meters.

38           The "Maine Coordinate System of 2012 West Zone" is a transverse Mercator projection  
39 of the North American Datum of 2012, having a central meridian 70°10' west of  
40 Greenwich on which meridian the scale is set one part in 30,000 too small. The origin of

1 coordinates is at the intersection of the meridian 70`10' west of Greenwich and the  
2 parallel 42`50' north latitude. This origin is given the coordinates: x = 900,000 meters  
3 and y = 0 meters.

4 **Sec. 7. 33 MRSA §807**, as amended by PL 1999, c. 689, §5 and affected by §7, is  
5 further amended to read:

6 **§807. Use of terms**

7 The use of the "Maine Coordinate System of 1927 East Zone," "Maine Coordinate  
8 System of 1983 East Zone," "Maine Coordinate System of 1927 West Zone," "Maine  
9 Coordinate System of 1983 West Zone," "Maine Coordinate System of 2000 West Zone,"  
10 "Maine Coordinate System of 2000 Central Zone," ~~or~~ "Maine Coordinate System of 2000  
11 East Zone," "Maine Coordinate System of 2012 East Zone" or "Maine Coordinate System  
12 of 2012 West Zone" on any map, report of survey, or other document is limited to  
13 coordinates based on the Maine Coordinate Systems as defined in this chapter.

14 **Sec. 8. 33 MRSA §807-A**, as repealed and replaced by PL 1999, c. 689, §6 and  
15 affected by §7, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

16 **§807-A. Effective date**

17 The Maine Coordinate System of 2012 is the system of plan coordinates for work  
18 beginning after December 31, 2012 that is provided to or by state agencies.

19 **Sec. 9. Effective date.** This Act takes effect December 31, 2012.

20 **SUMMARY**

21 This bill restores the 2-zone coordinate system for land surveyors.