

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF MAINE**

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**January 6, 2010 to April 12, 2010**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**JULY 12, 2010**

**PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES**  
**IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,**  
**TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.**

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2010**

**CHAPTER 526****S.P. 648 - L.D. 1676****An Act To Protect Maine  
Citizens' Credit****Be it enacted by the People of the State of  
Maine as follows:****Sec. 1. 9-A MRSA §5-116-A** is enacted to read:**§5-116-A. Debts owed to health care providers**

**1. Definition of "health care provider."** For purposes of this section, "health care provider" means a physician, health care practitioner, hospital, clinic, clinical laboratory, health care facility or other person or facility that provides health care services and is licensed or registered by the State.

**2. Agreement by or on behalf of health care provider.** An agreement by a health care provider, or by a debt collector on behalf of a health care provider, to accept partial payments over time without assessment of interest from a consumer on a debt for health care services is not a consumer credit transaction as defined by section 1-301, subsection 12.

**3. Disclosure of available payment arrangements.** A health care provider shall notify a consumer of the availability of any payment arrangements offered by the health care provider to satisfy a debt for health care services.

**4. Rehabilitation of defaulted medical debt.** A payment arrangement offered by a health care provider must provide a consumer the opportunity to reasonably rehabilitate, cure or remedy a defaulted status of a debt for health care services under terms and conditions established by the health care provider, including, but not limited to, making payment in full or making 6 consecutive monthly payments in a timely manner.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 527****S.P. 657 - L.D. 1724****An Act To Create a  
Commercial Pelagic and  
Anadromous Fishing License  
and Establish the Pelagic and  
Anadromous Fisheries Fund****Be it enacted by the People of the State of  
Maine as follows:****Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §6041** is enacted to read:**§6041. Pelagic and Anadromous Fisheries Fund**

The Pelagic and Anadromous Fisheries Fund, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established within the department. Balances in the fund may not lapse and must be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

**1. Uses of fund.** The commissioner shall use the fund for research directly related to pelagic or anadromous fishery management and the processing of landings data. The commissioner may authorize the expenditure of money in the fund for research and development programs that address the restoration, development or conservation of pelagic or anadromous fish resources.

**2. Sources of revenue.** The fund is capitalized by surcharges assessed under section 6502-A, subsection 7. In addition to those revenues, the commissioner may accept and deposit in the fund money from any other source, public or private.

**Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6502-A** is enacted to read:**§6502-A. Commercial pelagic and anadromous  
fishing license**

**1. Definition.** As used in this section, "pelagic or anadromous fish" means Atlantic herring, Atlantic menhaden, whiting, spiny dogfish, alewife, Atlantic mackerel, blueback herring, squid, butterfish, scup, black sea bass, smelt and shad.

**2. License required.** A person may not engage in the activities authorized under this section without a current:

A. Commercial pelagic and anadromous fishing license for a resident operator;

B. Commercial pelagic and anadromous fishing license for a resident operator and all crew members; or

C. Commercial pelagic and anadromous fishing license for a nonresident operator and all crew members.

**3. Licensed activity.** The holder of a commercial pelagic and anadromous fishing license may fish for or take or possess, ship, transport or sell pelagic or anadromous fish that the holder has taken. The commissioner shall determine by rule what crew members may fish under a commercial pelagic and anadromous fishing license that provides for crew members. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

**4. Exemption.** The licensing requirement under subsection 2 does not apply to a person who fishes for, takes, possesses or transports any pelagic or anadromous fish that have been taken by speargun, harpoon,