

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**September 27, 2011**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**January 4, 2012 to May 31, 2012**

**THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**LAWS IS**  
**SEPTEMBER 28, 2011**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**AUGUST 30, 2012**

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

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2012**

DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$100,000
SECTION TOTALS	2011-12	2012-13
GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$83,279
FEDERAL EXPENDITURES FUND	\$0	\$100,000
SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$183,279

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 664  
S.P. 64 - L.D. 213**

**An Act To Provide Funding for the Fish Stocking Program**

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

**Sec. 1. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE, DEPARTMENT OF Fisheries and Hatcheries Operations 0535**

Initiative: Appropriates ongoing funds beginning in fiscal year 2012-13 for the purchase of fish for the fish stocking program.

GENERAL FUND	2011-12	2012-13
All Other	\$0	\$200,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$200,000

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 665  
H.P. 632 - L.D. 835**

**An Act To Strengthen Maine's Economy through Improvements to the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit**

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

**Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §12541, sub-§1-A** is enacted to read:

**1-A. Accredited non-Maine community college, college or university.** "Accredited non-Maine community college, college or university" means an institution located outside the State that is accredited by a regional accrediting association or by one of the specialized accrediting agencies recognized by the United States Secretary of Education.

**Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §12542, sub-§3, ¶B,** as amended by PL 2009, c. 553, Pt. A, §10, is further amended to read:

B. An individual must attend and obtain an associate degree or a bachelor's degree from an accredited Maine community college, college or university. The individual need not obtain the degree from the institution in which that individual originally enrolled, as long as all course work toward the degree is performed at accredited Maine community colleges, colleges or universities. Beginning January 1, 2013, an individual who transfers to an accredited Maine community college, college or university after completing the equivalent of up to 30 credit hours of course work toward a degree at an accredited non-Maine community college, college or university is eligible for a portion of the benefits that would have been available under the program had the individual performed all course work at an accredited Maine community college, college or university. Such an individual is eligible for 1/2 of the educational opportunity tax credit in the case of obtaining an associate degree and 3/4 of the educational opportunity tax credit in the case of obtaining a bachelor's degree. Program eligibility for such an individual must be determined as if the commencement of course work at the relevant accredited Maine community college, college or university was the commencement of course work for the degree program as a whole;

**Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §12542, sub-§3, ¶C,** as amended by PL 2009, c. 553, Pt. A, §10, is further amended to read:

C. An individual must live in this State while pursuing the degree, excepting periods when it is reasonably necessary for the individual to live elsewhere as part of the relevant institution's academic programs or while pursuing course work at an accredited non-Maine community college, college or university as provided in paragraph B. The individual must also agree to live in this State after obtaining the degree during any period when