

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**August 29, 2013**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**January 8, 2014 to May 2, 2014**

**THE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**EMERGENCY LAW IS**  
**SEPTEMBER 6, 2013**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**AUGUST 1, 2014**

**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**  
**2014**

and in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6171, subsection 2-A.

**1. Working group convened.** The commissioner shall create a working group whose purpose is to complete the work on developing criteria for areas closed to harvest or that are seasonally closed to harvest and identification of areas closed to harvest or that are seasonally closed to harvest as recommended by the plan, and recommend a process by which those designations will be maintained and adjusted as necessary. The working group must consist of scientists and other experts with areas of expertise relevant to the fishery and the considerations previously discussed by the plan's plan development team relevant to no-harvest determinations and staff as determined by the commissioner.

**2. Working group membership; criteria; areas closed to harvest.** The update must identify:

- A. The membership of the working group convened pursuant to subsection 1;
- B. The criteria recommended by the working group to be used to determine areas to be closed to harvest or areas that are seasonally closed to harvest, and the scientific or legal reasoning for each criterion;
- C. Based upon the criteria in paragraph B, the recommended process for designating areas closed to harvest or areas that are seasonally closed to harvest, disseminating those designations and revising those designations; and
- D. To the extent possible, the recommendations of the working group in identifying areas closed to harvest or areas that are seasonally closed to harvest.

**3. Legislation.** The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters is authorized to report out a bill to the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature that is related to the implementation of the plan update submitted pursuant to this section.

See title page for effective date.

## CHAPTER 559

### H.P. 1152 - L.D. 1581

#### An Act To Improve Business Certainty for Providers of Quality Child Care

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

**Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §3737, sub-§3**, as amended by PL 2001, c. 394, §1, is further amended to read:

**3. Quality differential.** To the extent permitted by federal law, the department shall pay a differential rate for child care services that meet or that make substantial progress toward meeting nationally recognized quality standards, such as those standards required by the Head Start program or required for accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, and shall do so from the Child Care Development Fund 25% Quality Set-aside funds or by other acceptable federal practices. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined by Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter H-A ~~2-A~~. ~~The rules must limit payment of the differential for substantial progress to a period of one year establish a 4-step child care quality rating system and must provide for graduated quality differential rates for step 2, step 3 and step 4 child care services. The rules must provide differential rates for substantial progress and must define substantial progress as:~~

- ~~A. Having submitted program descriptions and awaiting a scheduled visit from an accrediting body approved by the department; or~~
- ~~B. For family child care, having submitted a portfolio for a child development associate and awaiting a scheduled observation.~~

Nothing in this subsection requires the department to pay a quality differential rate for child care services provided through the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families block grant.

**Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and allocations are made.

#### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF (FORMERLY DHS)

##### Child Care Services 0563

Initiative: Allocates funds for changes in quality differential rates for child care services.

FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUND	2013-14	2014-15
All Other	\$0	\$73,590
FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT	\$0	\$73,590
FUND TOTAL		

See title page for effective date.