

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 7, 2016 to August 2, 2017

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
NOVEMBER 1, 2017

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

Augusta, Maine
2017

CHAPTER 173
H.P. 1096 - L.D. 1592

**An Act To Remove Barriers to
Professional Licensing for
Veterans**

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

Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §8003, sub-§2-A, ¶¶K and L, as enacted by PL 1999, c. 687, Pt. C, §6, are amended to read:

K. To prepare and submit to the commissioner an annual report of the office's operations, activities and goals; and

L. To study jurisdictional overlap between the department's boards and commissions and other state agencies for purposes of streamlining and consolidating related legal authorities and administrative processes;

Sec. 2. 10 MRSA §8003, sub-§2-A, ¶¶M and N are enacted to read:

M. To exercise discretionary authority, after consultation with licensing boards if applicable, to review and determine on a case-by-case basis examination and licensing eligibility for applications for licensure submitted by individuals who identify themselves as veterans with military service, experience and training; and

N. To exercise discretionary authority to waive examination fees and license fees for applicants for licensure who identify themselves as veterans with military service, experience and training.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 174
H.P. 1017 - L.D. 1478

**An Act To Provide Support for
Sustainable Economic
Development in Rural Maine**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, investing in the rehabilitation and revitalization of nonproductive industrial and manufacturing sites will provide an economic boost to rural communities that have experienced severe economic decline and employment loss; and

Whereas, delaying the effective date of this bill will unnecessarily prolong the economic challenges faced by these rural communities; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §13120-P, sub-§4 is enacted to read:

4. Other use of program funds. The authority may use funds available for the program established in this section:

A. To implement the program established in this section; and

B. To provide technical assistance, planning grants and implementation grants to municipalities and other entities eligible for assistance under section 13120-R.

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §§13120-R and 13120-S are enacted to read:

**§13120-R. Rural Manufacturing and Industrial
Site Redevelopment Program**

1. Establishment; purpose. The Rural Manufacturing and Industrial Site Redevelopment Program is established within the authority to provide technical assistance, planning grants and implementation grants for the rehabilitation, revitalization and marketing of manufacturing and industrial sites in rural communities.

2. Technical assistance and planning grants. The authority may provide technical assistance and grants for redevelopment and marketing of a nonproductive industrial or manufacturing site to a municipality or the owner of the nonproductive industrial or manufacturing site. In awarding grants and providing technical assistance under this subsection, the authority shall give preference to nonproductive industrial or manufacturing sites located in communities that have experienced severe economic decline and employment loss due to the nonproductive nature of the site and insufficient technical or planning personnel or resources.

A. The authority shall work collaboratively with other state agencies and regional economic development organizations to provide technical assistance under this subsection.

B. A municipality that receives technical assistance or a planning grant under this subsection shall form a committee, whose membership in-

cludes but is not limited to local residents and the owner of the nonproductive industrial or manufacturing site, to provide advice regarding the redevelopment of the site.

C. If the authority is unable to provide technical assistance to a municipality or the owner of a nonproductive industrial or manufacturing site that is qualified for technical assistance under this subsection, as determined by rule, the authority may provide a planning grant to the municipality or the owner of the nonproductive industrial or manufacturing site.

D. The authority shall adopt rules related to the implementation of this subsection, including rules regarding the application process and eligibility of applicants for technical assistance and planning grants. Rules adopted under this paragraph are routine technical rules pursuant to chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

3. Implementation grants; rules. The authority may provide grants for implementing a project for the redevelopment and marketing of a nonproductive industrial or manufacturing site located in a rural community that has experienced severe economic decline and employment loss due to the nonproductive nature of the site. An applicant for a grant must demonstrate the capacity to undertake the project with a reasonable prospect of bringing it to successful completion.

The authority shall adopt rules, which are routine technical rules pursuant to chapter 375, subchapter 2-A, related to the implementation of this subsection, including rules regarding:

A. The application process for implementation grants; and

B. The criteria and scoring system for awarding implementation grants. The scoring system must include, but is not limited to, an evaluation of the plan for redeveloping and marketing the nonproductive industrial or manufacturing site, community support for the project and consistency with any applicable regional economic development plan.

§13120-S. Inventory of nonproductive industrial or manufacturing sites

By January 1, 2018 and annually thereafter, the authority, in consultation with the Office of Business Development within the department, shall make or require an inventory to be made of all nonproductive industrial or manufacturing sites in the State that are available for redevelopment.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective June 12, 2017.

CHAPTER 175

H.P. 10 - L.D. 9

**An Act To Prohibit the
Creation of a Firearms Owner
Registry**

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

Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2014 is enacted to read:

**§2014. Government firearms or firearms owners
registry prohibited**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a government agency of this State or a political subdivision of this State may not keep or cause to be kept a comprehensive registry of privately owned firearms and the owners of those firearms within its jurisdiction.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 176

H.P. 484 - L.D. 693

**An Act To Clarify the Laws
Governing Hunting from a
Vehicle**

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §11212, as amended by PL 2015, c. 327, §1, is repealed.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §11212-A is enacted to read:

**§11212-A. Hunting or shooting from a motor
vehicle or motorboat**

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Loaded firearm or crossbow" means a firearm with a cartridge or shell in the chamber or in an attached magazine, clip or cylinder or a muzzle-loading firearm charged with powder, lead and a primed ignition device or mechanism or a cocked and armed crossbow.