

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 2, 2020 to March 30, 2021

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
April 28, 2021 to July 19, 2021

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
JUNE 29, 2021

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
OCTOBER 18, 2021

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

Augusta, Maine
2021

FEDERAL EXPENDITURES	\$19,495	\$38,990
FUND TOTAL		

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 468

H.P. 503 - L.D. 691

An Act To Support Farms and Address Food Insecurity

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

Sec. 1. 7 MRSA §219-B is enacted to read:

§219-B. Fund To Address Food Insecurity and Provide Nutrition Incentives

1. Fund established. The Fund To Address Food Insecurity and Provide Nutrition Incentives, referred to in this section as "the fund," is established in the department to provide incentives to federal food and nutrition assistance program participants for the purchase of locally grown fruits and vegetables and to support outreach for and administration of programs that offer nutrition incentives to participants of federal food and nutrition assistance programs. The fund is established to match contributions from private and public sources of up to \$50,000 annually to further the purposes of this section. The fund, to be accounted within the department, must be held separate and apart from all other money, funds and accounts. Eligible investment earnings credited to the assets of the fund become part of the assets of the fund. Any unexpended balances remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year do not lapse and must be carried forward to the next fiscal year. For purposes of this section, "local" means within the State.

2. Fund recipients. An organization based in the State that supports local food producers, local food production or low-income individuals in receiving food and nutrition assistance may receive proceeds from the fund upon application with the department. The department shall prioritize an applicant that has a demonstrated history of incentivizing the use of federal food and nutrition assistance programs to purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables or that demonstrates the ability to leverage the proceeds to match or receive additional funds from local, state, federal or private sources. The department shall periodically post a request for applications for eligible organizations to apply for fund proceeds.

3. Report; audit. The department shall require a periodic report from a recipient under subsection 2 detailing the use of fund proceeds and the federal food and nutrition assistance programs involved and to ensure that the funds are expended appropriately pursuant to this section. The department may audit a recipient to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

4. Rules. The department may adopt routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2 A to carry out the purposes of the fund, including application criteria and procedures for recipients, disbursement of funds to recipients and for outreach and administration purposes and reporting and audit procedures for recipients.

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

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF

Fund To Address Food Insecurity and Provide Nutrition Incentives N384

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to capitalize the Fund To Address Food Insecurity and Provide Nutrition Incentives to be used to match contributions from private and public sources.

GENERAL FUND	2021-22	2022-23
All Other	\$25,000	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$25,000	\$0

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 469

S.P. 162 - L.D. 813

An Act To Create the Crime of Aggravated Sex Trafficking of a Person 14 Years of Age or Younger

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

Sec. 1. 17-A MRSA §852, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2013, c. 407, §2, is further amended to read:

1. A person is guilty of aggravated sex trafficking if the person knowingly:

- A. Promotes prostitution by compelling a person to enter into, engage in or remain in prostitution;
- B. Promotes prostitution of a person ~~less than 18~~ 15, 16 or 17 years old of age; or
- C. Promotes prostitution of a person who suffers from a mental disability that is reasonably apparent or known to the actor and that in fact renders the other person substantially incapable of appraising the nature of the conduct involved.

Violation of this subsection is a Class B crime.

Sec. 2. 17-A MRSA §852, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. A person is guilty of aggravated sex trafficking if the person knowingly promotes prostitution of a

person 14 years of age or younger. Violation of this subsection is a Class A crime.

Sec. 3. 17-A MRSA §852, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2013, c. 407, §2, is repealed.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 470
S.P. 203 - L.D. 819**

**An Act To Reduce Lung
Cancer Rates in Maine by
Creating a Voluntary Radon
Testing and Mitigation
Program for Landlords,
Homeowners and Home
Builders**

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §785 is enacted to read:

§785. Maine Gold Standard for Radon Testing and Mitigation Initiative

The Maine Gold Standard for Radon Testing and Mitigation Initiative is established, beginning July 1, 2022, within the department to reward, recognize, promote and assist, with a gold standard designation, landlords, homeowners and home builders who participate in radon testing and mitigation activities under this section. A person who meets the criteria established in this section and by the department in rules may achieve a gold standard designation.

1. Criteria for landlords. In order to obtain the gold standard designation, a landlord must meet the following criteria relating to testing and mitigation.

A. Every 2 years, the landlord shall conduct radon testing in compliance with this chapter and any standards established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The results of the test must be submitted to the department, and the department shall post the results to its publicly available website. The department shall pay for all costs for radon testing that occurs in accordance with this subsection.

B. If the results of the radon test completed in accordance with paragraph A reveal a level of radon of 4.0 picocuries per liter of air or above, the landlord shall, within 6 months, mitigate the level of radon in the residential building until it is reduced to a level below 4.0 picocuries per liter of air. Mitigation services must be provided by a person registered with the department pursuant to this chapter. After mitigation has been performed pursuant to this paragraph to reduce the level of radon, the landlord shall provide written notice to tenants that

the radon levels have been mitigated. The department shall pay for the first \$600 in mitigation expenses on behalf of a landlord as a result of a test conducted in accordance with paragraph A if it exceeds a level of radon of 4.0 picocuries per liter of air or above.

2. Criteria for homeowners. In order for a homeowner to obtain the gold standard designation, the homeowner shall, before the conveyance of any residential real property in accordance with Title 33, chapter 7, test for the presence of radon in the air and water in residential real property and arsenic and uranium in water from a private well. For purposes of this subsection, "residential real property" has the same meaning as in Title 33, section 171, subsection 6. The department shall pay for all costs for testing that occurs in accordance with this subsection and any rules adopted by the department. The department shall pay for the first \$600 in mitigation expenses on behalf of a homeowner in accordance with any rules adopted by the department.

3. Criteria for home builders. In order to obtain the gold standard designation, a home builder constructing a new home in a municipality that has up to 4,000 residents shall comply with any standards relating to radon preventive features in the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code and the new home must receive an inspection in accordance with rules adopted by the department. To the extent testing is required by the department in rule to obtain the gold standard, the department shall pay for all costs for testing. To the extent mitigation is required by the department in rule, the department shall pay for the first \$600 in mitigation expenses.

4. Rules. The department shall adopt rules to implement this section. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 2. Rulemaking. The Department of Health and Human Services shall adopt rules to implement the Maine Gold Standard for Radon Testing and Mitigation Initiative established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 785. The department shall convene a stakeholder group to assist in the development of the rules.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 471
S.P. 294 - L.D. 880**

**An Act To Protect School
Employees from Workplace
Bullying**

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