

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
September 29, 2021

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
January 5, 2022 to May 9, 2022

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
DECEMBER 29, 2021

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
AUGUST 8, 2022

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

Augusta, Maine
2022

Title 7, section 3910-B, referred to in this section as "the fund" and the department's low-income spay and neuter program known as the Help Fix ME program, referred to in this section as "the program." The initial contract with the administrator chosen under this section must be for 36 months. The commissioner shall select an administrator that:

1. Demonstrates a dedication to spay and neuter companion animals and feral cats and target low-income communities and populations to the extent possible;
2. Has the technical expertise to operate the program;
3. Commits to maintain the staff necessary to field telephone calls in a timely manner and to provide vouchers to program applicants within 7 business days of receipt of copayment and satisfactory proof of eligibility, except that copayment may not be required for the spaying and neutering of feral cats;
4. Will ensure the privacy of the information of program applicants; and
5. Commits to providing strong customer service when administering the fund and program.

Sec. 6. Evaluation of initial contract for administration of the Companion Animal Sterilization Fund. The Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall conduct an evaluation of the initial 36-month contract entered into pursuant to this Act for the Companion Animal Sterilization Fund created under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 7, section 3910-B. Criteria for the evaluation must include whether the administrator spent approximately 90% of the fund each fiscal year; increased and then maintained the number of areas in the State in which spay and neuter surgeries are performed under the low-income spay and neuter program, also known as the Help Fix ME program; increased and then maintained the number of veterinarians participating in the program; and decreased the amount of time between submission of a request for funds and receipt of a voucher for sterilization services by an applicant. Upon completion of the evaluation and no later than January 1, 2026, the department shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over animal welfare matters. The joint standing committee may submit a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature relating to the subject matter of the report.

Sec. 7. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF
Animal Welfare Fund 0946**

Initiative: Allocation for Personal Services is increased in the Animal Welfare Fund and offset by a decrease in All Other allocation.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2021-22	2022-23
Personal Services	\$0	\$27,083
All Other	\$0	(\$27,083)
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OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$0

Animal Welfare Fund 0946

Initiative: Allocation for Personal Services is decreased in the Companion Animal Sterilization Fund and offset by an increase in All Other allocation to allow a 36-month contract with an outside entity to administer the Companion Animal Sterilization Fund.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2021-22	2022-23
Personal Services	\$0	(\$27,083)
All Other	\$0	\$27,083
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OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$0

**AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF
DEPARTMENT TOTALS**

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2021-22	2022-23
	\$0	\$0
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DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$0

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 524
S.P. 680 - L.D. 1940**

An Act To Ensure That Building Codes Allow the Installation and Use of Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Products and Equipment That Use Certain Federally Regulated Refrigerants

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

Sec. 1. 10 MRSA §9722, sub-§6, ¶I, as amended by PL 2021, c. 293, Pt. A, §18, is further amended to read:

I. Approve methods of energy performance rating for use in generating any consumer information labels that may be required in the marketing and sale of residential and commercial buildings or units within buildings; ~~and~~

Sec. 2. 10 MRSA §9722, sub-§6, ¶O, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 392, §3, is amended to read:

O. No later than July 1, 2020, adopt, amend and maintain an appendix to the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code as an optional part of the code that contains energy conservation and efficiency requirements that are based on established national voluntary efficiency standards that exceed the energy code requirements established in the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. As the code is updated, the board shall ensure that the energy conservation and efficiency requirements in the appendix continue to exceed the requirements established in the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. The appendix must be made available for voluntary adoption by any municipality. The board shall maintain a list of municipalities that have voluntarily adopted the appendix to the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code on its publicly accessible website; ~~and~~

Sec. 3. 10 MRSA §9722, sub-§6, ¶P is enacted to read:

P. Ensure, through the adoption of necessary amendments, that the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code expressly allows the installation and use of acceptable refrigeration or air conditioning products or equipment as defined in section 9724, subsection 7.

Sec. 4. 10 MRSA §9724, sub-§5, as amended by PL 2011, c. 582, §1, is further amended to read:

5. Exception. This Except as provided in subsection 7, this section does not prohibit the adoption or enforcement of an ordinance of any political subdivision that sets forth provisions for local enforcement of building codes. If such an ordinance does not provide for a process to appeal decisions made by building officials administering and enforcing the Maine Uniform Building Code, the Maine Uniform Energy Code or the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code, an appeal may be taken in the same manner as provided under Title 30-A, section 4103, subsection 5. This section does not prohibit the adoption or enforcement of an ordinance of any political subdivision that sets forth the swimming pool fencing standards, without amendment, contained in Appendix G of the 2nd edition of the 2009 International Residential Code.

A. The requirements of the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code do not apply to:

- (1) Log homes or manufactured housing as defined in chapter 951;

- (2) Post and beam or timber frame construction; or

- (3) Warehouses or silos used to store harvested crops.

Sec. 5. 10 MRSA §9724, sub-§7 is enacted to read:

7. Installation or use of certain refrigeration or air conditioning products or equipment. Notwithstanding subsection 5, paragraph A or any other provision of this chapter to the contrary, a municipality may not adopt or enforce any provision of a building code, including the Maine Uniform Building Code, the Maine Uniform Energy Code or the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code, that prohibits the installation or use of acceptable refrigeration or air conditioning products or equipment.

As used in this subsection, "acceptable refrigeration or air conditioning products or equipment" means refrigeration or air conditioning products or equipment that:

A. Uses a refrigerant listed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency in regulations adopted pursuant to 42 United States Code, Section 7671k as acceptable, acceptable subject to use conditions or acceptable subject to narrowed use limits; and

B. Is installed in accordance with any applicable conditions or limitations imposed by the regulations described in paragraph A.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 525

S.P. 718 - L.D. 2000

An Act To Update the Designation of Vietnam War Remembrance Day

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

Whereas, this legislation changes the date of commemoration for veterans of the Vietnam War from March 30th to March 29th; and

Whereas, this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period so that it applies to this year's commemoration; 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,