

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

Personal Services	\$0	\$464,348
All Other	\$0	\$34,680
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE	\$0	\$499,028
FUNDS TOTAL		

Public Utilities - Administrative Division 0184

Initiative: Provides one-time allocation for contracted services to study similar investor-owned utilities and regulatory efforts.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2021-22	2022-23
All Other	\$0	\$400,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE	\$0	\$400,000
FUNDS TOTAL		

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2021-22	2022-23
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$0	\$899,028
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$0	\$899,028

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 703**H.P. 1472 - L.D. 1986**

An Act To Provide Property Tax Relief for Permanently and Totally Disabled Veterans

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §5219-KK, sub-§2-E is enacted to read:

2-E. Permanently and totally disabled veterans; additional credit. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2023, in addition to the credit under subsection 2-D, a resident individual who is a veteran who is 100% permanently and totally disabled is allowed an additional credit against the taxes imposed under this Part in an amount equal to the amount calculated under subsection 2-D. The combined credit under subsection 2-D and this subsection may not exceed the property taxes paid by the resident individual during the tax year on the resident individual's homestead in this State and rent constituting property taxes paid by the resident individual during the tax year on a homestead in the State, combined. In the case of married individuals filing a joint return, only one spouse is required to be a veteran who is 100% permanently and totally disabled to qualify for the additional credit allowed under this subsection. For the purposes of this subsection, "100% permanently and totally disabled" means having a rating by

the United States Department of Veterans Affairs at 100% for one or more service-connected disabilities that are rated permanent and "veteran" has the same meaning as in section 653, subsection 1, paragraph E.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**Revenue Services, Bureau of 0002**

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for computer programming changes to add lines to the individual income tax return.

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

GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$22,000
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See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 704**H.P. 1478 - L.D. 1992**

An Act Related to the Electronic Registration and Tagging of Turkey

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §12301-B is enacted to read:
§12301-B. Electronic registration of turkey

Beginning in 2023, the department shall allow electronic registration of turkey. The commissioner shall adopt rules to implement this section. The rules may include exceptions to or electronic means of compliance with any of the requirements of this chapter for a person who registers a turkey in accordance with the rules. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §12302-A, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2021, c. 121, §2, is further amended to read:

1. Requirement. Except as provided in section 12307 or rules adopted under section 12301-B, a person who kills a bear, deer, moose or wild turkey shall:

A. Remain with that animal until it is registered, except as provided in section 12303-A;

B. Present that animal for registration in that person's name at the first open registration station for that animal on the route taken by that person; and

C. Leave the registration seal attached to the animal in accordance with section 12301-A until that animal is processed and packaged for consumption.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §12303-A, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2021, c. 54, §11 and c. 121, §3, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

1. Time limits. Except as provided in subsection 1-A and in section 12307 or in rules adopted under section 12301-B, a person may not keep any of the following unregistered wild animals for more than 18 hours:

- A. Bear;
- B. Deer;
- C. Moose; or
- D. Wild turkey.

Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §12304-A, as repealed by PL 2021, c. 54, §12 and amended by c. 121, §4, is repealed.

Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §12304-B, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 54, §13, is amended to read:

1. Wild turkey. A Except as provided in rules adopted under section 12301-B, a person must shall present a wild turkey in its entirety for registration, except that the viscera may be removed in a manner that permits determination of the sex of the animal.

Sec. 6. 12 MRSA §12306, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2021, c. 121, §5, is further amended to read:

1. Prohibition. Except as provided in section 12307, a person may not possess any of the following animals if that animal has not been legally registered as provided in this chapter or rules adopted under section 12301-B, unless that animal is possessed in accordance with chapter 921:

- A. Bear;
- B. Deer;
- C. Moose; or
- D. Wild turkey.

Sec. 7. 12 MRSA §12307, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 121, §6, is amended to read:

§12307. Exception for fall turkey hunting

Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a person who kills a wild turkey during any fall open season on hunting wild turkey in 2022 established by rule by the commissioner under section 11701 is not required to register or attach a tag to that turkey.

Sec. 8. Report. The Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, in conjunction with adopting rules governing electronic registration of turkey pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 12301-B, shall examine laws governing the tagging and registration of harvested animals to determine if there are laws that should be updated or revised to facilitate an electronic tagging system for turkey. The department shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations, together with any suggested legislation, to the joint

standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over inland fisheries and wildlife matters by November 2, 2022. The committee may report out a bill related to electronic tagging to the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

Sec. 9. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE,
DEPARTMENT OF**

**Enforcement Operations - Inland Fisheries and
Wildlife 0537**

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for the capture and banding of turkeys and for a hunter survey to prevent loss of important wildlife management information with the implementation of electronic registration and tagging of turkey.

GENERAL FUND	2021-22	2022-23
All Other	\$0	\$16,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$16,000

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 705

H.P. 1464 - L.D. 1969

**An Act Concerning Equity in
Renewable Energy Projects
and Workforce Development**

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

Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §1303, as amended by PL 1997, c. 757, §1, is further amended to read:

**§1303. Public works; minimum wage and benefits;
assisted projects**

In the employment of laborers in the construction of public works, including state highways, or an assisted project by the State or by persons contracting for the construction, preference must first be given to citizens of the State who are qualified to perform the work to which the employment relates and, if they can not be obtained in sufficient numbers, then to citizens of the United States. Every contract for public works construction or an assisted project must contain a provision for employing citizens of this State or the United States. The hourly wage and benefit rate paid to laborers employed in the construction of public works, including state highways, may not be less than the fair minimum rate as determined in accordance with section 1308. Any contractor who knowingly and willfully violates this section is subject to a fine of not less than \$250 per employee violation. Each day that any contractor em-