

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals  
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

**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**

CHAPTER 749  
H.P. 1474 - L.D. 1988

**An Act To Establish That the Provision of Emergency Medical Services by an Ambulance Service Is an Essential Service and To Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission To Study Emergency Medical Services in the State**

**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 needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period in order to provide sufficient time for the study established in this legislation to be completed; 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. 32 MRSA §81-A, first ¶,** as enacted by PL 1985, c. 730, §§3 and 16, is amended to read:

It is the purpose of this chapter to promote and provide for a comprehensive and effective emergency medical services system to ensure optimum patient care. The Legislature finds that emergency medical services provided by an ambulance service are essential services. The Legislature finds that the provision of medical assistance in an emergency is a matter of vital concern affecting the health, safety and welfare of the public.

**Sec. 2. Establishment of Blue Ribbon Commission To Study Emergency Medical Services in the State.**

**1. Blue ribbon commission established.** The Blue Ribbon Commission To Study Emergency Medical Services in the State, referred to in this section as "the commission," is established.

**2. Commission membership.** Notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission consists of 17 members:

- A. Seven members appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:
  - (1) Two members of the Senate, including one member of the party holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature and one member

of the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature;

(2) Two members who are employed or volunteer in the field of emergency medical services, including one member who represents a community of 10,000 residents or more and one member who represents a community of fewer than 10,000 residents;

(3) One member who represents a statewide association of emergency medical services providers;

(4) One member who represents a private, for-profit ambulance service; and

(5) One member who represents a statewide association of municipalities;

B. Eight members appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows:

(1) Four members of the House of Representatives, including 2 members of the party holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature and 2 members of the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature;

(2) One member who represents a tribal emergency medical service;

(3) One member who represents a volunteer emergency medical service;

(4) One member who represents a county government; and

(5) One member who represents a statewide association of hospitals;

C. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's designee; and

D. The Director of Maine Emergency Medical Services within the Department of Public Safety or the director's designee.

**3. Chairs.** The first-named Senate member is the Senate chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the commission.

**4. Appointments; convening of commission.** Notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, all appointments must be made no later than 15 days following the effective date of this Act. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all appointments have been completed. Within 15 days after appointment of all members, the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission, which must be no later than 30 days following the appointment of all members.

**5. Duties; meetings.** The commission shall examine and make recommendations on the structure, support and delivery of emergency medical services in the State. The commission shall maintain communication

and coordinate with Maine Emergency Medical Services as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 83, subsection 16-A so that Maine Emergency Medical Services is informed of the work of the commission and the commission is informed of the strategic planning work of Maine Emergency Medical Services. The commission may look at all aspects of emergency medical services, including but not limited to workforce development, training, compensation, retention, costs, reimbursement rates, organization and local and state support. The commission is authorized to hold a maximum of 6 meetings.

**6. Staff assistance.** The Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission, except that Legislative Council staff support is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.

**7. Report.** Notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, no later than December 7, 2022, the commission shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public safety matters.

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

Effective May 8, 2022.

---



---

**CHAPTER 750**  
**S.P. 99 - L.D. 231**

**An Act To Establish Semi-open  
Primaries**

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

**Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §111, sub-§5,** as amended by PL 2005, c. 387, §1, is further amended to read:

**5. Enrollment.** The person must be enrolled in a party in that municipality to vote at that party's caucus, ~~or convention or primary election, unless otherwise permitted by the party pursuant to section 340.~~

**Sec. 2. 21-A MRSA §145, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

**3. Restrictions after withdrawal.** A voter may not vote at a caucus, convention or primary election for 15 days after filing an application to withdraw enrollment unless the voter withdraws from enrollment at the same time that the voter changes the voter's voting residence as provided in subsection 4.

**Sec. 3. 21-A MRSA §145, sub-§4** is enacted to read:

**4. Change of residence.** When a voter who is enrolled in a party changes residence from one municipality to another and establishes a new voting residence, the voter may choose not to enroll in a party when the voter submits a new voter registration application.

**Sec. 4. 21-A MRSA §321, sub-§1,** as amended by PL 2005, c. 387, §4, is further amended to read:

**1. Time, place and representation.** The party's state committee shall determine the time, place and basis of representation for the convention, except that unenrolled voters who participate in the party's primary election must be considered members of the party for purposes of allocating delegates. ~~Delegates must be qualified to vote in the party's primary election members of the party unless otherwise permitted by party rules.~~

**Sec. 5. 21-A MRSA §340,** as enacted by PL 1987, c. 423, §3, is repealed.

**Sec. 6. 21-A MRSA §341** is enacted to read:

**§341. Unenrolled voter participation in primary elections allowed**

A registered voter not enrolled in a political party may participate, subject to the restrictions of section 145, subsection 3, in a party's primary election without enrolling in that political party. An unenrolled voter may vote in only one party's primary election. The Secretary of State shall establish procedures to ensure that each voter voting in a party's primary election is offered a ballot for that primary election.

**Sec. 7. 21-A MRSA §441, sub-§2,** as amended by PL 2021, c. 273, §7, is repealed.

**Sec. 8. 21-A MRSA §441, sub-§3** is enacted to read:

**3. Unenrolled voter participation in presidential primary elections allowed.** A registered voter not enrolled in a political party may participate, subject to the restrictions of section 145, subsection 3, in a party's presidential primary election without enrolling in that political party. An unenrolled voter may vote in only one party's presidential primary election. The Secretary of State shall establish procedures to ensure that each voter voting in a party's presidential primary election is offered a ballot for that primary election.

**Sec. 9. 21-A MRSA §671, sub-§2,** as repealed and replaced by PL 2015, c. 447, §18, is amended by enacting a new blocked paragraph to read:

In a primary election, if the voter is unenrolled but eligible to vote in a party's primary election under section 341 or 441, the election clerk in charge of the incoming voting list shall ask the voter to identify which party's ballot the voter wishes to receive. Unless the voter chooses not to receive a party ballot, the election clerk in charge of the incoming voting list shall state in a