

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 THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
December 7, 2022 to March 30, 2023

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
April 5, 2023 to July 26, 2023

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS
JUNE 29, 2023

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS
OCTOBER 25, 2023

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

Augusta, Maine
2023

(6) That the utility's credit is not impaired or adversely affected;

(7) That reasonable limitations be imposed upon the total level of investment in nonutility business, except that the commission may not approve or disapprove of the nature of the nonutility business;

(8) That the commission has reasonable remedial power including, but not limited to, the power, after notice to the utility and all affiliated entities of the issues to be determined and the opportunity for an adjudicatory proceeding, to order divestiture of or by the utility in the event that divestiture is necessary to protect the interest of the utility, ratepayers or investors. A divestiture order must provide a reasonable period within which the divestiture must be completed; and

(9) That neither ratepayers nor investors are adversely affected by the reorganization, and if the reorganization would result in the transfer of ownership and control of a public utility or the parent company of a public utility, that the reorganization provides net benefits to the utility's ratepayers.

Sec. 7. 35-A MRSA §3132, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2017, c. 201, §1, is further amended to read:

2. Construction of transmission line. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3-A, whenever any person proposes to erect within this State a transmission line capable of operating at 69 kilovolts or more, that person shall file a petition for the approval of the proposed line in accordance with subsection 2-C. The petition for approval must be set down for public hearing. The commission shall issue its order within ~~9~~ 12 months after the petition is filed unless this period is extended either by agreement of all the parties or by the commission upon its determination that the party seeking the extension would, because of circumstances beyond that party's control, be unreasonably disadvantaged unless the extension were granted, as long as the party to that time had prosecuted its case in good faith and with due diligence.

At the time of filing of a petition for approval of a proposed line under this section, the person filing the petition shall send a copy of the petition by certified mail to the municipal officers of the municipality or municipalities in which the line is to be located.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 169
H.P. 940 - L.D. 1444**

**An Act to Amend the Laws
Governing Eligibility
Restrictions for Commercial
Menhaden Fishing Licenses**

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 eligibility restrictions for commercial menhaden fishing licenses and needs to take effect as soon as possible to apply to the 2023 commercial menhaden fishing season; 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. 12 MRSA §6502-C, sub-§1-A, ¶A, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 670, §1, is amended to read:

A. Possessed a license to fish commercially for menhaden in at least 2 of the following ~~3~~ 4 years, 2019, 2020 ~~or~~, 2021 or 2022 except that an individual who is eligible for a commercial menhaden fishing license in 2023 and who held a 2nd commercial menhaden fishing license in 2022 is not eligible for a 2nd license in 2023; and

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §6502-C, sub-§1-C is enacted to read:

1-C. Menhaden license limited entry system. Notwithstanding subsection 1-B, the commissioner may establish by rule a limited entry system under which a person who did not hold a commercial menhaden license in the previous calendar year may become eligible to obtain that license. The rules for a limited entry system must include provisions for the method and administration of the system. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §6502-C, sub-§1-D is enacted to read:

1-D. Fees. The department may assess a fee for participation in the limited entry system established in subsection 1-C.

Sec. 4. Report. By January 15, 2024, the Commissioner of Marine Resources shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources with details on the implementation of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 6502-C, subsections

1-A, 1-B and 1-C. The committee has the authority to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature based on the report.

Sec. 5. Retroactivity. This Act applies retroactively to January 1, 2023.

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

Effective June 15, 2023.

CHAPTER 170

S.P. 478 - L.D. 1151

An Act Concerning the Authority for Pharmacists to Administer Vaccines

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

Whereas, federal guidance issued under the federal Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act authorized licensed pharmacists to administer certain vaccines under certain circumstances in response to the COVID-19 pandemic for the duration of the federal public health emergency declaration; and

Whereas, the federal public health emergency declaration expired on May 11, 2023; and

Whereas, codifying in state law the authority of pharmacists to administer vaccines is necessary to ensure there is no gap in the provision of vaccination services by pharmacists; 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 §13831, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2015, c. 211, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Administration of influenza vaccines. A pharmacist licensed in this State who meets the qualifications and requirements of section 13832 and rules adopted by the board may administer topically or by injection or by inhalation all forms of influenza vaccines, including intranasal influenza vaccines, to a person ~~7~~ 3 years of age or older without a prescription.

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §13831, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2013, c. 6, §1, is further amended to read:

2. Administration of other vaccines. A pharmacist licensed in this State who meets the qualifications and requirements of section 13832 and rules adopted by the board, in addition to influenza vaccines under subsection 1, may administer vaccines licensed by the United States Food and Drug Administration that are recommended by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, or successor organization, for administration ~~to adults~~ to a person 18 years of age or older ~~according to a valid prescription when the person has an existing primary care physician or other existing relationship with a nurse practitioner or an authorized practitioner in this State~~ A pharmacist may administer vaccines licensed by the United States Food and Drug Administration that are recommended by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, or successor organization, for administration to a person 3 years of age or older and under 18 years of age according to a valid prescription from a prescriber licensed under chapters 31, 36 or 48. A pharmacist may administer vaccines licensed by the United States Food and Drug Administration that are outside the guidelines recommended by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, or successor organization, for administration to a person 18 years of age or older according to a valid prescription when the person has an existing primary care physician or other existing relationship with a nurse practitioner or an authorized practitioner in this State if the prescription specifically states that the vaccine is medically necessary. When the person does not have an existing relationship with a primary care physician, nurse practitioner or other practitioner in this State, the pharmacist may proceed to administer according to a treatment protocol established by an authorized practitioner or a written standing order from a practitioner authorized under the laws of this State to issue an order, a prescription or a protocol to a person 18 years of age or older for vaccines licensed by the United States Food and Drug Administration that are recommended by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, or successor organization, for administration to adults.

Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §13831, sub-§6 is enacted to read:

6. Notification of vaccines administration. A pharmacist licensed in this State who meets the qualifications and requirements of section 13832 and rules adopted by the board shall provide a written immunization record to the person, or the person's representative, receiving a vaccine administered under this section. Within 72 hours of administering a vaccine, a pharmacist shall notify the person's primary care provider, if any, of administration of the vaccine. Beginning August 1, 2023, a pharmacist shall report the administration of