

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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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

Revenue Services, Bureau of 0002

Initiative: Provides one-time funding to update computer systems to create a new interface.

GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$20,240	\$0
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$20,240	\$0

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT TOTALS

	2023-24	2024-25
GENERAL FUND	\$20,240	\$0
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$20,240	\$0

TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF Highway and Bridge Capital 0406

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for highway and bridge capital projects.

HIGHWAY FUND	2023-24	2024-25
Capital Expenditures	\$51,861,600	\$84,107,200
HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL	\$51,861,600	\$84,107,200

Highway Light Capital Z095

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for light capital projects.

HIGHWAY FUND	2023-24	2024-25
Capital Expenditures	\$30,000,000	\$0
HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL	\$30,000,000	\$0

Multimodal Transportation Fund Z017

Initiative: Provides authority to expend funds to support the Multimodal Transportation Fund.

HIGHWAY FUND	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$2,000,000	\$5,000,000
Capital Expenditures	\$18,000,000	\$15,000,000
HIGHWAY FUND TOTAL	\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000

TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT TOTALS

	2023-24	2024-25
HIGHWAY FUND	\$101,861,600	\$104,107,200
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$101,861,600	\$104,107,200

SECTION TOTALS

	2023-24	2024-25
GENERAL FUND	\$20,240	\$0
HIGHWAY FUND	\$101,861,600	\$104,107,200
SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$101,881,840	\$104,107,200

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

Effective June 16, 2023, unless otherwise indicated.

**CHAPTER 190
H.P. 60 - L.D. 92**

An Act to Minimize the Propagation of Invasive Aquatic Plants

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

Whereas, the boating season begins in the State prior to the statutory adjournment date; and

Whereas, this Act is necessary to protect Maine's water bodies from invasive aquatic plants; 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. 38 MRSA §419-C, sub-§1, ¶D, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 627, §7, is amended to read:

D. Fail to remove any aquatic plant or parts of any aquatic plant, including roots, rhizomes, stems, leaves or seeds, from the outside of a vehicle, boat, personal watercraft, boat trailer or other equipment on a public road; or

Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §419-C, sub-§1, ¶E is enacted to read:

E. Drain or release water held on or within a watercraft, allowing that water to enter any inland water body of the State. This restriction applies solely to water transported from a different water source. For the purposes of this paragraph, "watercraft" has the same meaning as in Title 12, section 13001, subsection 28.

Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §419-C, sub-§1-A is enacted to read:

1-A. Draining of watercraft and equipment. Just prior to launching and when removing a watercraft from an inland water body and prior to transport away from the launch site, a person:

A. Shall remove or open any hull drain plugs, bailers, valves, live wells, ballast tanks and other devices designed for routine removal or opening and

closing to encourage water to drain from areas containing water. Containers holding live baitfish for personal or commercial use are exempted from requirements in this subsection; and

B. May not allow drains to be opened in a way that allows water to enter any inland water body of the State pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph E.

For the purposes of this subsection, "watercraft" has the same meaning as in Title 12, section 13001, subsection 28.

Nothing in this subsection allows a person to directly or indirectly discharge pollutants into any inland water body of the State. This subsection does not apply to emergency response watercraft and their related equipment.

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

Effective June 16, 2023.

**CHAPTER 191
H.P. 299 - L.D. 482**

**An Act to Extend the Time for
Youth Deer Hunting**

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 creates a 2-day youth deer hunting period in 2023; and

Whereas, the earliest date for the youth deer hunting period is expected to be October 20, 2023; and

Whereas, this legislation must take effect in time to prepare for the start of the 2023 deer hunting 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. Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish 2-day youth deer hunting period. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 11402, subsection 4, paragraph C, for the 2023 deer hunting season only, the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall establish a 2-day youth deer hunting period beginning 8 days before the start of the 2023 regular deer hunting season.

Sec. 2. Examination. The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall examine the impact of an additional dedicated youth hunting day, as required by section 1, on the deer population including the impact on the antlerless deer population and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's ability to meet its wildlife management goals.

Sec. 3. Report. By March 1, 2024, the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife that includes findings and recommendations of the examination pursuant to section 2, including any recommended legislation, if needed. After receiving the report, the committee may report out a bill relating to the examination to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

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

Effective June 16, 2023.

**CHAPTER 192
H.P. 1095 - L.D. 1706**

**An Act to Clarify Statewide
Laws Regarding Affordable
Housing and Accessory
Dwelling Units**

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

Whereas, current law requires, beginning July 1, 2023, all municipalities to allow a certain number of dwelling units under certain circumstances and the construction of accessory dwelling units on the same lot as a single-family dwelling unit and to comply with certain other zoning requirements; and

Whereas, it is the intent of this legislation to extend the implementation date for certain municipalities; 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. 30-A MRSA §4364, first ¶, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 672, §4, is amended to read: