

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

withdrawals or replacement candidates. Qualifying contributions collected by a replacement candidate under this subsection may not be deposited into the fund until the replacement candidate has been nominated and, if the replacement candidate is not officially nominated, the commission shall return the qualifying contributions to the contributors, unless the contributor authorizes the deposit of the qualifying contribution into the fund. Rules of the commission adopted under this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 5. 21-A MRSA §1126, as amended by PL 2001, c. 465, §7, is further amended to read:

§1126. Commission to adopt rules

The commission shall adopt rules to ensure effective administration of this chapter. These rules must include but ~~must~~ may not be limited to procedures for obtaining qualifying contributions, certification as a Maine Clean Election Act candidate, circumstances involving special elections, ~~vacancies~~, recounts, ~~withdrawals or replacements~~, collection of revenues for the fund, distribution of fund revenue to certified candidates, return of unspent fund disbursements, disposition of equipment purchased with clean election funds and compliance with the Maine Clean Election Act. Rules of the commission required by this section are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter ~~H-A~~ 2-A.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 212
H.P. 187 - L.D. 289**

**An Act to Amend the Laws
Governing the Advisory
Committee on the Fund to
Address PFAS Contamination**

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§2-I, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 635, Pt. XX, §1, is amended to read:

2-I.

Agriculture	Advisory Committee on the Fund To Address PFAS Contamination	<u>Expenses and Legislative Per Diem and Expenses for Legislators/Expenses Only for Other Members</u>	7 MRSA §320-L
-------------	--	---	---------------

Sec. 2. 7 MRSA §320-L, first ¶, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 635, Pt. XX, §2, is amended to read:

The Advisory Committee on the Fund To Address PFAS Contamination is established pursuant to Title 5,

section 12004-I, subsection 2-I to make recommendations to the department regarding administration of the fund ~~and to report to the Legislature~~. In order to develop recommendations for the department, the advisory committee may form working groups that include and seek input from subject matter experts from the public and private sectors to deliberate issues relating to the purposes of the fund as described in section 320-K, subsection 4, including, but not limited to, health monitoring, short-term financial aid for farmers, research priorities, solar siting, long-term environmental monitoring and land acquisition.

Sec. 3. 7 MRSA §320-L, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 635, Pt. XX, §2, is amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

The 7 members of the public appointed by the commissioner serve on the advisory committee for terms of 3 years. Members may be appointed for consecutive terms. Members who are Legislators are appointed for the duration of the legislative terms of office for which they were appointed, except that at the end of the term, members who are Legislators continue to serve until a successor is appointed.

Sec. 4. 7 MRSA §320-L, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 635, Pt. XX, §2, is amended to read:

3. Reports Proceedings of the advisory committee. The advisory committee shall hold at least 2 public hearings annually to seek input from the public on efforts to meet the purposes of the fund. All proceedings of the advisory committee are public proceedings within the meaning of Title 1, chapter 13, subchapter 1. Notwithstanding Title 1, section 403, subsection 6, all records of proceedings of the advisory committee are public and subject to the requirements of Title 1, section 403, subsection 2. ~~The advisory committee shall report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over environmental matters annually, beginning March 1, 2023, on the input from subject matter experts under subsection 1 and members of the public on issues relating to the purposes and the use of the fund. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agricultural matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over environmental matters may report out legislation related to each annual report to the Legislature in the session when the report is received.~~

Sec. 5. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF
DACF Administration 0401**

Initiative: Provides allocations to reimburse expenses of advisory committee members.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services	\$2,310	\$2,310
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$2,310	\$2,310

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 213
H.P. 194 - L.D. 296**

An Act to Ensure Municipalities Receive a Higher Percentage of All-terrain Vehicle and Snowmobile Registration Fees to Cover Increased Expenses

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §13105, sub-§1, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

B. Agents may charge a service fee of not more than ~~\$4~~ \$5 for each snowmobile registration or renewal registration issued and ~~\$2~~ \$5 for each registration covered by sections 13002 to 13005. This service fee is retained by the agent.

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §13156, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

3. Service fees. An agent may charge a service fee of ~~\$4~~ not more than \$5 for each ATV registration or renewal registration issued and ~~\$2~~ \$5 for each registration covered by sections 13002 to 13005. This service fee is retained by the agent.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 214
H.P. 248 - L.D. 397**

An Act to Allow Signs at Outdoor Athletic Facilities

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

Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §1908-B is enacted to read:

§1908-B. Outdoor advertising; outdoor athletic facilities

1. Signs. A municipality may build and maintain an advertising sign visible to the traveling public from a public way at an outdoor athletic facility as long as the sign:

A. Is oriented inward to the persons visiting or using the facility;

B. Is secured to a fence, scoreboard or accessory structure;

C. Does not exceed the height of the structure on which it is located; and

D. Does not exceed 4 feet by 8 feet.

2. Revenue collected. Revenue collected from advertising fees under this section by a municipality must be used for purposes related to the construction, maintenance, operation or programming of the athletic facility.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 215
H.P. 313 - L.D. 496**

An Act to Address Battery Storage System Decommissioning and Clarify Solar Energy Development Decommissioning

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

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3496, first ¶, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 151, §1, is amended to read:

The Department of Environmental Protection shall administer and enforce this chapter with respect to the decommissioning of solar energy developments for which it is the environmental permitting entity, subject to the same powers and authorities granted to it pursuant to Title 38, chapter 2, ~~including which may include~~, but are not limited to, the adoption of rules and the establishment of reasonable fees. The Maine Land Use Planning Commission shall administer and enforce this chapter with respect to the decommissioning of solar energy developments for which it is the environmental permitting entity, subject to the same powers and authorities granted to it pursuant to Title 12, chapter 206-A, ~~including which may include~~, but are not limited to, the adoption of rules and the establishment of reasonable fees.

Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §3497 is enacted to read:

§3497. Applicability

This chapter applies to a solar energy development with ground-mounted solar panels occupying 3 or more acres on which construction begins on or after October 1, 2021 and to any other solar energy development with ground-mounted solar panels occupying 3 or more acres that undergoes a transfer of ownership on or after October 1, 2021.

Sec. 3. 35-A MRSA c. 34-E is enacted to read: