

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

C. Except as provided in section 11109-A, subsection 3, if a person takes a deer with ~~bow and arrow or crossbow~~ archery equipment during the regular archery season on deer, that person is precluded from further hunting for deer during that year except as otherwise provided in law or rule.

D. Except as provided in this subsection, the provisions of this Part concerning deer are applicable to the taking of deer with ~~bow and arrow and crossbow~~ archery equipment, including the transportation, registration and possession of deer taken by these methods.

A person who violates this subsection commits a Class E crime.

Sec. 33. 12 MRSA §11952, sub-§1, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

B. Hunt wild hares or rabbits in any manner except by the ordinary method of shooting with guns ~~or shooting with a long bow and arrow~~, archery equipment or by falconry.

Sec. 34. 12 MRSA §12506, sub-§7, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §253 and affected by §422, is amended to read:

7. Other harvesting methods for suckers. Notwithstanding subsection 1, a person licensed or otherwise entitled to fish in Maine waters may take suckers for that person's use in all rivers, brooks and streams that are open to fishing between April 1st and June 30th of each calendar year by the use of a hand spear, by ~~bow and arrow~~ archery equipment or by snagging.

A. A person may not use a ~~bow and arrow~~ archery equipment to harvest suckers unless the arrow or bolt used has a barbed or pronged point and the arrow or bolt is attached to the ~~bow~~ archery equipment with a line.

B. The following penalties apply to violations of paragraph A.

(1) A person who violates paragraph A commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

(2) A person who violates paragraph A after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more civil violations under this Part within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 240
S.P. 784 - L.D. 1922**

An Act to Allow Bargaining Agents for Public Sector Unions to Merge

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

Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §967, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Merger of bargaining agents. Two or more bargaining agents who are certified by the executive director of the board and who are members or affiliates of the same public employee organization may elect to merge. Bargaining agents seeking to merge shall file with the executive director of the board, or a designee, a petition describing the proposed merger. On receipt of a petition under this subsection, the executive director of the board shall conduct an election among the employees represented by the petitioning bargaining agents in which the only question on the ballot is the proposed merger of the bargaining agents. On an affirmative vote of the majority of the employees represented by each petitioning bargaining agent, the executive director of the board shall order the merger. After a merger is ordered, the parties to a contract in which one party to that contract is one of the merged bargaining agents shall honor the terms of the contract unless the public employer and the merged bargaining agent agree to different terms.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 241
H.P. 1230 - L.D. 1925**

An Act to Clarify and Improve the Laws Relating to the Background Check Center and the Maine Certified Nursing Assistant and Direct Care Worker Registry

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

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1812-G, sub-§1-B, ¶E, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 196, §9, is amended to read:

E. "Disqualifying offense" means a substantiation for abuse, neglect or ~~exploitation~~ misappropriation of property, or a criminal conviction identified in rules adopted by the department that prohibits employment as a certified nursing assistant or a direct care worker in accordance with subsection 2-C.

Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §1812-G, sub-§1-B, ¶F, as enacted by PL 2015, c. 196, §9, is amended to read: