

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

~~used~~ The commissioner may not use money in the fund to pay costs for projects in or on lakes for which public access is not provided.

3. Intensive staffing program Staffing support. The commissioner ~~shall establish an intensive staffing program to provide adequate staffing at both the state and regional levels. The commissioner shall provide technical information and guidance and the regional agencies shall assist with the adoption of revised comprehensive plans, standards and local ordinances by local governments~~ may use money in the fund for state, regional or local staffing to support administration and implementation of activities authorized under this section.

4. Public education program. The commissioner ~~shall~~ may use money in the fund to develop a coordinated public education program for school children involving extensive use of the media.

5. Research. ~~The commissioner shall encourage internal research focused on the following statewide topics:~~

- ~~A. Lake vulnerability, particularly as it relates to noncultural features of the watershed;~~
- ~~B. The effectiveness and design of the best management practices to control phosphorous pollution; and~~
- ~~C. New lake and watershed diagnostic tools.~~

6. Research. The commissioner may use money in the fund to conduct internal or external assessments and research focused on lake water quality restoration or protection.

7. Funding sources. The fund may receive money from any source, public or private.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DEPARTMENT OF

Lake Water Quality Restoration and Protection Fund N422

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for projects that meet specific criteria and improve or maintain the quality of lake waters in the State.

GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$200,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$200,000

Lake Water Quality Restoration and Protection Fund N422

Initiative: Provides a base allocation in the event that outside funding is received for projects that meet specific criteria and improve or maintain the quality of lake waters in the State.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$500	\$500
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$500	\$500
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2023-24	2024-25
GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$200,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$500	\$500
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$500	\$200,500

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 427
S.P. 136 - L.D. 315**

An Act to Provide Funding for Programs Benefiting Maine Farmers

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

Sec. 1. Contracted services regarding water withdrawal permitting process. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, of the funds transferred to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Farmers Drought Relief Grant Program Fund program, Other Special Revenue Funds account in Public Law 2023, chapter 17, Part G, \$35,000 must be used for contracted services to review and overhaul the current water withdrawal permitting process.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, DEPARTMENT OF

Maine Land Use Planning Commission Z236

Initiative: Establishes one limited-period Environmental Specialist II position and provides funding for related All Other costs. This position ends June 7, 2025.

GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services	\$0	\$88,400
All Other	\$0	\$3,500
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$91,900

See title page for effective date.