

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
January 3, 2024 to May 10, 2024

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
AUGUST 9, 2024

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

Augusta, Maine
2024

eliminated by a modification of a policy, practice or procedure or by the provision of an auxiliary aid or service.

3. Continued applicability. This section does not diminish the applicability of other provisions of this chapter to public entities acting as employers, providing public accommodations or education or acting as providers of credit or housing.

Sec. 11. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE

Administration - Attorney General 0310

Initiative: Establishes one limited-period Assistant Attorney General position in the litigation division through June 14, 2025 and provides funding for related All Other costs.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services	\$89,018	\$122,242
All Other	\$6,519	\$8,692
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$95,537	\$130,934

ATTORNEY GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2023-24	2024-25
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OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$95,537	\$130,934
DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$95,537	\$130,934

CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF

Administration - Corrections 0141

Initiative: Establishes one limited-period Correctional Care and Treatment Worker position and provides funding for Assistant Attorney General billing costs and other related costs to investigate claims made to the Maine Human Rights Commission and submit relevant documents, data and records. The position begins January 1, 2024 and ends June 14, 2025.

GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services	\$47,965	\$100,140
All Other	\$2,035	\$118,424
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$50,000	\$218,564

CORRECTIONS, DEPARTMENT OF DEPARTMENT TOTALS	2023-24	2024-25
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GENERAL FUND	\$50,000	\$218,564
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DEPARTMENT TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$50,000	\$218,564
SECTION TOTALS	2023-24	2024-25
GENERAL FUND	\$50,000	\$218,564
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	\$95,537	\$130,934
SECTION TOTAL - ALL FUNDS	\$145,537	\$349,498

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 490

H.P. 309 - L.D. 492

An Act to Repurpose Vacant Shopping Mall and Retail Space to Mixed-use Housing and Retail

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

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §4364-C, sub-§3 is enacted to read:

3. Residential units in commercial zones. As necessary to achieve the statewide and regional housing production goals, a municipality may adopt ordinances to allow the establishment of residential units in high-density areas within buildings located in an area zoned for commercial use, including but not limited to vacant or partially vacant retail property. An ordinance establishing a limit on the number of residential units within a building in a location zoned for commercial use, whether previously adopted or adopted pursuant to this subsection, must be proportional to the space available for residential units. This subsection is not intended to reduce or change health or safety requirements applicable to residential units located in a municipality.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 491

S.P. 250 - L.D. 582

An Act to Enhance Certain Penalties for Possession of Firearms by Prohibited Persons

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

Sec. 1. 15 MRSA §393, sub-§1, ¶A-1, as amended by PL 2021, c. 608, Pt. B, §§1 to 3, is further amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

Violation of this paragraph is a Class E B crime;

Sec. 2. 15 MRSA §393, sub-§1, ¶D, as amended by PL 2021, c. 608, Pt. B, §5, is further amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

Violation of this paragraph is a Class D C crime;

Sec. 3. 15 MRSA §393, sub-§1, ¶E, as amended by PL 2015, c. 470, §1, is further amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

Violation of this paragraph is a Class D C crime;

Sec. 4. 15 MRSA §393, sub-§1, ¶F, as amended by PL 2015, c. 470, §1, is further amended to read:

F. Is a fugitive from justice. For the purposes of this paragraph, "fugitive from justice" has the same meaning as in section 201, subsection 4. Violation of this paragraph is a Class D C crime;

Sec. 5. 15 MRSA §393, sub-§1, ¶G, as amended by PL 2015, c. 470, §1, is further amended to read:

G. Is an unlawful user of or is addicted to any controlled substance and as a result is prohibited from possession of a firearm under 18 United States Code, Section 922(g)(3). Violation of this paragraph is a Class D C crime;

Sec. 6. 15 MRSA §393, sub-§1, ¶H, as amended by PL 2015, c. 470, §1, is further amended to read:

H. Is an alien who is illegally or unlawfully in the United States or who was admitted under a nonimmigrant visa and who is prohibited from possession of a firearm under 18 United States Code, Section 922(g)(5). Violation of this paragraph is a Class D C crime;

Sec. 7. 15 MRSA §393, sub-§1, ¶I, as amended by PL 2015, c. 470, §1, is further amended to read:

I. Has been discharged from the United States Armed Forces under dishonorable conditions. Violation of this paragraph is a Class D C crime; or

Sec. 8. 15 MRSA §393, sub-§1, ¶J, as amended by PL 2015, c. 470, §1, is further amended to read:

J. Has, having been a citizen of the United States, renounced that person's citizenship. Violation of this paragraph is a Class D C crime.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 492

H.P. 604 - L.D. 957

An Act Requiring Water Bottle Filling Stations in New and Renovated Public Schools

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §6309 is enacted to read:

§6309. Water bottle filling stations

1. Water bottle filling stations. Beginning in fiscal year 2024-25, a newly constructed public school or existing public school undergoing substantial renovations must be equipped with a water bottle filling station pursuant to this section. For purposes of this section, "water bottle filling station" means a water dispenser accessible to all persons in compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 that dispenses potable drinking water directly into a bottle or other drinking container. For purposes of this section, "substantial renovations" means any renovation for which the cost exceeds 50% of the building's current value prior to renovation.

2. Water bottle filling station criteria. A water bottle filling station:

- A. Must dispense clean, filtered, cooled drinking water;
- B. Must be regularly cleaned to maintain sanitary conditions;
- C. Must be maintained to ensure proper functioning, including replacing the filling station's filter as recommended by the manufacturer;
- D. May be integrated into a drinking fountain, which is considered one water bottle filling station under subsection 3; and
- E. May be touchless for sanitary reasons.

3. Building inspection requirements. A state or municipal building inspection authority may not approve the plans or specifications for a new public school building or for any substantial renovations to an existing public school building unless the plans and specifications provide for:

- A. A minimum of one water bottle filling station for every 200 people projected to occupy the building upon completion of the proposed construction;
- B. A minimum of one water bottle filling station for every floor or wing of the new construction; and
- C. A minimum of one water bottle filling station located near a cafeteria, gymnasium, outdoor recreation space or other high-traffic area.