# 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

stallation of that technology, including, but not limited to, electrical system upgrades, building or infrastructure modifications and Internet connection to a central system administrator as necessary.

- B. Activities designed to increase the use of reusable and refillable beverage containers and other reusable and refillable packaging in the State using a grant from the fund are limited to:
  - (1) Activities relating to the development and implementation of, including the purchase of necessary materials and supplies for, pilot projects to determine options for financially viable models for refillable beverage container washing techniques, including, but not limited to, mobile washing stations, shipment of containers to washing facilities outside the State, in house washing stations and establishment of a fixed washing facility in the State;
  - (2) Development of or other activities relating to container, adhesive and label options for refillable beverage containers capable of being used by manufacturers of different types of beverages; and
  - (3) Outreach and education activities for manufacturers, retailers, restaurants and consumers regarding the financial and environmental benefits of refillable beverage containers and regarding the processes and methods available for ensuring such containers may be safely rensed.
- C. Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, using money from the fund, the department shall contract with a 3rd party entity to complete a study by July 15, 2026 regarding the feasibility of achieving goals of 5% reusable, refillable beverage containers marketed in the State and 10% reusable, refillable beverage containers marketed in the State and to determine the infrastructure and investments that would be necessary to support those goals. The department shall include the results of the feasibility study, along with any additional comments or recommendations from the department, in the report required by section 3115, subsection 3 that is due February 15, 2027.
- D. Notwithstanding any provision of this section to the contrary, using money from the fund, the department shall provide reimbursement of beverage container costs or other financial losses to eligible distributors in accordance with section 3106, subsection 5-A, paragraph D.

This paragraph is repealed January 1, 2026.

E. A grant issued by the department from the fund must cover at least 25% of the anticipated cost of the technology leased or purchased or activities supported as identified in the grant application.

- F. The department shall administer the fund and, after consultation with the cooperative and its advisory group established pursuant to section 3107, subsection 3-B, paragraph A, shall establish the application process and procedures for issuance of grants from the fund. The department shall consult with the cooperative and its advisory group in reviewing and approving grant applications submitted under this section.
- Sec. 6. 38 MRSA §3115, sub-§3, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 482, §39, is amended by amending subparagraph (2) to read:
  - (2) Information regarding the status of the Cost and Carbon Efficient Technology Fund under section 3114-A, including, but not limited to, information regarding the number and amount of grants issued under that fund, information on the recipients of those grants and the technology or activities that those grants were used to support.
- **Sec. 7. Effective date.** Those sections of this Act that amend the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 3108-A, subsection 2, paragraph B, subparagraphs (4) and (5) and that enact Title 38, section 3108-A, subsection 2, paragraph B, subparagraph (4-A) take effect October 15, 2024.

See title page for effective date, unless otherwise indicated.

### CHAPTER 530 H.P. 1422 - L.D. 2216

#### An Act to Amend the Start Date of the September Upland Game Season

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

**Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10954**, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 42, §1, is amended to read:

#### §10954. Start of open Open season on upland game

The open season on upland game must begin on include the last Saturday in September. The commissioner, by rule, shall determine the length of the open season on upland game.

As used in this section, "upland game" means snowshoe hare, gray squirrel, ruffed grouse and bob-white quail.

**Sec. 2. Effective date.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2025.

Effective January 1, 2025.