

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

4. Examination Certification of slot machines and associated equipment. The board shall, in cooperation with the department, ~~examine~~ approve qualified independent laboratories for certification of slot machines and slot machine associated equipment of from slot machine distributors and gambling services vendors seeking registration as required in this chapter. The board shall require the slot machine distributor or gambling services vendor seeking examination and approval certification of the slot machine or slot machine associated equipment to pay the board-approved independent laboratory the anticipated cost of the examination certification before the examination occurs certification is completed. After the examination occurs, the board shall refund overpayments or charge and collect amounts sufficient to reimburse the board for underpayments of actual cost. The board may contract for the examinations of slot machines and slot machine associated equipment as required by this section adopt rules to establish the approval process to verify certifications, approve shipments and inspect slot machines. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

Sec. 14. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

PUBLIC SAFETY, DEPARTMENT OF Gambling Control Board Z002

Initiative: Reduces allocations for contracted services related to a central site monitoring system for slot machines.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	(\$500,000)
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	(\$500,000)

Sec. 15. Effective date. This Act takes effect June 30, 2024.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective June 30, 2024.

CHAPTER 550

S.P. 881 - L.D. 2088

An Act to Change the Number of Agency Liquor Stores Allowed in Certain Municipalities and to Convene a Stakeholder Group Regarding Licensing and Operations

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the Department of Administrative and Financial Affairs, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations awards available agency liquor store licenses twice a year, once in the fall before the holidays and ski season and once in the spring before the summer tourism season; and

Whereas, the department has not yet opened the spring round of agency liquor store license awards; and

Whereas, the changes in this legislation need to take effect before the next round of awards so that municipalities affected by the changes may be awarded an additional agency liquor store license prior to the busy summer tourism season; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 28-A MRSA §453, sub-§1-A, ¶E, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 74, §1, is amended to read:

E. Seven agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population over ~~45,000~~ 10,000 but less than 20,001;

Sec. 2. 28-A MRSA §453, sub-§1-A, ¶F, as enacted by PL 2019, c. 74, §1, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 28-A MRSA §453, sub-§1-A, as amended by PL 2021, c. 172, §1, is further amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

The bureau may issue one additional agency liquor store license beyond those otherwise authorized by this subsection in a any municipality ~~with a population of less than 10,000.~~ The bureau may consider the impact of seasonal population or tourism and other related any information provided by the municipality requesting an additional agency liquor store license.

Sec. 4. Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to convene stakeholder group regarding licensing and operation of agency liquor stores. The Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations shall convene a stakeholder group to examine how agency liquor stores, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 28-A, section 2, subsection 1, are licensed and operated in order to better understand how agency liquor stores are distributed throughout the State and to evaluate the effectiveness of the current system for consumers, the general public, local law enforcement officials, municipalities, the State and entities licensed in this State for the sale of liquor. The stakeholder group must include, at a minimum, representatives of agency liquor stores, on-premises retail licensees as defined in Title 28-A, section 2, subsection 27, paragraph B, off-premises retail licensees as defined in Title 28-A, section 2, subsection 27, paragraph A, certificate of approval holders under Title 28-A, sections 1361 and 1381 and in-state manufacturers licensed under Title 28-A, section 1355-A; wholesale licensees as defined in Title 28-A, section 2, subsection 34; municipal representatives; and local law enforcement officials. No later than November 6, 2024, the bureau shall submit a report summarizing any conclusions reached and proposals supported by the stakeholder group, which may include suggested legislation, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over alcoholic beverages matters. The committee may submit legislation related to the report to the 132nd Legislature in 2025.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective March 19, 2024.

CHAPTER 551

H.P. 1357 - L.D. 2133

An Act to Expand the Use of Career and Technical Education Centers in the Development of the Electrician Workforce

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, there is a shortage of electricians in the State; and

Whereas, this legislation will enable applicants for a journeyman-in-training electrician license to use completion of approved career and technical education

programs toward qualification for the license examination and to receive a significant credit of work hours toward the work hours required for licensure; and

Whereas, it is important that this legislation take effect immediately in order to allow more applicants for journeyman-in-training electrician licensure to qualify sooner; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §1202-B, sub-§3, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 327, §2, is amended by amending subparagraph (3) to read:

(3) Completion of at least 2,000 work hours in the field of electrical installations as a licensed helper electrician and a vocational-electrical program of a state department of corrections; ~~or~~

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §1202-B, sub-§3, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 327, §2, is amended by amending subparagraph (4) to read:

(4) Comparable work experience, education or training, or any combination of comparable work experience, education or training, completed within the State or outside the State, that is acceptable to the board; ~~or~~

Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §1202-B, sub-§3, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2023, c. 327, §2, is amended by enacting a new subparagraph (5) to read:

(5) Completion of a 2-year secondary school career and technical education electrical program approved pursuant to Title 20-A, section 8306-B and completion of at least 6,000 work hours in the field of electrical installations as a licensed helper electrician. An individual applying pursuant to this subparagraph may take the examination upon graduating from the program and is credited 1,000 work hours in the field of electrical installations. The individual must complete any remaining work hours prior to applying for a journeyman-in-training license.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective March 19, 2024.
