

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

services and reimbursements to be rendered in fiscal year 2024-25 is as follows:

Fiscal Administration - Office of the State Auditor	\$284,273
Education	\$15,658,904
Forest Fire Protection	\$120,000
Human Services - General Assistance	\$55,000
Property Tax Assessment	\$1,430,283
Maine Land Use Planning Commission	\$727,923
TOTAL STATE AGENCIES	\$18,276,383
County Reimbursements for Services	
Aroostook	\$2,332,958
Franklin	\$1,432,782
Hancock	\$164,355
Kennebec	\$12,620
Lincoln	\$83,837
Oxford	\$1,854,047
Penobscot	\$1,999,755
Piscataquis	\$1,946,775
Somerset	\$2,724,299
Washington	\$1,589,668
TOTAL COUNTY SERVICES	\$14,141,096
COUNTY TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRUBUTIONS FROM FUND	
Tax Increment Financing Payments	\$3,189,868
TOTAL REQUIREMENTS	\$35,607,347
COMPUTATION OF ASSESSMENT	
Requirements	\$35,607,347
Less Revenue Deductions:	
General Revenue	
Municipal Revenue Sharing	\$550,000
Homestead Reimbursement	\$300,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$10,000
Use of Unassigned Fund Balance	\$3,699,159
TOTAL GENERAL REVENUE DEDUCTIONS	\$4,559,159
Education Revenue	
Land Reserved Trust Interest	\$110,000
Tuition and School Transportation Charges	\$150,000
Special - Teacher Retirement Funding from State	\$250,000
TOTAL EDUCATION REVENUE DEDUCTIONS	\$510,000
TOTAL REVENUE DEDUCTIONS	\$5,069,159
TAX ASSESSMENT BEFORE COUNTY TAXES AND OVERLAY (Title 36, §1602)	\$30,538,188

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

Effective March 28, 2024.

CHAPTER 583
H.P. 1461 - L.D. 2272

An Act Related to Airboats and Airboat Noise Limits

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 Legislature enacted legislation in 2023 to extend the repeal date of the provisions of law establishing airboat noise limits but this legislation did not take effect before the provisions were repealed; and

Whereas, the stakeholder group on airboat noise issues convened pursuant to Public Law 2021, chapter 166 and extended by Public Law 2021, chapter 585 and Public Law 2023, chapter 209 has recommended that the decibel level limits for airboats be reestablished immediately; 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. 12 MRSA §13068-A, sub-§10, ¶A, as amended by PL 2021, c. 166, §1, is further amended by amending the first blocked paragraph to read:

As used in this paragraph, "motorboat" does not include an "airboat," ~~which has the same meaning as defined in paragraph A-2 subsection 10-A.~~

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §13068-A, sub-§10-A is enacted to read:

10-A. Operating airboat that exceeds noise limits. The following provisions govern airboat noise limits.

A. A person may not operate an airboat:

(1) If the noise level of the airboat exceeds 90 decibels as measured in a stationary sound level test as prescribed by SAE standards J-2005;

(2) Between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. in such a manner as to exceed a noise level of 75 decibels on the "A" scale as measured by the

SAE standards J-1970, referred to in this paragraph as "the shoreline test," except to the extent necessary to achieve headway speed when leaving a boat launch or to move the airboat from a stationary position on a tidal flat; or

(3) After 7 a.m. and before 7 p.m. in such a manner as to exceed a noise level of 90 decibels as measured by the shoreline test, except to the extent necessary to achieve headway speed when leaving a boat launch or to move the airboat from a stationary position on a tidal flat.

B. This subsection does not apply to the operation of an airboat by a marine patrol officer appointed under section 6025, subsection 1, a game warden or a municipal law enforcement officer.

C. The following penalties apply to violations of this subsection.

(1) A person who violates this subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$300 nor more than \$500 may be adjudged.

(2) A person who violates this subsection 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.

For purposes of this subsection, "airboat" means a flat-bottomed watercraft propelled by an aircraft-type propeller and powered by either an aircraft engine or an automotive engine and "SAE standards" means technical standards adopted by the Society of Automotive Engineers.

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

Effective March 28, 2024.

CHAPTER 584

H.P. 1119 - L.D. 1740

**An Act to Protect a Patient's
Access to Affordable Health
Care with Timely Access to
Health Care Prices**

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

PART A

Sec. A-1. 22 MRSA §1718-B, sub-§2, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 515, §2, is amended to read:

B. A health care entity shall inform patients about the availability of prices for the most frequently provided health care services and procedures and the right of a patient to request information about the price of medical services pursuant to section 1718-C, subsection 1 or 2 by posting a notice on prominent display to patients.

Sec. A-2. 22 MRSA §1718-B, sub-§2, ¶B-1 is enacted to read:

B-1. A health care entity shall include notice of a patient's right to request information about the price of medical services pursuant to section 1718-C, subsection 1 or 2 in any written document provided to a patient prior to rendering health care treatment for the purpose of obtaining informed consent to that treatment.

Sec. A-3. 22 MRSA §1718-C, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 560, §2, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§1718-C. Patient request for good faith estimate or other information related to price of medical services

1. Uninsured or self-pay patient; good faith estimate. Upon the request of an uninsured or self-pay patient, a health care entity, as defined in section 1718-B, subsection 1, paragraph B, shall provide to the patient a good faith estimate of the total price of medical services to be rendered directly by that health care entity during a single medical encounter as follows.

A. The health care entity shall provide the good faith estimate within the following time frames:

(1) When the medical encounter is scheduled at least 3 business days before the date the medical encounter is scheduled to be furnished or when the patient is seeking urgent care as defined in Title 24-A, section 4301-A, subsection 21, the estimate must be provided no later than one business day after the date of scheduling or the date of the request if the patient is seeking urgent care;

(2) When the medical encounter is scheduled at least 10 business days before the encounter is scheduled to be furnished, the estimate must be provided no later than 3 business days after the date of scheduling; or

(3) In all other circumstances, the estimate must be provided no later than 3 business days after the date of the request.

B. If the health care entity is unable to provide an accurate estimate of the total price of a specific medical service because the amount of the medical service to be rendered during the medical encounter is unknown in advance, the health care entity shall provide a brief description of the basis