

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

8. Notice of intent to pay excess sale proceeds. If after the sale of a tax-acquired property there exist any excess sale proceeds as described in subsection 3, paragraph C, at least 30 days prior to disbursement of those excess sale proceeds to the former owner the municipal officers shall send written notice of the municipality's intent to pay the former owner the excess sale proceeds. The notice must be sent by first-class mail and certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address of the former owner and the last known address of each record holder of an interest in the tax-acquired property. This notice does not limit the right of a lienholder to pursue any claims to the excess sale proceeds against the former owner otherwise available by law.

9. Notice by publication. If the municipality is unable, after reasonable diligence, to locate the former owner of a tax-acquired property in order to send the notice required in subsection 8, the municipality, once a week for 3 consecutive weeks, shall place a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the tax-acquired property is located. The notice must include the name of the former owner, a description of the tax-acquired property that was sold, the amount of the excess sale proceeds and the date by which the excess sale proceeds must be claimed.

10. Transfer of proceeds. If, after provision of notice under subsection 9, a former owner fails to claim the excess sale proceeds within 30 days of the final published notice, the municipality shall transfer the excess sale proceeds to the Unclaimed Property Fund under Title 33, section 2141.

11. Notice of payment of proceeds. A municipality, within 10 days of payment of any excess sale proceeds to the former owner under this section, shall record in the registry of deeds of the county or registry district where the tax-acquired property is located a notice signed by the municipal officers. The notice must include the name of the former owner to whom the excess sale proceeds were paid, the amount of the excess sale proceeds, the date on which the excess sale proceeds were paid to the former owner, a description of the tax-acquired property that was sold and a statement that receipt of the excess sale proceeds by the former owner is deemed to be a waiver of the former owner's right to commence any action challenging the taking pursuant to section 946-B.

The State Tax Assessor shall prescribe the form of the notice to be used by municipalities under this subsection.

See title page for effective date.

**CHAPTER 641
H.P. 1371 - L.D. 2147**

An Act to Change the Requirement for Edible Cannabis Products to Be Stamped or Embossed on Each Serving with a Universal Symbol

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

Whereas, current law requires edible cannabis products to be labeled with a universal symbol in order to be sold or offered for sale; and

Whereas, this legislation proposes to change the requirement for edible cannabis products to be embossed or stamped with a universal symbol in order to be sold or offered for sale; and

Whereas, this legislation needs to take effect as soon as possible since new guidance from the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of cannabis policy is affecting businesses currently operating; 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-B MRSA §703, sub-§1, ¶D, as amended by PL 2019, c. 491, §5, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

D. Unless determined impracticable by the department by rule, must be stamped or embossed with a universal symbol on each serving of the edible cannabis product or each serving must be individually wrapped or blister packaged with a universal symbol clearly included on the wrapping or packaging. In the event the department determines by rule that stamping, embossing, individual wrapping or blister packaging for a particular type of edible cannabis product is impracticable, each serving of the product must be packaged together and the universal symbol affixed to the packaging. For purposes of this chapter, edible cannabis products that are determined impracticable to stamp, emboss, individually wrap or blister package include but are not limited to:

- (1) Potato or corn chips;
- (2) Popcorn;

- (3) Pretzels;
- (4) Loose granola; and
- (5) Gummies;

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

Effective April 21, 2024.

CHAPTER 642
S.P. 982 - L.D. 2264

**An Act to Clarify the Use of
Public Equipment on Public
Easements**

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

Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §3036, sub-§5, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 743, §2, is amended to read:

5. Meetings. The commission shall meet at least 3 times, but may meet no more than 6 ~~12~~ times, each year.

Sec. 2. 23 MRSA §3105-A, first ¶, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 501, §2, is amended to read:

The ~~inhabitants~~ legislative body of any town or village corporation at a legal town or village corporation meeting may authorize the municipal officers of the town or assessors of the village corporation to use ~~its~~ the town's or village corporation's highway equipment on private ways within such town or village corporation to plow, maintain or repair those private ways to the extent directed by the legislative body and whenever such municipal officers or assessors consider it advisable in the best interest of the town or village corporation for fire and police protection.

Sec. 3. Commission focus. The Maine Abandoned and Discontinued Roads Commission, established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 83-A, shall consider, in addition to matters it is required to consider by statute, the following and shall include recommendations on these matters in the February 1, 2025 report required under Title 23, section 3036, subsection 11:

1. The scope of public use allowed on a public easement over an abandoned or discontinued road, the need or justification for each type of use, the impact of the public use on abutting property owners and ways to reduce the negative impacts on abutting property owners;
2. Property owner liability, including personal injury, property damage and environmental damage liability resulting from public use of an abandoned or discontinued road;

3. Options to create a road inventory of abandoned and discontinued roads in the State; and

4. Options to create a right-of-way template for property owners to use when a local unit of government considers discontinuing the road abutting a property owner's property.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 643
H.P. 1420 - L.D. 2214

**An Act to Make Supplemental
Appropriations and Allocations
for the Expenditures of State
Government, General Fund
and Other Funds and to
Change Certain Provisions of
the Law Necessary to the
Proper Operations of State
Government for the Fiscal
Years Ending June 30, 2024
and June 30, 2025**

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

PART A

Sec. A-1. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL
SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

**Adult Use Cannabis Public Health and Safety Fund
and Municipal Opt-In Fund Z263**

Initiative: Adjusts funding to align with revenue projections from the March 1, 2024 revenue forecast.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$36,000
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE	\$0	\$36,000
FUNDS TOTAL		

**Adult Use Cannabis Regulatory Coordination Fund
Z264**

Initiative: Provides funding for the approved reclassification of 12 Field Investigator positions to OCP Compliance Inspector positions and for the approved reorganization of 4 Field Investigator positions to OCP Compliance Inspector positions in the Adult Use Cannabis Regulatory Coordination Fund program and the Medical Use of Cannabis Fund program. Funding for related All Other costs is provided in the Medical Use of Cannabis Fund program, Other Special Revenue Funds.