

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF MAINE**

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 7, 2022 to March 30, 2023**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**April 5, 2023 to July 26, 2023**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**JUNE 29, 2023**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
**NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**OCTOBER 25, 2023**

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

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**Augusta, Maine**  
**2023**

- C. One member who represents a statewide association of career and technical education administrators;
  - D. One member who is a member of a skilled trades union or representative of a skilled trades business or industry; and
  - E. One member who is a principal of a secondary school;
2. Six members appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows:
- A. Two members of the House of Representatives, including one member from each of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature, one of whom is a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs;
  - B. One member who is a current career and technical education high school administrator;
  - C. One member who is on the State Board of Education;
  - D. One member who is a member of a skilled trades union or representative of a skilled trades business or industry; and
  - E. One member who is a superintendent of a school administrative unit;
3. Seven members appointed by the Governor as follows:
- A. One member who is a Maine Community College System administrator;
  - B. One member who is on a local board of education in a Maine community;
  - C. One member who is an officer of the Maine Education Association;
  - D. Three members who are members of a skilled trades union or representatives of a skilled trades business or industry; and
  - E. One member who is an administrator at the University of Maine System; and
4. The Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee.

**Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the task force.

**Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of task force. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members, the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the task force.

**Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the task force shall:

1. Examine the feasibility of establishing a comprehensive 4-year high school career and technical education program to provide a technical high school setting for middle school students to attend at the completion of the 8th grade, including but not limited to the advantages and disadvantages of a comprehensive 4-year high school career and technical education model, obstacles to implementation of a comprehensive 4-year high school career and technical education model and other models for comprehensive 4-year high school career and technical education that exist around the State and on a national level; and

2. Examine increasing crosswalks and intersections between technical and occupational knowledge and curricula and academic standards in order to promote multiple pathways for awarding content area credit to students enrolled in career and technical education programs, including but not limited to building on prior and current work among the Department of Education, superintendents of school administrative units and career and technical education administrators.

**Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the task force, except that Legislative Council staff support is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.

**Sec. 7. Report. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, no later than January 15, 2024, the task force shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, for presentation to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

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

Effective July 7, 2023.

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**CHAPTER 93**

**H.P. 584 - L.D. 937**

**Resolve, to Establish the Commission Regarding Foreign-trained Physicians Living in Maine**

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

**Whereas,** this legislation establishes the Commission Regarding Foreign-trained Physicians Living in Maine to study integrating foreign-trained physicians into the health care workforce; and

**Whereas**, this legislation must take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period so that the commission may timely meet and make its report to the Legislature; 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

**Sec. 1. Commission established. Resolved:** That the Commission Regarding Foreign-trained Physicians Living in Maine, referred to in this resolve as "the commission," is established.

**Sec. 2. Commission membership. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the commission consists of 13 members appointed as follows:

1. Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate, at least one of whom must be a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services;

2. Two members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, at least one of whom must be a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services;

3. One member who is a member or staff member of the Board of Licensure in Medicine, appointed by the President of the Senate;

4. One member who is a representative of the Maine Hospital Association, appointed by the President of the Senate;

5. One member who is a representative of the New Mainers Resource Center, appointed by the President of the Senate;

6. Three members who are physicians who are refugees or immigrants, 2 of whom are appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, at least one of whom must be licensed to practice in the State, and one of whom is appointed by the President of the Senate;

7. One member who is a representative of the Maine Medical Association, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

8. One member who is a representative of the Maine Immigrants' Rights Coalition, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

9. One member from the staff of the Office of the Governor, appointed by the Governor.

**Sec. 3. Chairs. Resolved:** That the first-named Senate member is the Senate chair and the first-named House of Representatives member is the House chair of the commission.

**Sec. 4. Appointments; convening of commission. Resolved:** That all appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this resolve. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council once all appointments have been completed. After appointment of all members, the chairs shall call and convene the first meeting of the commission. If 30 days or more after the effective date of this resolve a majority of but not all appointments have been made, the chairs may request authority and the Legislative Council may grant authority for the commission to meet and conduct its business.

**Sec. 5. Duties. Resolved:** That the commission shall study integrating foreign-trained physicians, including surgeons, living in the State into the health care workforce to best reflect their level of skills and training, with a focus on those who are here as refugees and asylum seekers, and reducing barriers to licensing for foreign-trained physicians and physicians from other states. The commission shall explore a wide range of options for how to help enable foreign-trained physicians who wish to live and practice in the State to best use their skills and talents, increase health care workforce cultural competency and address potential workforce shortages. The commission shall make recommendations on:

1. Strategies to integrate foreign-trained physicians into the health care workforce;

2. Other ways, outside of being licensed as a physician, that foreign-trained physicians can be supported to best use their skills and training;

3. Changes for regulations that may pose unnecessary barriers to practice for foreign-trained physicians and physicians from other states;

4. Necessary supports for foreign-trained physicians moving through the different steps in the licensing process prior to involvement with the Board of Licensure in Medicine;

5. Opportunities to advocate for corresponding changes to national licensing requirements; and

6. Any other matters pertaining to foreign-trained physicians and physicians from other states considered necessary by the commission.

The commission shall review and identify best practices learned from similar efforts in other states. The commission may hold hearings and invite testimony from experts and the public to gather information. The commission may develop guidelines for full licensure and conditional licensure of foreign-trained physicians and physicians from other states and recommendations for the types of strategies, programs and support that would benefit foreign-trained physicians and physicians from other states to use the fullest extent of their training and experience.

**Sec. 6. Staff assistance. Resolved:** That the Legislative Council shall provide necessary staffing services to the commission, except that Legislative Council staff support is not authorized when the Legislature is in regular or special session.

**Sec. 7. Stakeholder participation. Resolved:** That the commission may invite the participation of stakeholders to participate in meetings or subcommittee meetings of the commission to ensure the commission has the information and expertise necessary to fulfill its duties, including, but not limited to, representatives of health insurance carriers, the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine, medical graduate residency programs in the State, the Maine Public Health Association, the Maine Osteopathic Association and the Maine Association of Physician Assistants.

**Sec. 8. Report. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, no later than January 15, 2024, the commission shall submit a report that includes its findings and recommendations, including suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services. The joint standing committee may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature based on the report.

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

Effective July 7, 2023.

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**CHAPTER 94**

**H.P. 760 - L.D. 1200**

**Resolve, to Convene a Driver Education Working Group to Evaluate Hardships to Underserved Populations and Low-income Families**

**Preamble. Whereas,** for persons who have not attained 20 years of age, taking a driver education course and achieving the required number of driving hours is necessary in order to obtain a driver's license; and

**Whereas,** the cost of taking a driver education course is a financial hardship for many families; and

**Whereas,** families living in rural areas have a more difficult time gaining access to driver education courses; and

**Whereas,** youth and families also face many other obstacles when trying to comply with the legal requirements to obtain a driver's license; now, therefore, be it

**Sec. 1. Working group. Resolved:** That the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles shall convene a working group to study potential solutions regarding the cost of and access to driver education for underserved populations and low-income families.

**Sec. 2. Working group membership. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, the working group membership is as follows:

1. One member of the Senate who serves on the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, appointed by the President of the Senate;
2. One member of the House of Representatives who serves on the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
3. One member representing the driver education school industry, appointed by the Secretary of State;
4. One member representing a State Police traffic division, appointed by the Chief of the State Police;
5. One or more members representing affected groups, including, but not limited to, low-income families, immigrant or refugee communities, tribal communities and foster children, appointed by the Secretary of State;
6. An employee of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles who is responsible for the oversight of driver education, appointed by the Secretary of State;
7. The Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee;
8. The Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the commissioner's designee;
9. The Deputy Secretary of State having oversight over the Bureau of Motor Vehicles or the deputy secretary's designee;
10. The Secretary of State or the secretary's designee; and
11. One member representing the Bureau of Highway Safety, appointed by the Commissioner of Public Safety.

**Sec. 3. Compensation. Resolved:** That, notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, members of the working group may not be compensated for their work on the working group, but legislative members may receive the legislative per diem.

**Sec. 4. Duties. Resolved:** That the working group shall:

1. Identify and document the current status of the availability of the State's driver education program;
2. Examine and identify potential methods of providing driver education at a lower cost for underserved populations and low-income families;