

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.

Augusta, Maine
2023

Initiative: Provides one-time funds for the cost of a consultant to facilitate and manage the work of the Blue Economy Task Force.

GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$100,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$100,000

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 120

H.P. 878 - L.D. 1364

Resolve, to Study Methods of Preventing Opioid Overdose Deaths by Authorizing Harm Reduction Health Centers

Sec. 1. Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future working group. Resolved: That the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future shall convene a working group to study methods of preventing opioid overdose deaths by authorizing harm reduction health centers. The office shall at a minimum invite as members of the working group the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Public Safety, a representative of the recovery treatment community, a municipal representative, a medical professional, a person who has experienced substance use disorder and a representative of an organization that advocates for persons with substance use disorder. The working group shall evaluate options for, identify barriers to and develop findings and recommendations regarding the prevention of opioid overdose deaths by authorizing harm reduction health centers in the State.

As used in this section, "harm reduction health center" means a facility that provides health screening, disease prevention and recovery assistance services and that allows persons to consume previously obtained controlled substances on the premises.

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, on or before February 15, 2025, the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future shall submit a report, including the findings and recommendations, as well as any proposed legislation, of the working group under section 1, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters. After reviewing the report, the committee may report out legislation related to the report to the 132nd Legislature in 2025.

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved: That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Office of Policy Innovation and the Future Z135

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for a consultant for research, facilitation and report writing services.

GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$15,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$15,000

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 121

S.P. 593 - L.D. 1474

Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Expedite Reimbursement of Long-term Care Facilities

Sec. 1. Department of Health and Human Services to reimburse nursing facilities after receipt of cost reports. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall amend its rules in Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 67, Principles of Reimbursement for Nursing Facilities, to require the department to reimburse at least 75% of the as-filed settlement pursuant to the facility's cost reports within 90 days of receipt.

Sec. 2. Department of Health and Human Services to reimburse private non-medical institutions after receipt of cost reports. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall amend its rules in Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 97, Private Non-Medical Institution Services, Appendix C to require the department to reimburse at least 75% of a private non-medical institution's as-filed settlement within 90 days of receipt.

Sec. 3. Existing resources. Resolved: That the Department of Health and Human Services shall implement the requirements of this resolve within existing resources.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 122

H.P. 981 - L.D. 1526

Resolve, to Provide Grants to Support Reading Proficiency Programming in Schools

Sec. 1. Department of Education to provide grants to support reading proficiency programming in schools. Resolved: That the Department of Education, referred to in this resolve as "the department," shall award grants to school administrative units to support reading proficiency programming in schools.

The department shall establish criteria to award grants to school administrative units. Criteria for awarding grants must include that school administrative units develop programming consistent with the high-quality, evidence-based literacy tenets developed by the department. In awarding grants, the department shall give special consideration to school administrative units serving populations of students with identified reading proficiency achievement gaps, including, but not limited to, reading achievement gaps for economically disadvantaged students and racial and ethnic populations.

Sec. 2. Report. Resolved: That, no later than January 15, 2025, the department shall submit to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs a report on the awarding of grants and the criteria used to award grants to school administrative units in accordance with section 1. The committee may report out a bill to the 132nd Legislature in 2025.

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved: That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF

Office of Innovation Z333

Initiative: Provides one-time funds for grants to school administrative units to support reading proficiency programming in schools.

GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$0	\$200,000
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$200,000</u>

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 123

H.P. 1144 - L.D. 1781

Resolve, to Continue Case Management Services for the Homeless Opioid Users Service Engagement Pilot Project Within the Department of Health and Human Services

Sec. 1. Transfer to Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services. Resolved: That, notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on or before June 30, 2024, the State Controller shall transfer \$300,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services, Other Special Revenue Funds account to continue the contract for case management services for the homeless opioid users service engagement pilot project established in Resolve 2019, chapter 105.

Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations. Resolved: That the following appropriations and allocations are made.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF

Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Z199

Initiative: Provides one-time allocation to continue case management services.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
All Other	\$300,000	\$0
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$300,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 124

H.P. 638 - L.D. 1002

Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Study the School Day

Sec. 1. Department of Education to study the school day. Resolved: That the Department of Education shall convene a working group to study the school day. The working group must include, but is not limited to, members representing school administrators from high schools, middle schools and elementary schools, a parent of a student, a student, a mental health clinician, a pediatrician, a school nutritionist and a member representing a statewide association of curriculum leaders. The department shall invite any other stakeholders to participate, as appropriate. The study must be informed by relevant research conducted by the Maine Education Policy Research Institute and the department shall work in conjunction with the Maine Education Policy Research Institute, as appropriate. In studying the school day, the working group shall consider, at a minimum, the following:

1. Statewide, national and international approaches to the school day;
2. Instructional requirements for graduation, including but not limited to instruction in health and physical education, traffic safety education, elements of a firearm hunter safety course and a stand-alone course in personal finance;
3. Educator planning and preparation time;
4. Lunch periods, including but not limited to transit time and time required to eat;