

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

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DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND
BUSINESS**

December 2021

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**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC
ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS**

**LD 7 An Act To Expand the Membership of the Board of Directors of the Maine
International Trade Center**

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 46 does the following:

1. It increases the number of elected directors on the Board of Directors of the Maine International Trade Center from seven to 11;
2. It removes the requirement that one of the five appointed directors be the International Trade Director at the Department of Economic and Community Development; and
3. It requires that the president of the Maine International Trade Center serve as an ex officio voting member of the board of directors.

**LD 11 An Act To Clarify the Laws Regarding Reciprocity for Licensure of Professional
Engineers**

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 47 clarifies that an applicant for licensure by endorsement or comity who provides proof that the applicant has been a licensed professional engineer, in good standing, in another state, territory or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia or any foreign country for a minimum of eight years and whose license qualification are, in the opinion of the State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers, substantially equivalent to the requirements in the laws governing the licensure of engineers and who has never been subject to disciplinary action as a professional engineer may be licensed as a professional engineer. It allows the board to waive additional qualifications.

LD 18 An Act To Clarify the American Sign Language Interpreters Licensing Laws

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 48 makes the following changes to the law governing the licensure of American Sign Language Interpreters.

1. It removes specific language related to the requirements of licensure from the definition of “conditional license,” since the definition already contains a reference to the section of statute that outlines those requirements.
2. It gives the Director of the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation rule-making authority related to a

ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES

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qualifying score on an American Sign Language proficiency interview. It also provides that a score of 3+ or higher is a qualifying score until the director is able to complete the rule-making process.

3. It removes the specific names of two separate knowledge exams that are no longer being used and replaces that language with reference to the knowledge exam administered by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.

LD 19 An Act To Amend the Maine Education Savings Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 17 conforms elements of the Maine Education Savings Program to recent changes to federal law affecting so-called Section 529 plans. These changes include the following:

1. Allowing use of up to \$10,000 per beneficiary each year at a K-12 school; and
2. Allowing from a 529 to an ABLE account for the same beneficiary or family member.

The law also makes certain other needed updates to the program and makes permissive rather than mandatory the investment of program fund dollars by the Finance Authority of Maine in state-based financial institutions.

Public Law 2021, chapter 17 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 17, 2021.

LD 20 An Act To Provide for the 2021 and 2022 Allocations of the State Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 1 establishes the allocations of the state ceiling on issuance of tax-exempt private activity bonds for calendar years 2021 and 2022 among the state-level issuers of tax-exempt bonds. It readjusts the allocations of the state ceiling on issuance of tax-exempt private activity bonds for calendar year 2021 by increasing the Finance Authority of Maine's commercial allocation and reducing the unallocated state ceiling for the same period by the same amount.

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 1 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 17, 2021.