

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
130<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

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

December 2021

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

Public Law 2021, chapter 167 also allows the office, or a licensing board or commission within the office, to grant provisional licenses to applicants educated in or with relevant experience or licensure in other jurisdictions, including other states, United States territories, foreign nations and foreign administrative divisions and grants the director rule-making authority to implement these discretionary authorities.

The law also authorizes the director to adopt rules to define the term “jurisdiction” for licensing purposes to mean a state, a United States territory, a foreign nation or a foreign administrative division that issues a license or credential. The law further authorizes the director to accept funds from the Federal Government from any political subdivision of the State or from any individual, foundation or corporation, to expend those funds for purposes consistent with the purposes of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, section 8003 and to provide grants to nongovernmental entities for purposes consistent with that statute.

Finally, it also develops a process for licensure by endorsement for United States license holders who meet certain criteria.

**LD 171 An Act To Enable Out-of-state Certified Public Accountancy Firms To Provide Services in Maine on the Basis of Substantial Equivalency**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 68 establishes parity in license mobility between certified public accountancy firms and individual certified public accountants by enabling out-of-state certified public accountancy firms to provide services in Maine on the basis of substantial equivalency in the same manner as individual certified public accountants. A certified public accountancy firm providing services in Maine on the basis of substantial equivalency need not provide notice or register with the Board of Accountancy but must follow the requirements of Maine law and the board’s rules. The law also exempts an out-of-state certified public accountancy firm from being required to hold a Maine license if the firm meets the firm ownership and peer review provisions outlined in Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 12252 and performs services through an individual with practice privileges under section 12232. It also adds a cross-reference to the newly added provisions in the section related to unlawful acts in the practice of public accountancy and the section related to substantial equivalency for individual certified public accountants, or CPAs. Finally, the law removes a list of services provided by individual CPAs under the substantial equivalency section and instead refers to the list of services under the definition of “attest service.”