

# 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 ENVIRONMENT  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

December 2021

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**STAFF:**

DANIEL TARTAKOFF, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
DEIRDRE SCHNEIDER, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla/>

\*Committee member for a portion of the session

## **JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

2. It provides a limited exemption from liability for publicly owned treatment works based on the contribution by the publicly owned treatment works of effluent or sewage sludge to an uncontrolled hazardous substance site.
3. It provides a limited exemption for public water systems based on the contribution by the public water system of water treatment residuals to an uncontrolled hazardous substance site.

Public Law 2021, chapter 117 also requires that, on or before January 15, 2023, the Department of Environmental Protection report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources matters regarding the uncontrolled hazardous substance sites where the department has used its authority to require responsible parties to investigate or remove hazardous substances that are pollutants or contaminants and, for each site, provide information identifying the substance involved.

### **LD 802 An Act To Ensure Decommissioning of Solar Energy Developments**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 151 requires a person to obtain approval of a decommissioning plan from the Department of Environmental Protection or, in the case of a solar energy development located in the unorganized and deorganized areas, from the Maine Land Use Planning Commission before constructing or operating a solar energy development with ground-mounted solar panels occupying three or more acres.

### **LD 872 An Act Concerning Motor Vehicle Emissions Control System Tampering**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 119 prohibits a person from tampering with the emission control system of a motor vehicle and also prohibits the sale, lease or rental or transfer of title or right of possession of a motor vehicle by a dealer if a person has tampered with the vehicle's emission control system.

### **LD 909 An Act Regarding the Depth of Phillips Lake in the Town of Dedham**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 7 authorizes the Lucerne-in-Maine Village Corporation to adopt a water level ordinance pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, chapter 187, subchapter 6 to regulate water level regimes and minimum flow requirements for Phillips Lake in the Town of Dedham. It also authorizes the Lucerne-in-Maine Village Corporation to enter into an interlocal agreement with the Town of Dedham to regulate water level regimes and minimum flow requirements for Phillips Lake.

## **JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 7 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 14, 2021.

### **LD 940 An Act To Establish Appliance Energy and Water Standards**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 433 provides that, beginning January 1, 2023, a person may not sell or offer for sale in the State certain appliances or products manufactured on or after January 1, 2023 that are prohibited from sale in major substantive rules adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection.

### **LD 946 Resolve, Regarding the Shore Damage Mitigation Project in Saco Bay**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2021, chapter 85 directs the Governor to take all actions the Governor considers necessary to assist and support the City of Saco in the City of Saco's role as the nonfederal sponsor with the United States Army Corps of Engineers for the shore damage mitigation project for the Saco River and Camp Ellis Beach, which may include directing any relevant state agencies to assist the City of Saco in its entering into a project partnership agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers for the construction of that project and directing any relevant state agencies to assist and support the City of Saco and other communities on Saco Bay in the construction of that project and in implementing other beach and beach habitat remediation projects in and around Saco Bay.

### **LD 1023 An Act Regarding the Outdoor Release or Abandonment of Balloons**

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 374 makes the following changes to the State's litter control law.

1. It clarifies that waste materials resulting from the outdoor release or abandonment of a balloon constitute litter under that law.
2. It provides that it is a violation of that law for a person to intentionally release outdoors a balloon that is inflated or filled with a gas that is lighter than air, except for a balloon carrying scientific instrumentation, a balloon used for meteorological observation by a governmental or scientific organization or a hot air balloon that is recovered after launching.
3. It applies a civil penalty of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500 for the illegal intentional release of 16 to 24 balloons and a civil penalty of not less than \$500 for the illegal intentional release of more than 24 balloons.