

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

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LABOR AND HOUSING

December 2021

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING

LD 1106 An Act To Prohibit an Employer from Charging an Employee for Direct Deposit for Wages

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 158 prohibits an employer from charging a fee for the payment of wages to an employee by means of direct deposit of funds.

LD 1167 An Act Relating to Fair Chance in Employment

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 404 prohibits an employer from requesting criminal history record information on an initial employee application form or stating on an initial employee application form or advertisement or specifying prior to determining a person is otherwise qualified for the position that a person with a criminal history may not apply or will not be considered for a position.

Public Law 2021, chapter 404 provides exceptions to those prohibitions, including instances in which federal or state law or regulation or rule mandates for a position that a criminal conviction disqualifies an applicant, or imposes an obligation on an employer not to hire an applicant who has been convicted of a certain type of offense.

Public Law 2021, chapter 404 provides that if an employer inquires about a prospective employee's criminal history record information during an interview or once the employee has been determined otherwise qualified, the employer must afford the prospective employee an opportunity to explain the information and the circumstances regarding any conviction, including post-conviction rehabilitation.

An employer who violates this prohibition is subject to a penalty of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 for each violation, to be enforced by the Department of Labor.

LD 1201 Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Engage Stakeholders in an Examination of Fair Chance Housing Policy Options

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 75 directs the Maine State Housing Authority in collaboration with stakeholders to examine fair chance housing policies considered or adopted in other jurisdictions to evaluate options for the State to adopt that would address housing issues and expand housing opportunities for formerly incarcerated individuals without placing an excessive burden on housing providers. It requires the authority to submit a report by February 15, 2022 to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing that includes findings and recommendations and includes a summary of any meetings that occur regarding the examination, a list of participants in the examination, suggestions to increase the awareness among housing providers of the challenges