

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 CRIMINAL JUSTICE
AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

December 2021

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

LD 1364 Resolve, To Study Incentives for Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 97 directs the State Fire Marshal to convene a task force to study incentives for developers, builders and home buyers to install residential sprinklers. The resolve directs the State Fire Marshal to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety by December 1, 2021, and authorizes the committee to report out legislation based on the study. The resolve specifies that costs to the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal to convene and staff the task force and to report to the Legislature must be absorbed within existing budgeted resources.

LD 1408 An Act To Increase the Protection of Children from Domestic Abuse and Violence

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 351 requires that the core training provided to guardians ad litem must include no less than six hours on domestic abuse and violence. The law requires that continuing education for guardians ad litem must include at least two hours of training annually on the impact of domestic abuse and violence on children, the services available in Maine for victims of domestic abuse and violence and their children and interventions for those who commit domestic abuse and violence.

Public Law 2021, chapter 351 takes effect January 1, 2022.

LD 1478 An Act To Require the Use of Homelessness Crisis Protocols by Law Enforcement Agencies

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 393 directs the Attorney General to adopt a model homelessness crisis protocol and directs law enforcement agencies to adopt protocols, which may, but are not required to, conform to the model protocol adopted by the Attorney General. The law requires a homelessness crisis protocol to include access and referral to crisis services, mental health and substance use disorder professionals, emergency and transitional housing and case management services. The law defines certain violations of the Maine Criminal Code as "listed offenses." The law requires a law enforcement officer who responds to a listed offense to inquire whether the person committing the offense lacks a home. If the person lacks a home, the law enforcement officer is required to respond in accordance with the homelessness crisis protocol.