

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**LD 1307 An Act Regarding the Sale and Use of Consumer Fireworks**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 510 requires sellers of consumer fireworks to provide to customers a statement that local ordinances may prohibit or restrict the use of consumer fireworks within a municipality and that information on such prohibitions or restrictions is available through the Office of the State Fire Marshal. It amends litter control law to provide that litter includes all waste materials resulting from the use of consumer fireworks. It amends disorderly conduct law to provide that the making of loud and unreasonable noise, which can be an element of the crime of disorderly conduct, includes loud and unreasonable noise resulting from the use of consumer fireworks.

**LD 1348 Resolve, To Study the Impacts of Consumer Fireworks Use**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2021, chapter 135 directs the State Fire Marshal to convene a stakeholder group to review matters relating to the impacts of consumer fireworks use. On or before January 15, 2023, the State Fire Marshal is required to submit to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters a report outlining the findings and any recommendations of the stakeholder group, including any proposed legislation, and the committee is authorized to report out legislation relating to the report to the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

**LD 1446 An Act To Aid Municipalities in the Issuance of Concealed Handgun Permits**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 619 makes the following changes to the law governing permits to carry a concealed handgun.

1. It clarifies the law regarding the designation of the issuing authority by municipalities that have a full-time chief of police and by municipalities that do not have a full-time chief of police. It also provides a definition for “municipal officers.”
2. It authorizes the municipal officers of a municipality, regardless of whether the municipality has a full-time chief of police, to designate as the issuing authority the chief of police of an adjacent municipality or the sheriff of the county in which the municipality is located if the chief or sheriff agrees to that designation.

Public Law 2021, chapter 619 also requires the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police to convene a stakeholder group to review the laws of this State regulating the issuance of permits to carry a concealed handgun and develop findings and recommendations for changes to

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those laws to improve the existing permitting process or to address other identified issues with the process. On or before February 15, 2023, the Bureau of State Police is required to submit to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters a report outlining the findings and recommendations of the stakeholder group, including any proposed legislation, and the committee may report out related legislation.

**LD 1654 An Act to Stabilize State Funding for County Corrections**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 732 does the following.

1. In Part A, it repeals and replaces the law on the County Jail Operations Fund, effective July 1, 2023, by requiring at least \$20,342,104 in General Fund funding each year, of which at least 25% must be spent on the community corrections and best practices services required in Part C; requiring periodic reporting to the Department of Corrections by the jails and payments to the jails and annual reporting by the department to the legislative committee having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters; and re-enacting provisions on the distribution formula applicable to the fund and surcharges applicable to fines, forfeitures and penalties. Effective May 5, 2022, Part A also establishes the County Corrections Professional Standards Council to evaluate and advise the Commissioner of Corrections, develop rules on reporting to the commissioner, develop budget and supplemental funding recommendations, consider the need for legislation regarding required programs, services and reporting and submit such legislation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters.
2. In Part B, effective May 5, 2022, it updates the laws on the base county tax assessments for correctional services and requires legislative approval for a county to adjust its base assessment limit if the amount varies from the adjustments allowed in the law. For fiscal year 2022-23, it requires the Legislature to appropriate from the General Fund \$20,342,104 to the County Jail Operations Fund.
3. In Part C, effective May 5, 2022, it requires the jails to operate in accordance with best practices and mandatory standards, policies and procedures established in rules adopted by the commissioner. The rules are required to cover coordination of transportation and substance use disorder screening, assessment, medication, treatment, recovery and reentry services. The rules are also required to cover mental health treatment, community programs and services and training and technical assistance for facility staff and health care practitioners. It requires the jails to report data in accordance with rules adopted by the County Corrections Professional Standards Council. It provides for the continuing application of current rules and standards until new rules and standards are adopted.
4. In Part D, effective July 1, 2023, it amends references to the County Jail Operations Fund and updates references to reporting by the jails to the legislative committee having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety.