

# 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 APPROPRIATIONS  
AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

December 2021

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**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL  
AFFAIRS**

**LD 1507 An Act To Establish a Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Program and Allocation**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 45 establishes the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 - Local Fiscal Recovery Funds program within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to receive and distribute to units of local government funds received pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and allows the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to adjust allotments by financial order to comply with federal guidelines. The legislative intent of the act is to allocate the maximum amount of expected funds with the understanding that some of the funds may be distributed directly to two of the categories of local government by the federal government.

Public Law 2021, chapter 45 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 5, 2021.

**LD 1697 An Act To Establish a Homeowner Assistance Fund Program and Provide for the Distribution of Funds**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 77 establishes the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 - Homeowner Assistance Fund program within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to receive and distribute funds received pursuant to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Public Law 2021, chapter 77 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 25, 2021.

**LD 1700 An Act To Provide Allocations for the Administration of State Fiscal Recovery Funds**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 78 does the following:

1. Establishes the American Rescue Plan Audit, Controller and Program Management program within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and provides for an allocation from the Federal Expenditures Fund - American Rescue Plan State Fiscal Recovery fund. Funds must be used for all aspects of financial management oversight of funds from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, including state discretionary and direct funds as well as the local passthrough funds; and
2. Establishes the American Rescue Plan Economic, Workforce and Innovation program within the Department of Economic and Community Development to provide one-time allocations from the Federal Expenditures Fund - American Rescue Plan State Fiscal Recovery fund for

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preliminary program, metrics and assessment tool development for economic development, innovation and workforce programs.

Public Law 2021, chapter 78 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 25, 2021.

**LD 1702 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve Transportation**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 408 provides a bond issue, in the amount of \$100,000,000, for the Department of Transportation to support its ongoing capital programs to preserve, improve and construct roads, bridges, railroads, airports, transit and ports.

**LD 1733 An Act To Provide Allocations for the Distribution of State Fiscal Recovery Funds**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2021, chapter 483 makes one-time allocations from the funds provided to the State from the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund.

Part A provides funding to the Department of Economic and Community Development for loans or loan guarantees through the Finance Authority of Maine for businesses having difficulty securing investment capital due to the COVID-19 pandemic and provides capital for rural development projects through the Maine Rural Development Authority.

Part B provides funding to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to support Maine's farms and food processors; to the Department of Economic and Community Development for grants to the forest products industry; and to the Department of Marine Resources to grants for seafood processors and dealers for facilities and infrastructure.

Part C requires the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance to establish the Small Business Health Insurance Premium Support Program to provide small businesses short-term relief from rising health insurance premiums as they recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Part D requires the State Controller to transfer \$80,000,000 of the ARP State Fiscal Recovery Fund to the Department of Labor, Unemployment Compensation Fund.

Part E provides funding to the Department of Economic and Community Development to support new businesses and entrepreneurs who recently acquired Maine businesses.