# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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### STATE OF MAINE

 $132^{\text{ND}}$  Legislature First Regular and First Special Sessions



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

## JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

August 2025

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#### JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# LD 1 An Act to Increase Storm Preparedness for Maine's Communities, Homes and Infrastructure

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 33 makes the following changes in law.

- 1. It creates the Home Resiliency Program within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance to provide grants to homeowners for the purpose of performing home resiliency projects designed to make a home more resistant to damage from severe weather events. The program is funded by a one-time transfer of \$15,000,000 from the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance's Other Special Revenue Funds account.
- 2. It establishes the Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Revolving Loan Fund in the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Emergency Management Agency to improve statewide and regional disaster communications systems, provide additional hazard mitigation capacity and provide matching funds from the State for two federal disaster programs. The fund is funded by a transfer from the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance's Other Special Revenue Funds account. Specifically, the Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Revolving Loan Fund will accomplish the following:
  - A. It supports improved statewide emergency communications systems, communications system training and education to improve communication regarding disaster events;
  - B. It provides state matching funds for United States Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency grants to the State's Disaster Recovery Fund;
  - C. It establishes and funds a new account to provide state matching funds to leverage competitive grants from the federal Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund program; and
  - D. It establishes a limited-period position to implement the new Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Revolving Loan Fund and a limited-period emergency communications system manager.
- 3. It establishes the State Resilience Office within the Maine Office of Community Affairs and provides funding through a \$9,633,040 transfer from the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance's Other Special Revenue Funds account to create an online community risk reduction data hub, update flood maps, reduce community flood risk and increase participation in the National Flood Insurance Program through a regional certified floodplain manager program.
- 4. It requires an annual transfer from the available balances of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance's Other Special Revenue Funds account to the

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State Resilience Fund and requires the State Resilience Office to make an annual report to the Bureau of Insurance and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over insurance matters on the uses, activities and outcomes supported by funds from that annual transfer of funds.

- 5. It transfers the responsibility for administering the Community Resilience Partnership Program from the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future to the State Resilience Office within the Maine Office of Community Affairs.
- 6. It clarifies that the State Resilience Office is responsible for administering the floodplain management program and the State Floodplain Mapping Fund established in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, sections 408 and 409, respectively.
- 7. It requires the Superintendent of Insurance to certify that surplus funds exist in the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance's Other Special Revenue Funds account prior to the State Controller transferring funds out of the account to the State Resilience Fund.
- 8. It allows the Bureau of Insurance to establish two or more tiers of eligibility for the Home Resiliency Program based on the income or financial means of the applicant.
- 9. It allows, but does not require, the Bureau of Insurance to adopt rules to implement the Home Resiliency Program.

Public Law 2025, chapter 33 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 22, 2025.

LD 271 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 12: Fees for Kickboxing Contests and Authorized Participants, a Major Substantive Rule of the Combat Sports Authority of Maine

#### **ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2025, chapter 23 authorizes final adoption of Chapter 12: Fees for Kickboxing Contests and Authorized Participants, a major substantive rule of the Combat Sports Authority of Maine.

Resolve 2025, chapter 23 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective May 2, 2025.