

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
132ND 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**

August 2025

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

LD 17 An Act to Designate the Warden of the Maine State Prison as Chief Administrative Officer of the Bolduc Correctional Facility

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 4 designates the warden of the Maine State Prison as the chief administrative officer of the Bolduc Correctional Facility and removes the power to appoint an assistant director. The law also changes the provision of law allowing the warden to appoint deputy wardens to clarify that any deputies appointed by the warden are responsible when the warden is absent or unable to perform the duties of the office rather than specifically absent from the Maine State Prison or unable to perform the duties of the office.

LD 28 Resolve, to Rename the Twin Rivers Fire Academy in Fairfield the Duane Bickford Fire Training Facility

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 28 directs the Town of Fairfield to designate the firefighter training facility in Fairfield as the Duane Bickford Fire Academy.

LD 42 An Act Regarding the Bind-over and Detention of Juveniles

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 361 amends the law regarding the Juvenile Court binding over a juvenile for prosecution as an adult and introduces provisions governing a juvenile's stay of detention in an adult section of a jail pending indictment in the following ways.

1. It allows the Department of Corrections to request and the Juvenile Court to order that a juvenile that would otherwise be detained in an adult section of a jail be detained in a department detention facility operated exclusively for juveniles. In making that determination, the Juvenile Court must consider whether the juvenile's behavior at the juvenile facility creates a risk of harm to others, whether the juvenile has behavioral health needs that would be better served at the juvenile facility and whether the juvenile is engaged in education or treatment programs at the juvenile facility that would be disrupted by detention in the adult section of a jail.
2. It requires a Juvenile Court to include in its order for the bind-over hearing its decision regarding the stay of detention in an adult section of a jail if the request is made prior to the bind-over hearing.
3. It allows for the department to request that the Juvenile Court rescind an order granting stay of detention at an adult facility if it is no longer appropriate for the juvenile.

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4. It clarifies that a person may not be detained in a detention facility approved or operated by the department exclusively for juveniles if the person has attained 18 years of age and an indictment has been returned or if the person attains 21 years of age.

LD 45 An Act Allowing the Department of Corrections to Offset Some of the Costs of Technology Provided to Residents of Correctional Facilities

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 352 allows the Commissioner of Corrections to establish fees for the use of technology by residents of correctional facilities. The commissioner may not charge a technology fee to a resident who is using technology for the purpose of research related to a criminal case or civil lawsuit in which the resident is involved. Additionally, the commissioner may not charge a technology fee that exceeds 7% of a resident's earnings for the calendar month after accounting for certain deductions from the resident's earnings. If a resident's earnings are less than \$100 in a month after any deductions are applied, the commissioner may not charge the resident for the use of technology.

Funds from the technology fee must be deposited into the Resident Technology Fund, which is established in the law. The fund may be used by the department to offset the cost of buying and maintaining technology provided to residents of correctional facilities.

LD 97 An Act to Facilitate the Improvement of Credit Scores of Residents of Department of Corrections Facilities

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 6 allows a juvenile or adult client of a correctional facility to obtain a loan from a financial institution or credit union if the loan is designed to improve a client's credit score, the funds are deposited in the client's savings account at the financial institution or credit union, the loan is secured in full by funds disbursed by the client after any collections required by law and the loan is required to be repaid in full using those secured funds or other funds disbursed by the client. The loan funds are prohibited from being used for restitution or the client's telephone call account.

LD 120 An Act to Expand the Membership of the Homeland Security Advisory Council

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 195 changes the membership of the Homeland Security Advisory Council by including the designee of any ex officio member and by adding to the council the Chief Information Officer within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of