MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE

 132^{ND} Legislature First Regular and First Special Sessions



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

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

August 2025

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

LD 269 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 375: No Adverse Environmental Effect Standards of the Site Location of Development Act, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 58 authorizes final adoption by the Department of Environmental Protection of Chapter 375: No Adverse Environmental Effect Standards of the Site Location of Development Act, a major substantive rule of the department that was submitted for legislative review, only if certain specified changes are made to that rule prior to final adoption.

Resolve 2025, chapter 58 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 10, 2025.

LD 296 An Act to Appropriate Funds to the Department of Environmental Protection, Lake Water Quality Restoration and Protection Fund

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 451 provides one-time funding of \$50,000 in each of fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27 to support projects that meet specific criteria and improve or maintain the quality of lake waters in the State.

LD 297 An Act Regarding the Management of Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge at the State-owned Landfill

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 373 amends the law regarding the reuse or recycling of construction and demolition debris by certain solid waste processing facilities that were in operation during calendar year 2018 and that accept exclusively construction and demolition debris by extending the dates by which such facilities must reuse or recycle a certain percentage of such debris through methods other than placement in a solid waste landfill.

The law also amends Public Law 2023, chapter 283, section 2, which took effect June 23, 2023, and which provided that, for the period ending July 1, 2025, if in any 12-month period the total weight of the residue generated by a solid waste processing facility and disposed of or otherwise placed in a solid waste landfill exceeds the total weight of the solid waste initially generated within the State that was processed by the facility in that 12-month period, such excess residue, not to exceed 25,000 tons in that 12-month period, is deemed to be waste generated within the State, as long as that excess residue is composed of oversized bulky waste and is disposed of or otherwise placed in a state-owned solid waste landfill. Under that prior law, any other excess residue generated by the facility in that 12-month period is deemed not to be waste generated within the State.

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Public Law 2025, chapter 373 amends that provision of that 2023 public law to extend the end date of the period in which the provision applies to July 1, 2027. It also stipulates that, for the purposes of that provision, any additional excess residue associated with the processing of the 25,000 tons of oversized bulky waste amount generated by the solid waste processing facility in that 12-month period and used at a solid waste landfill, not to exceed 75,000 tons in that 12-month period, is deemed to be waste generated within the State, as long as that additional excess residue is not composed of oversized bulky waste and is used at a state-owned solid waste landfill as daily cover.

These changes provided in Public Law 2025, chapter 373 are retroactive to June 23, 2023.

LD 400 Resolve, Directing the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal to Compile a Statewide Inventory of Aqueous Film-forming Foam Concentrate

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 111 requires that, no later than November 1, 2025, the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal shall initiate a program to compile an inventory of aqueous film-forming foam concentrate possessed by any public entity in the State in an amount of 5 gallons or more and solicit similar information from private entities in the State. The Office of the State Fire Marshal must make the completed inventory available on its publicly accessible website and, no later than January 1, 2028, submit the completed inventory to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources matters and criminal justice and public safety matters. Either committee is authorized to report out legislation relating to the inventory to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd Legislature.

LD 401 An Act to Support Removal of Overboard Discharge Systems

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 44 amends the laws governing pollution control as follows.

- 1. It changes the cost of a municipal or quasi-municipal pollution abatement construction program or a pollution abatement construction program in an unorganized township or plantation authorized by the county commissioners for which the Commissioner of Environmental Protection may pay up to 90% of the expense from \$100,000 to 250% of the median household income in the State.
- 2. It changes the income limits for individual pollution abatement projects serving single-family dwellings, seasonal dwellings or commercial establishments for which the commissioner may pay a percentage of the cost.
- 3. It changes the income limits used to determine the portion of an overboard discharge replacement project that is eligible for grant funding. It also requires that, to be eligible for grant funding, the owner of an overboard discharge system and the overboard discharge