

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
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

August 2025

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removal contractor must certify that the overboard discharge removal project has been completed, including proper abandonment of the overboard discharge system, and the local plumbing inspector must certify that an alternative disposal system has been installed.

4. It changes the definition of “significant action” in the laws governing overboard discharges to mean a single construction project performed on a primary residence with an overboard discharge when the total material and labor cost of the construction project exceeds 100% of the median household income in the State. It provides that a property transfer is limited to a monetary sale of the property containing the overboard discharge.
5. It changes the income threshold for which the Department of Environmental Protection must grant a waiver from the requirement to install an alternative system when the ownership of a property containing an overboard discharge has been transferred from less than \$25,000 to less than 100% of the median household income in the State.
6. It changes the income threshold for which a license holder for an overboard discharge system may reduce the license fee from less than \$15,000 to less than 50% of the median household income in the State and changes the fee reduction from \$125 to 50% of the fee.
7. It specifies determinations that a licensed site evaluator must make in connection with a required finding by the department that an overboard discharge meets the requirements of best practicable treatment for purposes of licensing.
8. It provides that the department may request that a person seeking to renew or transfer an overboard discharge license evaluate the feasibility of a spray irrigation system as an alternative to the overboard discharge system.

LD 407 Resolve, to Ensure the Removal of Aqueous Film-forming Foam from the Former Brunswick Naval Air Station

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 33 directs the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority to take all necessary steps to ensure the following.

1. No later than December 31, 2025, all fire suppression systems and any other systems containing aqueous film-forming foam that are located on any property leased or owned by the authority must be shut off or otherwise made incapable of dispensing or releasing aqueous film-forming foam.
2. No later than December 31, 2025, all aqueous film-forming foam or aqueous film-forming foam concentrate not contained in a fire suppression system or other system that is located on any property leased or owned by the authority must be removed from that property.

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3. No later than July 1, 2026, funding must be acquired by the authority sufficient to cover the anticipated costs of completely purging all fire suppression systems and any other systems containing aqueous film-forming foam that are located on any property leased or owned by the authority so that those systems no longer contain any aqueous film-forming foam or any residue containing aqueous film-forming foam.
4. No later than December 31, 2026, all fire suppression systems and any other systems containing aqueous film-forming foam that are located on any property leased or owned by the authority must be completely purged so that those systems no longer contain any aqueous film-forming foam or any residue containing aqueous film-forming foam.

LD 465 An Act to Update Waste Discharge License Fees

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 62 adds marine finfish aquaculture facilities and general permit coverage for municipal separate storm sewer systems as waste discharge license groups and establishes the basis for the annual fees for those license groups. It changes the basis for the annual fee for the general permit coverage for the marine aquaculture facilities waste discharge license group and increases the median fee for that license group. It also clarifies that the fish-rearing facility waste discharge license group covers terrestrial fish-rearing facilities.

LD 497 An Act Regarding the Regulation of Significant Vernal Pools Under the Natural Resources Protection Act

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 338 amends provisions of the Natural Resources Protection Act regarding significant wildlife habitat to require the following provisions in the Department of Environmental Protection's rules regulating significant vernal pools.

1. It requires that the rules include definitions for "critical terrestrial habitat," "significant vernal pool habitat" and "significant vernal pool protection zone." "Significant vernal pool protection zone" must be defined to mean that portion of the critical terrestrial habitat within 100 feet of the spring or fall high-water mark of a significant vernal pool depression. With respect to habitat management standards for significant vernal pool habitat, the rule must require no disturbance within the significant vernal pool depression and the significant vernal pool protection zone to the greatest extent practicable.
2. It provides that, where the critical terrestrial habitat for a significant vernal pool is bisected by one or more property boundaries, the critical terrestrial habitat located on a property that does not contain the vernal pool depression must be afforded the same habitat protections under the rule as the critical terrestrial habitat located on the property that contains the vernal pool depression. Public Law 2025, chapter 338 also repeals a provision of law providing that a

ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES