

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
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

August 2025

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**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
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LD 398 An Act to Amend the Definition of “Transient Occupancy” in the Laws Governing the Maine Land Use Planning Commission

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 61 changes the definition of “transient occupancy” in the laws governing the Maine Land Use Planning Commission to mean occupancy that does not exceed 150 days, rather than 120 days as in prior law, in a calendar year.

Public Law 2025, chapter 61 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 9, 2025.

LD 491 Resolve, Requiring the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands to Convey Certain Real Property in the Town of Richmond

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 24 requires the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to convey certain property, approximately seven acres, in the Town of Richmond to Wilhelmine Dennis Oakes or the estate of Wilhelmine Dennis Oakes. The law provides that any legal or closing costs related to the conveyance of the property may not be paid by the bureau.

LD 528 An Act to Address the Rise in Rabies in Animals by Appointing Certified Rabies Vaccine Administrators

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 141 directs the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to appoint one or more persons in each county to administer rabies vaccines to animals and to develop a training program for this purpose. The law also explicitly adds licensed veterinary technicians under the indirect supervision of a licensed veterinarian to those persons authorized to administer rabies vaccinations.

LD 550 An Act to Support Outdoor, Agricultural-based and Hands-on Experiential Learning in Public Schools

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2025, chapter 183 establishes the Maine Experiential Education Program within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to develop and manage a grant program that provides support for public schools and school administrative units to create staff positions that provide outdoor and experiential hands-on learning opportunities, including opportunities

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

related to gardens, food and agriculture, to improve the health of and academic, physical and emotional development of students. The program also supports professional development opportunities for public school educators engaged in experiential hands-on learning initiatives.

The law establishes the Maine Experiential Education Program Fund to provide funding for the program including funds to cover the cost of salary and benefits for the staff positions funded by the program, the funding of which must be phased-out after the third year of funding, and funding to create a position within the department to administer the program and the fund.

The law also authorizes the department to provide support to the Maine Farm and Sea to School Institute.

Public Law 2025, chapter 183 is contingent upon funding from the United States Congress, United States Department of Agriculture or other public or private entity being available and secured for the purpose of implementing and managing the program and the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and other specified individuals being notified.

LD 606 Resolve, to Study Barriers to Financial Assistance Programs for Farmers and Food Producers

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 26 requires the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to direct staff of the Bureau of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to study the bureau's financial assistance programs for farmers and food producers to identify barriers to these programs and methods to eliminate those barriers and increase the effectiveness of the programs in addressing farmer and food producer needs. The commissioner is required to submit a report by January 15, 2026 to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, which may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

Resolve 2025, chapter 26 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective May 13, 2025.

LD 750 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 27: Standards for Timber Harvesting and Timber Harvesting Related Activities Within Unorganized and Deorganized Areas of the State, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Forestry

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2025, chapter 19 authorizes final adoption of portions of Chapter 27: Standards for Timber Harvesting and Timber Harvesting Related Activities Within Unorganized and Deorganized Areas of the State, a major substantive rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Forestry as long as the effective date of the amended rule is January 1, 2026.