

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE**  
132<sup>ND</sup> 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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subsection 1 or portion of a plan without submitting a draft copy of the plan to each regional planning commission and other appropriate planning or state resource agencies and to the Director of the Bureau of Resource Information and Land Use Planning within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

It requires the Director of the Bureau of Forestry within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to include information regarding late-successional forests and old-growth forests in the director's report on the state of the State's forests beginning January 1, 2031.

It directs the Maine Land Use Planning Commission, as part of the next update to the comprehensive land use plan, to consider the effectiveness of its lake management program and whether changing circumstances and new trends warrant an update to the program.

The law also authorizes the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to develop a report on statewide strategies to enhance the conservation of late-successional forests and old-growth forests, subject to availability of funds.

**LD 1655 An Act to Allow the Keeping of Chickens on Private Residential Property**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 174 provides that a county or municipality may not adopt a regulation or ordinance that prohibits a person from keeping chickens on that person's residential property. The law defines "chicken" as a domesticated bird that is raised for meat or eggs and does not include a fully mature domesticated male chicken.

**LD 1697 An Act to Increase Penalties to Deter Violations of the Laws Regarding Improper Pesticide Use**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 292 increases the maximum fine that may be adjudged for a violation of the laws and rules governing pesticides from \$1,500 to \$10,000, except in a case for an unauthorized pesticide application in which the preponderance of the evidence demonstrates that the violator benefited substantially from the violation, in which case the maximum fine is \$50,000. Maximum fines for subsequent violations are increased to \$75,000 and \$150,000, respectively. The law clarifies that this fine does not apply to a private applicator or a private applicator of general use pesticides as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 1471-C.

The law provides that clear and convincing evidence that only one person benefited substantially from an unauthorized pesticide application constitutes prima facie evidence that the person is responsible for the unauthorized pesticide application. The law increases the maximum fine for a private applicator who violates rules regarding the maintenance of records from \$500 to \$1,000