

# 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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for an initial violation and from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for subsequent violations. The law clarifies that fines under Title 7, section 616-A, subsection 2, paragraph B apply only to a private applicator or a private applicator of general use pesticides.

Public Law 2025, chapter 292 also directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control to adopt a routine technical rule that includes the following requirements.

1. It must establish a penalty schedule for violations of the laws and rules governing pesticides to create transparency for future penalties assessed.
2. It must provide the means by which separate civil suits may be brought against the same violator of the laws and rules governing pesticides if pesticide migration through soil or bedrock occurs affecting more than one property.
3. It must provide for the restoration of affected property and replacement of vegetation as penalties for violations of the laws and rules governing pesticides in addition to monetary penalties.
4. It must designate pesticides with the active ingredient tebuthiuron as state restricted use pesticides.

**LD 1724 Resolve, Authorizing the Baxter State Park Authority to Convey Certain Land in Cumberland County**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Resolve 2025, chapter 55 authorizes the Baxter State Park Authority to convey the State's interest in the Austin Cary Lot in the Town of Harpswell subject to certain restrictions. The law provides that all money received from the sale of the lot must be deposited into the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands, Public Reserved Lands Acquisition Fund rather than entrusting the funds to Baxter State Park.

The resolve requires the Baxter State Park Director to notify owners of property on Long Reach Lane in the Town of Harpswell abutting the Austin Cary Lot and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over parks and lands matters at least 14 days in advance of any public meeting at which the Baxter State Park Authority will consider a proposed conveyance of the Austin Cary Lot. It also provides that a member of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over parks and lands matters who receives notification may notify the Baxter State Park Director of concerns and may in writing request review of the proposed conveyance by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over parks and lands matters. When a request for legislative review is received, the director may not finalize the

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conveyance until the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over parks and lands matters has held a public meeting to review the proposed conveyance.

Resolve 2025, chapter 55 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective June 9, 2025.

**LD 1771 An Act to Strengthen Oversight of Kennels by Changing the Licensing Authority from Municipalities to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 414 moves the responsibility for the issuance of kennel licenses from municipalities to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. The law enacts criteria regarding the department's authority to refuse to issue or renew, suspend or revoke a facility license for an animal shelter, kennel, boarding kennel, breeding kennel or pet shop. The law also updates certain definitions, licensing and recording fees and cross-references related to facility licensing.

The law clarifies that kennel licensees are not required to pay individual dog licensing fees and allows a humane agent to conduct an inspection of a kennel without an animal control officer, if the municipality does not have an animal control officer, as determined by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by rule. The law requires a municipality to pay for the cost of an inspection if a humane agent conducts the inspection.

Finally, Public Law 2025, chapter 414 requires the department to provide annual reports, no later than January 15th in 2026, 2027 and 2028, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over animal welfare matters on the transfer of the issuance of kennel licenses from municipalities to the department. The joint standing committee may submit legislation relating to the subject matter of the report to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature, to the 133rd Legislature in 2027 and to the Second Regular Session of the 133<sup>rd</sup> Legislature.

**LD 1920 An Act to Prohibit the Sale of Potentially Intoxicating Hemp Products to a Person under 21 Years of Age**

**ENACTED LAW SUMMARY**

Public Law 2025, chapter 416 prohibits the sale of potentially intoxicating hemp products to a person who has not attained 21 years of age. The law establishes requirements for the packaging of hemp products, including the requirement that all potentially intoxicating hemp products that are not beverages, salves or topical products be packaged in child-resistant and tamper-evident packaging. The law also provides that all hemp products are subject to the requirement that the product not be labeled or packaged in a manner that violates federal trademark law and not be designed in such a way that would cause a person to confuse the product with a different trademarked product.