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 AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

August 2025

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JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

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 133rd 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.