

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from electronic originals
(may include minor formatting differences from printed original)

STATE OF MAINE
132ND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Disposition of bills and summaries of all laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY**

May 2026

STAFF:

JANET STOCCO, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
ELIAS MURPHY, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS
13 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1670
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla>

MEMBERS:

SEN. ANNE M. CARNEY, CHAIR
SEN. RACHEL TALBOT ROSS
SEN. DAVID G. HAGGAN

REP. AMY D. KUHN, CHAIR
REP. ADAM R. LEE
REP. DAVID A. SINCLAIR
REP. ELEANOR Y. SATO
REP. DYLAN R. PUGH
REP. DANI L. O'HALLORAN
REP. JENNIFER L. POIRIER
REP. RACHEL A. HENDERSON
REP. ELIZABETH M. CARUSO
REP. MARK MICHAEL BABIN
REP. AARON M. DANA

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY**

by the Governor. The legislation was recalled from the Governor during the Second Regular Session and further amended before being finally passed as Resolve 2025, chapter 146.

Resolve 2025, chapter 146 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective March 22, 2026.

LD 1971 An Act to Protect Workers in This State by Clarifying the Relationship of State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies with Federal Immigration Authorities

Public Law 2025, chapter 517 generally prohibits a state or local law enforcement agency from using agency funds or personnel to stop, investigate, interrogate, arrest or detain a person for immigration enforcement purposes, including in response to a hold request, immigration detainer or administrative warrant issued by the United States Department of Homeland Security. It also provides immunity from civil and criminal liability to a state or local law enforcement agency that acts in good faith compliance with this law in releasing a person subject to a hold request. If a state or local law enforcement agency receives a hold request, immigration detainer or administrative warrant for a person in the agency's custody, it must provide a copy of the request to the person, inform the person that the agency is prohibited from detaining the person based solely on the hold request and make reasonable efforts to retain a copy of the hold request for four years. The law also prohibits a state or local law enforcement agency from sharing with an immigration authority certain personal information or nonpublic release date information about a person; transferring a person to an immigration authority unless authorized by a court order or criminal warrant; placing a law enforcement officer under the supervision of a federal agency for immigration enforcement purposes; and using immigration authority employees as interpreters for persons in the agency's custody.

Public Law 2025, chapter 517 does not prohibit communication between law enforcement agencies and immigration authorities as provided by 8 United States Code, Sections 1373 and 1644. In addition, the law may not be interpreted to prohibit a state or local law enforcement agency from investigating, arresting or detaining a person pursuant to state or federal criminal law, including for immigration crimes detected during an unrelated law enforcement activity; conducting investigative and enforcement duties as part of a joint law enforcement task force as long as the primary purpose of the task force is not immigration enforcement and is instead related to a violation of state or federal law, including terrorism, drug trafficking or human trafficking; or permitting an immigration authority to interview an individual in the custody of the law enforcement agency when the immigration authority's interview request is supported by a valid court order. If an immigration authority seeks to interview a person in the custody of a state or local law enforcement agency regarding a civil immigration violation, the agency must notify the person that participation in the interview is voluntary and that the person may choose to have an attorney present.

Public Law 2025, chapter 517 was finally enacted in both the House and the Senate prior to the adjournment sine die of the First Special Session in 2025 but was not signed by the Governor. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Public Law 2025, chapter 517 became law without the Governor's signature on January 11, 2026.