

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
132ND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

May 2026

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**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

LD 2130 An Act to Support Employment Opportunities for Military Spouses

Public Law 2025, chapter 634 requires an employing agency, in filling a position in the classified service, to offer an interview to the spouse of an eligible service member, which is defined as a person who is serving on active duty in the United States Armed Forces including the Reserves of the United States Armed Forces and the National Guard and a person actively serving in the Reserves of the United States Armed Forces or the National Guard if that spouse meets the minimum qualifications established for the position. The law also requires an employer, in any reduction in personnel in the state service, to retain the spouse of an eligible service member in preference to all other competing employees in the same classification with equal seniority, status and performance reviews.

LD 2135 An Act to Provide Funding to Keep Maine Veterans Housed

Public Law 2025, chapter 636 establishes the Veterans' Housing Provider Incentive Program and the Veterans' Housing Provider Incentive Fund within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services. The purpose of the fund is to receive funds from state, federal and other sources for the purpose of awarding grants to tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations who have as a core program supporting permanent housing for veteran populations. Grant funding may be used by the organization for housing provider incentives, risk mitigation payments and past rental debt payments for veterans experiencing homelessness. The bureau may adopt routine technical rules related to the awarding of grants.

The law also requires the bureau to submit a report regarding grants issued and the use of grant funding by organizations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over veterans' affairs by February 15, 2027, and in any year in which a grant is issued.

Public Law 2025, chapter 636 also provides a one-time transfer of \$90,000 from the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit, Sports Wagering program to the Veterans' Housing Provider Incentive Fund.

LD 2155 An Act to Exempt, for Licenses Issued Prior to December 21, 2025, Persons Holding a Majority Ownership Interest from the Restriction on the Number of Manufacturing Facility Licenses and On-premises Retail Licenses

Public Law 2025, chapter 772 prohibits the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations, within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services from suspending, revoking or refusing to renew a manufacturing facility license or an on-premises retail license issued to a manufacturing facility licensee prior to December 21, 2025 solely on the basis that the person or persons holding a majority ownership interest in the licensed manufacturing facility was determined by the bureau after the license was initially issued to hold a majority ownership interest in more than the allowable number of on-premises retail licenses. The law also prohibits the sale, transfer or other conveyance of those licenses.