

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
JUDICIARY**

May 2026

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LD 2126 An Act to Eliminate the Juvenile Crime of Willful Refusal to Pay a Fine or Comply with the Terms of a Court Order

Public Law 2025, chapter 551 repeals the provision of law establishing the juvenile crime of willful refusal to pay a fine imposed by court order or willful failure to comply with the terms of any other court order.

LD 2142 An Act to Establish Guidance for Awarding General Spousal Support

Public Law 2025, chapter 571 makes the following changes to the laws governing the award of general spousal support.

1. It establishes that general spousal support may be awarded if the duration of the marriage is sufficient that equity requires compensating a spouse with significantly lower income capacity for a portion of the anticipated decrease in standard of living that spouse will experience after the divorce and to allocate equitably between spouses of a marriage of significant duration any financial losses that will be incurred due to the divorce.
2. It establishes rebuttable presumptions that, if the parties have been married for at least 10 years, a spouse whose spousal support income is less than or equal to 65% of the other spouse's spousal support income is entitled to an award of general spousal support; that the award must be for an indefinite period if the parties were married for more than 20 years; and that the amount of spousal support must be calculated by multiplying the difference in the parties' spousal support income by a statutory durational factor based on the number of the years of the marriage. For purposes of these presumptions, spousal support income is calculated using the calculation of "gross income" under the child support statutes, regardless of whether there are any children of the marriage. This "gross income" must then be adjusted to reflect the amount that each spouse is determined or obligated to spend in support of the children of the marriage, if any, as reflected on the child support worksheet.
3. It provides that a court shall make written findings if it determines, based on the factors set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 19-A, section 951-A, subsection 5, that application of a rebuttable presumption would be inequitable or unjust in a particular case. It also amends that list of factors to require a court to consider the tax consequences resulting from the division of the marital property, not just from the sale of the marital home, and whether the spousal support incomes of the parties are sufficiently low or high that application of the presumptive spousal support award would be inequitable or unjust.
4. It authorizes a court to enter a separate spousal support award that will take effect upon expiration of a child support obligation that is expected to expire within three years of a final judgment awarding general support.

Public Law 2025, chapter 571 applies to all actions pending on or after January 1, 2027; however, the rebuttable presumption establishing the method for calculating the amount of general spousal support does not apply to a motion to modify an award of general spousal support issued prior to

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January 1, 2027 unless the court first finds that a party has established a substantial change in financial circumstances justifying a modification of the award.

LD 2150 An Act to Enhance Notice to Individuals Whose Access to State Property Has Been Restricted

Public Law 2025, chapter 775 clarifies that a notice or communication that restricts a person from accessing state property or services constitutes final agency action for the purposes of review under the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, except that the restriction of access by an entity of the State does not apply to the Department of Corrections with respect to placing restrictions on a resident of a department facility as defined under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 34-A, section 3015, subsection 1.

The law requires the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police to collect data on such notices or communications issued and to submit a report regarding that data and the implementation of the law to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters no later than January 15, 2028. The joint standing committee is authorized to report out legislation based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 133rd Legislature.

LD 2163 An Act to Enhance Crime Victims' Rights

Public Law 2025, chapter 695 amends the laws governing the rights of crime victims in the following ways.

1. It provides that a victim has a right to be notified of the filing, scheduling and outcome of an appeal of a decision of a court about a crime against that victim.
2. It provides that a victim has the right to receive timely notice of and have an opportunity to be heard at any hearing or court proceeding concerning a subpoena issued to a third party for any record that implicates a privilege or a confidentiality or privacy protection for the benefit of the victim as described in Rule 17A(f) of the Maine Rules of Unified Criminal Procedure, including the victim's medical records, mental health counseling or treatment records, educational records or electronic device content or location information.
3. It provides that, in any court proceeding in a criminal case in which a victim has a right to be heard, the victim may retain an attorney to speak on the victim's behalf or may elect to have a victim witness advocate or coordinator speak on the victim's behalf.

LD 2168 An Act to Increase Accountability for Persons Engaged in Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking and to Support Victims

Public Law 2025, chapter 696 provides that a person who committed a crime that caused or contributed to the injury or death for which compensation is sought may receive funds from the