

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
132<sup>ND</sup> LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

May 2026

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**STAFF:**

SAMUEL SENFT, LEGISLATIVE ANALYST  
ANNA BROOME, PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
OFFICE OF POLICY AND LEGAL ANALYSIS  
13 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207) 287-1670  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/opla>

\*Committee member for a portion of the session

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
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jurisdiction over health and human services matters and the committee is authorized to report out legislation related to the report.

Resolve 2025, chapter 157 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective April 13, 2026.

**LD 2134 An Act to Create an Exception to the Prohibition of Tobacco Sales in Retail Establishments Containing Pharmacies for Certain Small Grocery Stores**

Public Law 2025, chapter 580 creates an exception to the provision of law that prohibits a retail establishment that contains a pharmacy from obtaining a retail tobacco license. A grocery store containing a pharmacy remains eligible for a retail tobacco license if the store has no more than 26,000 square feet of customer-accessible sales area; the pharmacy was established in the grocery store at that location prior to July 7, 2025 and is independently licensed and operates in a separately leased space; all tobacco sales are made from the grocery store's independent inventory and point-of-sale system; and the grocery store complies with all other requirements under the provisions governing retail tobacco licenses. The law also removes references to the sale of tobacco through vending machines or the practice of giving away tobacco products in the course of trade, both of which were made illegal by Public Law 2025, chapter 367.

Public Law 2025, chapter 580 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 19, 2026.

**LD 2136 An Act to Support Victims of Trafficking in Maine in Response to Federal Funding Cuts**

Public Law 2025, chapter 701 provides one-time funding to support the Preble Street anti-trafficking services program to replace delayed federal funding.

**LD 2144 Resolve, to Establish the Working Group to Prioritize Wellness and Mental Health Resources for Heritage Industries**

Resolve 2025, chapter 147 creates the Working Group to Prioritize Wellness and Mental Health Resources for Heritage Industries, which is directed to review existing health and wellness resources available to individuals in Maine's heritage industries; consider the specific challenges for individuals with serious brain disorders and traumatic brain injuries working in heritage industries; identify gaps in the provision of services and barriers to accessing existing resources; identify issues facing migrant workers; examine successful models from other states and jurisdictions; develop recommendations for establishing sustainable funding mechanisms and service delivery models; and explore opportunities for public education to reduce stigma around mental health issues and increase awareness of mental health services. The resolve requires the working group to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over agriculture, conservation and forestry matters, marine resources matters and health and human services matters by December 1, 2026

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

and authorizes each committee to submit legislation related to the report to the 133rd Legislature in 2027.

**LD 2154 An Act to Establish the Health Information Technology Fund to Support a State-designated Statewide Health Information Exchange**

Public Law 2025, chapter 732 establishes the Health Information Technology Fund within the Department of Health and Human Services to support the operation and sustainability of a state-designated statewide health information exchange and to meet the State's matching fund requirements to obtain available federal funding for that purpose. The fund is nonlapsing and consists of money appropriated or allocated by the Legislature, federal funds, grants, gifts and other funds from public or private sources. The law provides one-time funding of \$350,000 in fiscal year 2026-27 from the Administration - Attorney General, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of the Attorney General from funds received from settlement agreements to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.

**LD 2177 An Act to Update and Improve the MaineCare Reimbursement System**

Public Law 2025, chapter 664 updates certain definitions and rule-making requirements related to the establishment of a MaineCare payment model and the determination of MaineCare reimbursements for covered services.