

Weekly **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

From Robert B. Hunt, Clerk of the House - State House, Augusta, Maine

Volume LI

Friday, April 25, 2025

No. 14

132nd LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
BILLS ENACTED

Public Laws

Signed by the Governor
Friday, April 18, 2025

Ch. 27 - An Act to Amend the Hunting Laws Related to the Training of Dogs and Open Training Seasons. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 493, L.D. 751)

Ch. 28 - An Act Regarding the Emptying of Elver Fyke Nets. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 523, L.D. 816)

Ch. 29 - An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Commercial Large Game Shooting Area License Transfer Process. (H.P. 4, L.D. 40)

Ch. 30 - An Act to Establish the Respite for ME Program. (H.P. 448, L.D. 709)

Became law without the Governor's Signature
Sunday, April 20, 2025

Ch. 31 - An Act to Designate the Spring Peeper as the Official State Amphibian. (H.P. 36, L.D. 72)

Ch. 32 - An Act to Designate the Wood Turtle as the Official State Reptile. (H.P. 37, L.D. 73)

Signed by the Governor
Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Ch. 33 - An Act to Increase Storm Preparedness for Maine's Communities, Homes and Infrastructure. (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 29, L.D. 1) (Governor's Bill)

Ch. 34 - An Act to Clarify the Law Regarding Prior Authorization for Air Ambulances. (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 14, L.D. 5)

Ch. 35 - An Act to Protect Maine Consumers by Prohibiting Fees Charged for Receiving Paper Statements from Financial Institutions and Credit Card Issuers. (S.P. 261, L.D. 580)

Ch. 36 - An Act Concerning the Restoration of Electricity During Emergencies for Certain Medically Vulnerable Individuals Who Rely on Electronic Medical Apparatuses. (H.P. 401, L.D. 633)

Ch. 37 - An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program. (H.P. 495, L.D. 765)

Ch. 38 - An Act to Expand Municipal Authority over Utility Pole Permits. (H.P. 559, L.D. 873)

Ch. 39 - An Act to Update the Solar Energy Development Reporting Date Deadline. (S.P. 395, L.D. 906)

Became law without the Governor's Signature
Wednesday, April 23, 2025

Ch. 40 - An Act to Address the Limited Availability of Counsel in Courts to Represent Indigent Parties in Matters Affecting Their Fundamental Rights. (S.P. 462, L.D. 1101)

Private and Special Laws

Signed by the Governor
Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Ch. 2 - An Act to Increase the Debt Limit of the Boothbay Region Water District. (H.P. 193, L.D. 293)

Resolves

Signed by the Governor
Friday, April 18, 2025

Ch. 17 - Resolve, to Honor Scarborough Veterans by Renaming the Pine Point Crossing Bridge the Scarborough Veterans Memorial Bridge. (H.P. 548, L.D. 862)

Ch. 18 - Resolve, to Rename a Bridge in the Town of Waterboro the Waterboro Veterans Memorial Bridge. (H.P. 385, L.D. 617)

(Chaptered copies of the above measures may be obtained from the Engrossing Department, Room 106, State House, 7 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0007, Ph. 207-287-1324.)

BILLS PRINTED AS OF FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025**L.D. 1729, S.P. 675**

An Act to Increase the Rate of Reimbursement to Municipalities for Revenue Lost as a Result of the Maine Resident Homestead Property Tax Exemption. (Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford)

L.D. 1730, S.P. 676

An Act Regarding the Beneficial Electrification Policy of the State. (Presented by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock)

L.D. 1731, S.P. 677

An Act to Increase the Influence of the Maine State Ferry Advisory Board on the Funding and Operations of the Maine State Ferry Service. (Presented by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock)

L.D. 1732, S.P. 678

An Act to Allow a Municipality to Waive the Excise Tax on an Antique Automobile Owned by a Person 65 Years of Age or Older. (Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford)

L.D. 1733, S.P. 679

An Act to Provide Reduced Interest Rates for Logging and Fishing Operations. (Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford)

L.D. 1734, S.P. 680

An Act to Exempt Over-the-counter Medicines from the Sales and Use Tax. (Presented by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland)

L.D. 1735, S.P. 681

An Act to Provide an Income Tax Deduction for Certain Contributions to a Qualified Achieving a Better Life Experience Program Account. (Presented by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot)

L.D. 1736, S.P. 682

An Act to Increase the Supply of Child Care Services Through the Use of Contracts. (Presented by Senator RENY of Lincoln)

L.D. 1737, S.P. 683

An Act to Ensure the Future of Maine's Sporting Camp Heritage. (Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook)

L.D. 1738, H.P. 1156

An Act to Establish the Biohazard Waste Disposal Grant Program to Support Public Health Efforts in the State. (Presented by Representative RANA of Bangor)

L.D. 1739, H.P. 1157

An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Support Maine's Agricultural Sector, to Create an Agricultural Buildings Property Tax Exemption and to Direct the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Study Barriers to Its Financial Assistance Programs and Study the Potential for a Common Application for Those Programs. (Presented by Representative PLUECKER of Warren)

L.D. 1740, H.P. 1158

An Act to Establish the Maine Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics Matching Grant Program. (Presented by Representative SAYRE of Kennebunk)

L.D. 1741, H.P. 1159

An Act Regarding County Law Enforcement Administration and Rural Law Enforcement. (Presented by Representative STOVER of Boothbay)

L.D. 1742, H.P. 1160

An Act to Prohibit a State Social Media Platform Account from Restricting User Comments. (Presented by Representative BOYER of Poland)

L.D. 1743, H.P. 1161

An Act to Allow Municipalities to Prohibit Firearms Within Their Municipal Buildings and Voting Places and at Their Municipal Public Proceedings. (Presented by Representative ARFORD of Brunswick)

L.D. 1744, H.P. 1162

An Act to Modify Provisions of the State Civil Service System Governing Employee Recruitment and Retention. (Presented by Representative ROLLINS of Augusta)

L.D. 1745, H.P. 1163

An Act to Stabilize Residential Treatment Capacity for Children and Youth in Maine. (Presented by Representative GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach)

L.D. 1746, H.P. 1164

An Act to Reduce Dental Disease and Ensure Access to Essential Preventive Dental Care Among Maine Children. (Presented by Representative GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach)

L.D. 1747, H.P. 1165

An Act to Repeal and Replace the Charter of the Yarmouth Water District. (Presented by Representative BELL of Yarmouth)

L.D. 1748, H.P. 1166

An Act to Enhance Businesses' Understanding of Labor Standards and Grow Maine's Energy Economy Through a Training Program. (Presented by Representative BECK of South Portland)

L.D. 1749, H.P. 1167

Resolve, Directing the Department of Corrections to Study Achieving Gender Equality. (Presented by Representative MACIAS of Topsham)

L.D. 1750, H.P. 1168

An Act to Require the Attorney General to Create and Update Biennially a Model Residential Lease. (Presented by Representative BOYER of Poland)

L.D. 1751, H.P. 1169

An Act to Improve the Growth Management Program Laws. (Presented by Representative ROBERTS of South Berwick)

L.D. 1752, H.P. 1170

An Act to Exempt Broadband Equipment from Sales and Use Tax. (Presented by Representative DUCHARME of Madison)

L.D. 1753, H.P. 1171

An Act to Establish the Upper St. John Valley Recovery High School Program. (Presented by Representative DAIGLE of Fort Kent)

L.D. 1754, H.P. 1172

An Act to Provide for the Direct Shipment of Spirits to Consumers. (Presented by Representative CLOUTIER of Lewiston)

L.D. 1755, H.P. 1173

An Act to Increase the Maine Historic Property Rehabilitation Tax Credit in Rural Areas. (Presented by Representative SUPICA of Bangor)

L.D. 1756, H.P. 1174

An Act to Establish a Statewide Transportation Project Selection Prioritization Process. (Presented by Representative LEE of Auburn)

L.D. 1757, H.P. 1175

An Act to Update the Laws Governing Osteopathic Physician Licensing. (Presented by Representative MATHIESON of Kittery)

L.D. 1758, H.P. 1176

An Act to Expedite Provider Enrollment in MaineCare. (Presented by Representative ARFORD of Brunswick)

L.D. 1759, H.P. 1177

An Act to Allow Firefighters to Be Eligible for State College Funding. (Presented by Representative HYMES of Waldo)

L.D. 1760, H.P. 1178

An Act to Promote Public Education in Maine by Amending the Laws Governing Student Transfers. (Presented by Representative HAGGAN of Hampden)

L.D. 1761, H.P. 1179

An Act to Prohibit Indemnification Agreements. (Presented by Representative MORRIS of Turner)

L.D. 1762, H.P. 1180

An Act to Protect Recreational Trails by Establishing the Trails for the Future Program. (Presented by Representative BLIER of Buxton)

L.D. 1763, H.P. 1182

An Act to Regulate Nonwater-dependent Floating Structures on Maine's Waters. (Presented by Representative HEPLER of Woolwich)

L.D. 1764, H.P. 1183

An Act to Ensure Equitable Staffing Ratios Across the State for Career and Technical Education Programs in Areas with Smaller Student Populations. (Presented by Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford)

L.D. 1765, H.P. 1184

An Act to Ensure Affordability and Stability in Housing for Mobile Home Park Residents. (Presented by Representative JULIA of Waterville)

L.D. 1766, S.P. 684

An Act to Incorporate Probate Judges into the Maine Judicial Branch. (Presented by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland)

L.D. 1767, S.P. 685

An Act to Amend the Waldo County Budget Adoption Process and Allow Residents Who Are Not Municipal Officers to Serve on the Waldo County Budget Committee. (Presented by Senator CURRY of Waldo)

L.D. 1768, S.P. 686

An Act to Protect Residents of Mobile Home Parks by Amending the Real Estate Transfer Tax. (Presented by Senator BAILEY of York)

L.D. 1769, S.P. 687

An Act to Ensure Data Reporting for Temporary Nurse Agencies. (Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot)

L.D. 1770, S.P. 688

An Act to Provide Immediate and Long-term Property Tax Relief to Maine Households. (EMERGENCY) (Presented by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland)

L.D. 1771, S.P. 689

An Act to Strengthen Oversight of Kennels by Changing the Licensing Authority from Municipalities to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. (Presented by Senator BAILEY of York)

L.D. 1772, S.P. 690

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission to Design a Plan for Sustained Investment in Preventing Disease and Improving the Health of Maine Communities. (Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford)

L.D. 1773, S.P. 691

An Act to Criminalize Certain Offenses Related to Gift Card Thefts. (Presented by Senator HARRINGTON of York)

L.D. 1774, S.P. 692

An Act to Protect Domestic Workers. (Presented by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland)

L.D. 1775, H.P. 1186

An Act to Authorize the Issuance of a Revenue Bond to Upgrade County Jails to Meet the Corrections Needs of Maine's Counties. (Presented by Representative DUCHARME of Madison)

L.D. 1776, H.P. 1187

An Act to Establish the Interdisciplinary Advisory Board for the State House Complex. (Presented by Representative MONTELL of Gardiner)

L.D. 1777, H.P. 1188

An Act to Clarify Tariff Rates for Nonresidential Customers Participating in Net Energy Billing with a Distributed Generation Resource. (Presented by Representative WARREN of Scarborough)

L.D. 1778, H.P. 1189

An Act to Update Provisions of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act. (Presented by Representative KUHN of Falmouth)

L.D. 1779, H.P. 1190

An Act to Make the Possession of Under 2 Grams of Certain Schedule W Drugs a Class D Crime. (Presented by Representative CRAFTS of Newcastle)

L.D. 1780, H.P. 1191

An Act to Secure Under Authority of a Subpoena Pretrial Statements from a Witness Other than the Defendant in a Criminal Proceeding. (Presented by Representative SINCLAIR of Bath)

L.D. 1781, H.P. 1192

An Act to Exempt from the Gasoline Tax Act Ethanol-free Gasoline Used by Vehicles Off-road. (Presented by Representative ARDELL of Monticello)

L.D. 1782, H.P. 1193

An Act Regarding Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Planning and the Juniper Ridge Landfill in the City of Old Town. (EMERGENCY) (Presented by Representative DILL of Old Town)

L.D. 1783, H.P. 1194

An Act to Clarify Municipal Affordable Housing Tax Increment Financing. (Presented by Representative SALISBURY of Westbrook)

L.D. 1784, H.P. 1195

An Act to Require Police Departments to Publish and Make Accessible Their Policies and Procedures and Require Training of Officers. (Presented by Representative WARREN of Scarborough)

L.D. 1785, H.P. 1196

An Act to Encourage Competition by Requiring Independent Health Care Provider Cost-of-living Adjustments in Health Insurance Contracts. (Presented by Representative BOYER of Cape Elizabeth)

L.D. 1786, H.P. 1197

An Act to Require the Department of Environmental Protection to Provide Certain Information Regarding Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances to the Public and Private Drinking Water Well Owners. (Presented by Representative ARFORD of Brunswick)

L.D. 1787, H.P. 1198

An Act to Strengthen the Maine Clean Election Act. (Presented by Representative GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach)

L.D. 1788, H.P. 1199

An Act to Strengthen the Freedom of Access Act by Categorizing Commercial Requesters. (Presented by Representative HENDERSON of Rumford)

L.D. 1789, H.P. 1200

An Act to Amend the Education and Experience Requirements and Add Reciprocity Privileges in the Certified Public Accountancy Licensure Laws. (Presented by Representative ROBERTS of South Berwick)

L.D. 1790, H.P. 1201

An Act Regarding Lobster Measurement. (Presented by Representative FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor)

L.D. 1791, H.P. 1202

Resolve, to Direct State Agencies to Implement the Social Security Fairness Act. (EMERGENCY) (Presented by Representative FREDETTE of Newport)

L.D. 1792, S.P. 694

An Act Regarding the Energy Policy of the State. (Presented by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock)

L.D. 1793, S.P. 695

An Act to Improve Management and Reduce the Volume of Solid Waste. (Presented by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock)

L.D. 1794, S.P. 696

An Act to Provide Protection from Unfair Parking Tickets on Lots Accessible to the Public. (Presented by Senator NANGLE of Cumberland)

L.D. 1795, S.P. 697

An Act to Change the Calculation for Municipal Service Charges for Tax-exempt Organizations. (Presented by Senator MOORE of Washington)

L.D. 1796, S.P. 698

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services to Clarify the Types of Cases for Which the Commission Is Responsible for Providing Counsel. (Submitted by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 4, section 1804, subsection 3, paragraph H.)

L.D. 1797, H.P. 1203

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Right to Know Advisory Committee Concerning Denials of Public Records Requests. (Submitted by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 411, subsection 6, paragraph G.)

L.D. 1798, S.P. 699

An Act to Increase Revenue Sharing and to Control Property Taxes. (Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot)

L.D. 1799, H.P. 1204

Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Review the Progressive Treatment Program and Processes by Which a Person May Be Involuntarily Admitted to a Psychiatric Hospital or Receive Court-ordered Community Treatment. (Presented by Representative DEBRITO of Waterville)

L.D. 1800, H.P. 1205

An Act to Prohibit Health Care Entities Providing Dental Plans from Requiring Dentists to Charge Fees for Uncovered Services. (Presented by Representative MASTRACCIO of Sanford)

(Copies of the Bills may be obtained from the Document Room, First Floor, State House, Augusta, Maine 04333-0002 - Ph: 207-287-1408. Bill text, bill status and roll call information are available on the Internet at <http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/search.asp>. The Weekly Legislative Report is also available on the Internet at the House home page at <http://legislature.maine.gov/house/house/> under the "Documents" tab.)

Michelle Dunphy
Assistant Clerk of the House