

Weekly **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

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

Volume LI

Monday, May 5, 2025

No. 15

132nd LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

BILLS ENACTED

Public Laws

Signed by the Governor
Friday, April 25, 2025

Ch. 41 - An Act to Provide an Exception to a Fishing Prohibition near the Crooked Brook Dam. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 11, L.D. 47)

Ch. 42 - An Act to Eliminate Miscarriage Reporting Requirements. (H.P. 59, L.D. 94)

Ch. 43 - An Act to Repeal the Sunday Amateur Sports Law, the Law Allowing Municipalities to Permit the Operation of Movie Theaters on Sundays and the Law Imposing a Fine or Imprisonment for Playing Games and Sports with Admission Charges on Memorial Day. (H.P. 237, L.D. 337)

Ch. 44 - An Act to Support Removal of Overboard Discharge Systems. (H.P. 255, L.D. 401)

Ch. 45 - An Act to Use Certain Regional Transmission Organization Payments for Beneficial Electrification to Reduce Electricity Rates. (S.P. 268, L.D. 585)

Ch. 46 - An Act to Ensure That the Exemption of Certain Agricultural Buildings from the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code Includes Maple Sugarhouses. (H.P. 371, L.D. 603)

Ch. 48 - An Act to Amend the Membership of the State Employee Health Commission and Make Referential Changes to the Office of Employee Health, Wellness and Workers' Compensation. (H.P. 446, L.D. 707)

Ch. 49 - An Act to Allow for Rescission of a Site Location of Development Permit When a Development Is Decommissioned. (H.P. 447, L.D. 708)

Ch. 50 - An Act to Clarify the Process to Transfer Funds Resulting from the Expiration of Unused Kilowatt-hour Credits to Be Used to Provide Assistance to Low-income Electricity Customers. (S.P. 394, L.D. 905)

Ch. 51 - An Act to Require the Issuance of Maine Agricultural Fair Licenses Every 4 Years. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 597, L.D. 932)

Ch. 53 - An Act to Amend the Provisions of the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 Governing Requirements for Self-insurers. (S.P. 484, L.D. 1195)

Ch. 54 - An Act to Align the Schedules for Climate Change Protection Plans and Grid-enhancing Technology Reviews with the Integrated Grid Planning Process. (H.P. 815, L.D. 1240)

Became law without the Governor's Signature
Sunday, April 27, 2025

Ch. 55 - An Act Regarding Charges to Uninsured Patients for COVID-19 Vaccines. (H.P. 582, L.D. 917)

Ch. 56 - An Act to Designate the Seppala Siberian Sleddog as the Maine State Dog. (H.P. 44, L.D. 80)

Signed by the Governor
Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Ch. 57 - An Act to Expand the Use of the Veterans' Homelessness Prevention Partnership Fund. (S.P. 54, L.D. 126)

Signed by the Governor
Friday, May 2, 2025

Ch. 58 - An Act to Include School Counselors in the Educators for Maine Program. (H.P. 63, L.D. 98)

Ch. 59 - An Act to Establish Immunity for a Receiver Appointed by the Public Utilities Commission to Oversee the Operations of a Consumer-owned Water Utility. (H.P. 746, L.D. 1127)

Private and Special Laws

Signed by the Governor
Friday, April 25, 2025

Ch. 3 - An Act to Provide for the 2025 and 2026 Allocations of the State Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds. (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 293, L.D. 678)

Ch. 4 - An Act to Grant the Rockland Port District an Increase in Its Borrowing Capacity and Include Sustainable Aquaculture and Marine Industries in Its Charter. (H.P. 787, L.D. 1182)

Resolves

Signed by the Governor
Friday, April 25, 2025

Ch. 19 - Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 27: Standards for Timber Harvesting and Timber Harvesting Related Activities Within Unorganized and Deorganized Areas of the State, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Forestry. (H.P. 492, L.D. 750)

Ch. 20 - Resolve, to Rename a Bridge in Windham and Gorham the Little Falls Veterans Memorial Bridge. (S.P. 362, L.D. 796)

Became law without the Governor's Signature
Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Ch. 21 - Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 6: Delegation of Nursing Activities and Tasks to Unlicensed Assistive Personnel by Registered Professional Nurses, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, State Board of Nursing. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 54, L.D. 90)

Signed by the Governor
Friday, May 2, 2025

Ch. 22 - Resolve, Authorizing the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands to Convey Public Land Parcels in Lincoln Plantation and Sandy River Plantation. (S.P. 39, L.D. 24)

Ch. 23 - Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 12: Fees for Kickboxing Contests and Authorized Participants, a Major Substantive Rule of the Combat Sports Authority of Maine. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 174, L.D. 271)

Ch. 24 - Resolve, Requiring the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands to Convey Certain Real Property in the Town of Richmond. (H.P. 320, L.D. 491)

Ch. 25 - Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 2: Fees for Muay Thai Contests and Authorized Participants, a Major Substantive Rule of the Combat Sports Authority of Maine. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 175, L.D. 272)

(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, MAY 2, 2025

L.D. 1801, S.P. 700

An Act to Make Technical Changes to the Laws Governing the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services. (Submitted by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 4, section 1804, subsection 3, paragraph H.)

L.D. 1802, S.P. 701

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services to Clarify When an Indigent Criminal Defendant Is Entitled to Counsel at State Expense. (Submitted by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 4, section 1804, subsection 3, paragraph H.)

L.D. 1803, S.P. 702

An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Optometric Practice. (Presented by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland)

L.D. 1804, S.P. 704

An Act Concerning Funding and Oversight of Transportation Matters. (Presented by Senator FARRIN of Somerset)

L.D. 1805, S.P. 705

An Act to Establish a Post-conviction Review Process for Crimes Committed by Victims of Sex Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation. (Presented by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland)

L.D. 1806, H.P. 1207

An Act to Create a Residential Rental Unit Registry. (Presented by Representative RANA of Bangor)

L.D. 1807, H.P. 1208

An Act to Expand the Sales Tax to Luxury Services and Adjust the Sales Tax on Rental Cars. (Presented by Representative SKOLD of Portland)

L.D. 1808, H.P. 1209

An Act to Enact the Maine Climate Superfund Act. (Presented by Representative LOOKNER of Portland)

L.D. 1809, H.P. 1210

An Act to Further Stabilize Highway Fund Revenue. (Presented by Representative ANKELES of Brunswick)

L.D. 1810, H.P. 1211

An Act to Formalize a Process for Reviewing the Conduct of Judges and Justices. (Presented by Representative LEE of Auburn)

L.D. 1811, H.P. 1212

An Act Regarding the Submission of Documents for Protection from Abuse and Protection from Harassment Cases. (Presented by Representative STOVER of Boothbay)

L.D. 1812, H.P. 1213

An Act to Provide Low-interest Loans for Accredited College Graduates Entering Trade Professions and an Employer Tax Credit for Trade Tool Reimbursements. (Presented by Representative WHITE of Ellsworth)

L.D. 1813, H.P. 1214

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

L.D. 1814, S.P. 708

An Act to Increase Transparency in State Government by Amending Laws Regarding Persons Attempting to Influence the Competitive Bidding Process and Lobbyist Reporting During Rule-making Processes. (Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec)

L.D. 1815, S.P. 703

An Act to Require a Blood Test for Drugs for Drivers Involved in a Motor Vehicle Accident That Results in Serious Bodily Injury or Death. (Presented by Senator CYRWAY of Kennebec)

L.D. 1816, S.P. 707

An Act to Establish a Statewide Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Kit Tracking System and Conduct an Inventory of Existing Forensic Examination Kits in the Possession of Law Enforcement. (EMERGENCY) (Presented by Senator DUSON of Cumberland)

L.D. 1817, S.P. 709

An Act to Implement the Recommendation of the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services to Eliminate the Crime of Violation of Condition of Release. (Submitted by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 4, section 1804, subsection 3, paragraph H.)

L.D. 1818, H.P. 1216

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Limit Taxes, Spending or Debt Without Approval by the Voters. (Presented by Representative FOSTER of Dexter)

L.D. 1819, H.P. 1217

An Act Regarding the Brunswick Naval Air Station Job Increment Financing Fund. (Presented by Representative ANKELES of Brunswick)

L.D. 1820, H.P. 1218

An Act to Simplify Regulation of the Adult Use Cannabis Industry. (Presented by Representative CHAPMAN of Auburn)

L.D. 1821, H.P. 1219

An Act to Ensure Responsible Business Practices by Licensed Firearms Dealers. (Presented by Representative KUHN of Falmouth)

L.D. 1822, H.P. 1220

An Act to Enact the Maine Online Data Privacy Act. (Presented by Representative KUHN of Falmouth)

L.D. 1823, S.P. 710

An Act to Promote Transparency in the Criminal Justice System by Requiring the Posting of Criminal Case Decisions. (Presented by Senator HARRINGTON of York)

L.D. 1824, S.P. 711

An Act to Prohibit the Public Release of Information Regarding a Railroad Fatality. (Presented by Senator RAFFERTY of York)

L.D. 1825, S.P. 712

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services Regarding the Confidentiality of Attorney-Client Communications in Jails and Correctional Facilities. (Submitted by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 4, section 1804, subsection 3, paragraph H.)

L.D. 1826, H.P. 1221

An Act to Protect the Confidentiality of Personally Identifiable Information in Records of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Tribal Populations. (Submitted by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 411, subsection 6, paragraph G.)

L.D. 1827, H.P. 1222

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Right to Know Advisory Committee Concerning 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. 1828, H.P. 1223

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

L.D. 1829, H.P. 1224

An Act to Build Housing for Maine Families and Attract Workers to Maine Businesses by Amending the Laws Governing Municipal Land Use Decisions. (Presented by Speaker FECTION of Biddeford)

L.D. 1830, H.P. 1225

Resolve, to Establish a Pilot Program to Protect Firefighters from Cancer. (Presented by Representative BAGSHAW of Windham)

L.D. 1831, H.P. 1226

An Act to Support Small Adult Use Cannabis Businesses by Establishing a Micro Cannabis Facility License. (Presented by Representative BOYER of Poland)

L.D. 1832, S.P. 714

An Act to Clarify Available Relief for the Protection of At-risk Children. (Presented by Senator BAILEY of York)

L.D. 1833, S.P. 715

An Act to Expand Law Education and Training by Creating a Night Law School Program. (Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot)

L.D. 1834, S.P. 716

An Act to Allow Dental Care Providers to Opt In to Receive Claim Reimbursement Payments Made by Virtual Credit Cards. (Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot)

L.D. 1835, S.P. 717

An Act to Improve Nonemergency MaineCare Transportation. (Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford)

L.D. 1836, S.P. 718

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Sex Offender Management and Risk Assessment Advisory Commission Regarding Tier II Offenses. (EMERGENCY) (Submitted by the Sex Offender Management and Risk Assessment Advisory Commission and approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.)

L.D. 1837, S.P. 720

An Act to Amend the Laws Affecting Insurance. (Presented by Senator BAILEY of York)

L.D. 1838, S.P. 721

An Act to Provide Opportunities and Sustainable Revenue for Maine Farms, Agricultural Fairs, Wabanaki Tribes and Veterans' Homes. (Presented by Senator FARRIN of Somerset)

L.D. 1839, S.P. 722

An Act to Strengthen the So-called Maine Hire-a-Vet Program. (Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec)

L.D. 1840, S.P. 723

An Act to Amend the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act. (Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec)

L.D. 1841, S.P. 724

An Act to Modify the Process of Selling Tax-acquired Properties. (Presented by Senator MOORE of Washington)

L.D. 1842, S.P. 725

An Act to Establish Stepparent Visitation Rights. (Presented by Senator ROTUNDO of Androscoggin)

L.D. 1843, H.P. 1227

An Act to Provide Peer Respite for Individuals with Mental Health Care Needs. (Presented by Representative ROEDER of Bangor)

L.D. 1844, H.P. 1228

An Act to Expand the State's Workforce by Supporting the Transition from Incarceration to Employment. (Presented by Representative SAYRE of Kennebunk)

L.D. 1845, H.P. 1229

An Act to Establish the Working Waterfront Advisory Council. (Presented by Representative RIELLY of Westbrook)

L.D. 1846, H.P. 1230

An Act to Amend the Law Governing Notification to Vehicle Owners and Lienholders When a Vehicle Is Towed or Left Without Permission on Residential or Business Property. (Presented by Representative CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham)

L.D. 1847, H.P. 1231

An Act to Institute Testing and Tracking of Medical Use Cannabis and Cannabis Products Similar to Adult Use Cannabis and Cannabis Products, Dedicate a Portion of the Adult Use Cannabis Sales and Excise Tax to Medical Use Cannabis Programs and Create a Study Group. (Presented by Representative GRAHAM of North Yarmouth)

L.D. 1848, H.P. 1232

An Act to Implement Recommendations for Improved Dam Safety. (Presented by Representative MILLIKEN of Blue Hill)

L.D. 1849, H.P. 1233

An Act to Establish a Minimum Age at Which a Juvenile May Be Adjudicated. (Presented by Representative SALISBURY of Westbrook)

L.D. 1850, H.P. 1234

An Act to Improve Interagency Coordination on Renewable Energy Construction Projects. (Presented by Representative WEBB of Durham)

L.D. 1851, H.P. 1235

An Act to Bring Parity Among the Wabanaki Nations Regarding the Generation of Revenues from Gaming. (Presented by Representative MALON of Biddeford)

L.D. 1852, H.P. 1236

An Act to Promote Equitable Property Taxation by Reducing Valuation Based on Nearby Clean Energy Projects. (Presented by Representative HYMES of Waldo)

L.D. 1853, H.P. 1237

An Act to Establish an Educational Tax Credit Program to Help Parents Pay for Nonpublic School Tuition and Fees. (Presented by Representative SWALLOW of Houlton)

L.D. 1854, H.P. 1238

An Act to Require the Board of Counseling Professionals Licensure, Board of Dental Practice, Board of Speech, Audiology and Hearing and Board of Occupational Therapy Practice to Obtain Fingerprint-based Federal Bureau of Investigation Criminal Background Checks for Initial Applicants and Licensees Seeking Compact Privileges. (Presented by Representative MATHIESON of Kittery)

L.D. 1855, H.P. 1239

An Act to Impose an Excise Tax on Spirits-based Cocktails Containing No More than 12 Percent Alcohol.
(Presented by Representative DILL of Old Town)

L.D. 1856, H.P. 1240

An Act Directing the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services to Assist Persons Filing Post-judgment Motions to Seal Criminal History Record Information. (Submitted by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary pursuant to Resolve 2023, chapter 103, section 8.)

(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