

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FOUR

—
H.P. 1454 - L.D. 2265

**An Act to Implement Recommendations Resulting from the State
Government Evaluation Act Review of the Department of Professional and
Financial Regulation**

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 2 MRSA §6, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2019, c. 343, Pt. XXX, §1, is further amended to read:

2. Range 90. The salaries of the following state officials and employees are within salary range 90:

Superintendent of Financial Institutions;

Superintendent of Consumer Credit Protection;

State Tax Assessor;

Associate Commissioner for Tax Policy, Department of Administrative and Financial Services;

Superintendent of Insurance;

Executive Director of the Maine Consumer Choice Health Plan;

Two deputy commissioners, Department of Administrative and Financial Services;

Deputy Commissioner, Department of Corrections;

Public Advocate;

Two deputy commissioners, Department of Health and Human Services;

Chief Information Officer;

Associate Commissioner, Department of Corrections;

Chief of the State Police;

Securities Administrator, Office of Securities; ~~and~~

Director, Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation; and

Deputy Commissioner, Department of Professional and Financial Regulation.

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §934, sub-§1, ¶D, as amended by PL 2001, c. 182, §2, is further amended to read:

D. Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner; and

Sec. 3. 10 MRSA §8002, first ¶, as amended by PL 2011, c. 1, Pt. AA, §1, is further amended to read:

The Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation, referred to in this chapter as the "commissioner," is the chief administrative officer of the department and is responsible for supervising the administration of the department. The commissioner is appointed by the Governor, subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over banking and insurance matters, and to confirmation by the Legislature. The commissioner serves at the pleasure of the Governor. ~~Unless~~ Except as provided in subsection 13 or unless otherwise provided in law, the commissioner may not exercise or interfere with the exercise of discretionary regulatory authority granted by statute to the bureaus, offices, boards or commissions within and affiliated with the department. As chief administrative officer of the department, the commissioner has the following duties and authority to:

Sec. 4. 10 MRSA §8002, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1995, c. 502, Pt. H, §9, is further amended to read:

2. Personnel. Except as otherwise specified, appoint and remove, subject to the Civil Service Law, all personnel considered necessary to fulfill the duties and functions of the department; appoint ~~an assistant to the~~ a deputy commissioner to serve at the commissioner's pleasure; and transfer personnel within the department to ensure efficient utilization of department personnel;

Sec. 5. 10 MRSA §8002, sub-§11, as amended by PL 2011, c. 603, §2, is further amended to read:

11. Report on fees. By December 1st of each even-numbered year, conduct a review of the fees assessed by the department and provide a written report to the State Budget Officer and the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs, insurance and financial services matters and business, research and economic development matters identifying any fee changes the commissioner recommends for the next biennium; ~~and~~

Sec. 6. 10 MRSA §8002, sub-§12, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 603, §3, is amended to read:

12. Recommend measures. Recommend legislation or other measures to the Governor and the Legislature for the purpose of assisting current and former members of the United States Armed Forces in obtaining any professional license within the provisions of the department related to their relevant training and experience from their military service; and

Sec. 7. 10 MRSA §8002, sub-§13 is enacted to read:

13. Emergency authority. When a state of emergency is declared pursuant to state or federal law, temporarily modify or suspend any continuing education requirements, license expiration dates, examination requirements, license fees or other licensing requirements as necessitated by the declared emergency. The temporary modification or

suspension may extend no more than one year beyond the date the state of emergency is declared.

Sec. 8. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION, DEPARTMENT OF

Administrative Services - Professional and Financial Regulation 0094

Initiative: Allocates ongoing funds for the costs of replacing an Assistant to the Commissioner position with a Deputy Commissioner position.

OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
Personal Services	\$0	\$19,003
All Other	\$0	\$1,411
OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$0	\$20,414