

STATE OF MAINE
130TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSIONS



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

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION,
DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND
BUSINESS**

December 2021

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RACHEL OLSON, LEGISLATIVE 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 Innovation, Development, Economic
Advancement and Business*

SUBJECT INDEX

Bonds

Enacted

LD 20 An Act To Provide for the 2021 and 2022 Allocations of the State Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds P & S 1

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Enacted

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LD 885 An Act To Promote Bulk Retail Purchasing PUBLIC 177

LD 1214 An Act To Require Vehicle Safety within the Funeral Industry PUBLIC 268

LD 1287 An Act To Allow Unlicensed Persons To Sell Caskets To Bury Human Remains PUBLIC 183

LD 1551 An Act To Ban the Sale of Cosmetics That Have Been Tested on Animals PUBLIC 160

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LD 235 An Act To Require Furniture Sellers To Accept Cancellations before Delivery ONTP

LD 239	An Act To Improve the Transparency of Real Estate Appraisals	ONTP
LD 804	An Act To Require Notice for Orthopedic Medical Device Recalls	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 862	An Act To Protect Consumer Property by Requiring Liability Insurance for Snowplow Vehicles and Vehicles Used in Landscaping or Gardening	ONTP
LD 1217	An Act To Require the Acceptance of Cash for In-person Retail Transactions	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 1615	An Act To Implement Strategies Relating to Blockchain, Cryptocurrency and Other Financial Technology	ONTP

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Not Enacted

LD 110	An Act To Clarify Prepayment Requirements in Home Construction Contracts	CARRIED OVER
LD 235	An Act To Require Furniture Sellers To Accept Cancellations before Delivery	ONTP
LD 239	An Act To Improve the Transparency of Real Estate Appraisals	ONTP
LD 804	An Act To Require Notice for Orthopedic Medical Device Recalls	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 862	An Act To Protect Consumer Property by Requiring Liability Insurance for Snowplow Vehicles and Vehicles Used in Landscaping or Gardening	ONTP
LD 913	An Act To Enact the Maine Data Collection Protection Act	CARRIED OVER

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LD 1566	Resolve, Directing the Maine Arts Commission To Create a Program for Public Art Recovery Grants	CARRIED OVER
LD 1641	Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development To Create a Program and Fund To Provide Grants To Movie and Stage Theaters and Music Venues	CARRIED OVER
LD 1650	An Act To Create the Small Business Capital Savings Account Program	Died Between Houses
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Not Enacted

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Economic Development - Research

Enacted

LD 7	An Act To Expand the Membership of the Board of Directors of the Maine International Trade Center	PUBLIC 46
LD 768	Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development and a Representative from the Office of the Governor To Study the Softwood Pulp Industry	RESOLVE 47
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Not Enacted

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Enacted

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LD 1533	An Act To Amend the Foreign Credentialing and Skills Recognition Revolving Loan Program	PUBLIC 133
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LD 273	An Act To Sustain the Doctors for Maine's Future Scholarship Program	CARRIED OVER
LD 292	An Act To Increase the Minimum Grant Amount under the Maine State Grant Program	CARRIED OVER

LD 531	An Act To Help More Students Attain a College Credential by Strengthening the Maine State Grant Program	ONTP
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LD 1297	An Act To Provide Educational Opportunities for Family Members of Deceased Veterans, First Responders and Health Care Workers	ONTP

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LD 18	An Act To Clarify the American Sign Language Interpreters Licensing Laws	PUBLIC 48
LD 149	An Act To Facilitate Licensure for Credentialed Individuals from Other Jurisdictions	PUBLIC 167
LD 171	An Act To Enable Out-of-state Certified Public Accountancy Firms To Provide Services in Maine on the Basis of Substantial Equivalency	PUBLIC 68
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LD 374 An Act To Allow Veterans, Active Duty Service Members and Their Spouses To Apply for Temporary Occupational Licenses PUBLIC 106

LD 1214 An Act To Require Vehicle Safety within the Funeral Industry PUBLIC 268

LD 1533 An Act To Amend the Foreign Credentialing and Skills Recognition Revolving Loan Program PUBLIC 133

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LD 210 An Act To Require Crane Operators To Be Licensed Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 459 An Act To Change the Licensing Authority for Tattoo Artists ONTP

LD 612 An Act To Recognize Occupational Licenses and Certifications from Other States To Attract New Residents and Businesses to Maine Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 942 An Act To Waive Professional and Occupational Licensing Fees for Calendar Year 2020 Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 992 An Act To Prevent the Denial or Revocation of a Professional or Business License for a Violation Not Related to That Profession or Business ONTP

LD 1131 An Act To Allow Reciprocity for Licensed Workers from Out of State Majority (ONTP) Report

LD 1168 An Act To License Operators of Personnel Hoists CARRIED OVER

LD 1232 An Act To Clarify Services Provided by Barbers and Master Barbers ONTP

LD An Act To Require Licensing for Certain Mechanical Trades CARRIED OVER
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Not Enacted

LD 730 An Act To Protect Economic Competitiveness in Maine by Extending CARRIED OVER
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Enacted

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LD Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community CARRIED OVER
1493 Development To Create and Administer a Fund To Provide Seasonal
and Tourism Industry Recovery Grants

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Not Enacted

LD 730 An Act To Protect Economic Competitiveness in Maine by Extending CARRIED OVER
the End Date for Pine Tree Development Zone Benefits

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1650 Program Houses

Tax Increment Financing

Enacted

LD 22 An Act To Authorize Early Payment of Anticipated Funds to the PUBLIC 18
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Workforce Development

Enacted

LD 492 An Act To Create a Regional Grant Program To Help Rural PUBLIC 420
Businesses Find Qualified Staff

LD An Act To Create the Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment PUBLIC 346
1327 Program

LD 1533 An Act To Amend the Foreign Credentialing and Skills Recognition Revolving Loan Program PUBLIC 133

Not Enacted

LD 119 An Act To Increase Faculty in Nursing Education Programs by Amending the Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program CARRIED OVER

LD 273 An Act To Sustain the Doctors for Maine's Future Scholarship Program CARRIED OVER

LD 1304 An Act To Create the Career and Technical Education Workforce Fund Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310

LD 1421 Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development To Update Its Current Priorities under the Northern Border Regional Commission's Allowable Grant Requests To Include Support of Population Growth Strategies around the State in Concert with the State's 10-year Economic Development Strategy ONTP

LD 1652 An Act To Build a Child Care System by Recruiting and Retaining Maine's Early Childhood Educators Workforce CARRIED OVER

DIGEST OF BILLS AND SUMMARIES OF ENACTED LAWS
130th Legislature, First Regular and First Special Sessions - 2021

DIGEST OF BILLS

PL = Public Law; P&SL = Private and Special Law;
 RESLV = Resolve; CON RES = Constitutional Resolution;
 IB = Initiated Bill

Bills Referred to

Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business (IDEA)

Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action	Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess
						Law	Ch	
IDEA	7	An Act To Expand the Membership of the Board of Directors of the Maine International Trade Center	Reported Out OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	46	S1
IDEA	11	An Act To Clarify the Laws Regarding Reciprocity for Licensure of Professional Engineers	Reported Out OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	47	S1
IDEA	18	An Act To Clarify the American Sign Language Interpreters Licensing Laws	Reported Out OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	48	S1
IDEA	19	An Act To Amend the Maine Education Savings Program	Reported Out OTP		Emergency Enacted	PL	17	R1
IDEA	20	An Act To Provide for the 2021 and 2022 Allocations of the State Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds	Reported Out OTP-AM/ ONTP		Emergency Enacted	P&SL	1	R1
IDEA	22	An Act To Authorize Early Payment of Anticipated Funds to the Loring Job Increment Financing Fund	Reported Out OTP-AM		Emergency Enacted	PL	18	R1
IDEA	105	An Act To Adopt the Department of Economic and Community Development's 10-year Economic Development Strategy for Maine	Reported Out ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
IDEA	110	An Act To Clarify Prepayment Requirements in Home Construction Contracts	Reported Out OTP-AM/ OTP-AM/ ONTP	Carried On Approps Table				S1
IDEA	119	An Act To Increase Faculty in Nursing Education Programs by Amending the Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program	Reported Out OTP-AM	Carried On Approps Table				S1
IDEA	126	An Act To Allow a Journeyman Electrician To Supervise Three Helper Electricians	Reported Out ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
IDEA	134	An Act To Increase the Minimum Grant Award under the Maine State Grant Program	Reported Out LTW		Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
IDEA	149	An Act To Facilitate Licensure for Credentialed Individuals from Other Jurisdictions	Reported Out OTP-AM/ OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	167	S1
IDEA	171	An Act To Enable Out-of-state Certified Public Accountancy Firms To Provide Services in Maine on the Basis of Substantial Equivalency	Reported Out OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	68	S1

DIGEST OF BILLS

130TH FIRST REGULAR AND FIRST SPECIAL SESSION - 2021

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Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business (IDEA)

Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action	Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess
						Law	Ch	
IDEA	195	Resolve, Directing the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation To Develop a Draft Registration Program for General Contractors for Home Improvement and Construction	Reported Out OTP-AM/ ONTP		Finally Passed	RESLV	76	S1
IDEA	210	An Act To Require Crane Operators To Be Licensed	Reported Out ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
IDEA	235	An Act To Require Furniture Sellers To Accept Cancellations before Delivery	Reported Out ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			R1
IDEA	239	An Act To Improve the Transparency of Real Estate Appraisals	Reported Out ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			R1
IDEA	246	Resolve, To Direct Funds to the Tourism Marketing Promotion Fund	Reported Out OTP-AM		Emergency Finally Passed	RESLV	2	R1
IDEA	273	An Act To Sustain the Doctors for Maine's Future Scholarship Program	Reported Out OTP-AM	Carried On Approps Table				S1
IDEA	292	An Act To Increase the Minimum Grant Amount under the Maine State Grant Program	Reported Out OTP-AM	Carried On Approps Table				S1
IDEA	374	An Act To Allow Veterans, Active Duty Service Members and Their Spouses To Apply for Temporary Occupational Licenses	Reported Out OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	106	S1
IDEA	459	An Act To Change the Licensing Authority for Tattoo Artists	Reported Out ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			R1
IDEA	492	An Act To Create a Regional Grant Program To Help Rural Businesses Find Qualified Staff	Reported Out OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	420	S1
IDEA	531	An Act To Help More Students Attain a College Credential by Strengthening the Maine State Grant Program	Reported Out ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			R1
IDEA	612	An Act To Recognize Occupational Licenses and Certifications from Other States To Attract New Residents and Businesses to Maine	Reported Out ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
IDEA	730	An Act To Protect Economic Competitiveness in Maine by Extending the End Date for Pine Tree Development Zone Benefits	Reported Out OTP-AM	Carried On Approps Table				S1

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Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business (IDEA)

Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action		Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess
							Law	Ch	
IDEA	768	Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development and a Representative from the Office of the Governor To Study the Softwood Pulp Industry	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Finally Passed	RESLV	47	S1
IDEA	804	An Act To Require Notice for Orthopedic Medical Device Recalls	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
IDEA	812	An Act To Provide Student Loan Debt Relief	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
IDEA	857	An Act To Create a Municipal Grant Program To Promote Sustainable Economic Development	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	319	S1
IDEA	862	An Act To Protect Consumer Property by Requiring Liability Insurance for Snowplow Vehicles and Vehicles Used in Landscaping or Gardening	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
IDEA	885	An Act To Promote Bulk Retail Purchasing	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	177	S1
IDEA	891	An Act To Eliminate or Forgive Fines and Penalties on Persons and Businesses Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
IDEA	892	An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Governor's Economic Recovery Committee	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
IDEA	913	An Act To Enact the Maine Data Collection Protection Act	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
IDEA	919	An Act To Advance Maine's Economic Growth by Investing in Innovative, Next-generation Technology and Research	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm				S1
IDEA	942	An Act To Waive Professional and Occupational Licensing Fees for Calendar Year 2020	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
IDEA	992	An Act To Prevent the Denial or Revocation of a Professional or Business License for a Violation Not Related to That Profession or Business	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
IDEA	1005	Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Study Strategies To Assist Working-class Families in Building Wealth and Achieving Upward Mobility	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ONTP	Carried Over				S1
IDEA	1087	An Act To Save Maine Businesses	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
IDEA	1131	An Act To Allow Reciprocity for Licensed Workers from Out of State	Reported Out	ONTP/OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1

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IDEA	1168	An Act To License Operators of Personnel Hoists	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm			\$1
IDEA	1214	An Act To Require Vehicle Safety within the Funeral Industry	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Enacted	PL 268	\$1
IDEA	1217	An Act To Require the Acceptance of Cash for In-person Retail Transactions	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report		\$1
IDEA	1232	An Act To Clarify Services Provided by Barbers and Master Barbers	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310		\$1
IDEA	1275	Resolve, To Prevent Economic Hardship as a Result of COVID-19 Restrictions	Reported Out	ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report		\$1
IDEA	1287	An Act To Allow Unlicensed Persons To Sell Caskets To Bury Human Remains	Reported Out	OTP-AM		Enacted	PL 183	\$1
IDEA	1297	An Act To Provide Educational Opportunities for Family Members of Deceased Veterans, First Responders and Health Care Workers	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310		\$1
IDEA	1304	An Act To Create the Career and Technical Education Workforce Fund	Reported Out	LTW		Leave to Withdraw Pursuant to Joint Rule 310		\$1
IDEA	1309	An Act To Address Systemic Racism and Improve Economic Prosperity	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310		\$1
IDEA	1327	An Act To Create the Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program	Reported Out	OTP-AM/ ONTP		Enacted	PL 346	\$1
IDEA	1421	Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development To Update Its Current Priorities under the Northern Border Regional Commission's Allowable Grant Requests To Include Support of Population Growth Strategies around the State in Concert with the State's 10-year Economic Development Strategy	Reported Out	ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310		\$1
IDEA	1476	Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development To Create and Share Measures of Progress	Reported Out	OTP-AM	Carried On Approps Table			\$1

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Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business (IDEA)

Comm	LD	Title	Comm Action	Carried over?	Final Disposition	Enacted Laws		Sess
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IDEA	1493	Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development To Create and Administer a Fund To Provide Seasonal and Tourism Industry Recovery Grants	Reported Out OTP-AM		Carried On Approps Table			S1
IDEA	1497	An Act To Expand Youth-led Perspectives in Economic and Workforce Development through the Maine Development Foundation's Realize Maine Network	Reported Out OTP-AM/ ONTP		Carried On Approps Table			S1
IDEA	1517	An Act To Establish the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute	Reported Out OTP-AM		Enacted	PL	450	S1
IDEA	1533	An Act To Amend the Foreign Credentialing and Skills Recognition Revolving Loan Program	Reported Out OTP		Enacted	PL	133	S1
IDEA	1551	An Act To Ban the Sale of Cosmetics That Have Been Tested on Animals	Reported Out OTP		Enacted	PL	160	S1
IDEA	1566	Resolve, Directing the Maine Arts Commission To Create a Program for Public Art Recovery Grants	Reported Out OTP-AM/ ONTP		Carried On Approps Table			S1
IDEA	1583	An Act To Enhance Private Property Protections Using Modern Technology	Reported Out ONTP/ OTP-AM		Accepted Majority (ONTP) Report			S1
IDEA	1615	An Act To Implement Strategies Relating to Blockchain, Cryptocurrency and Other Financial Technology	Reported Out ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
IDEA	1641	Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development To Create a Program and Fund To Provide Grants To Movie and Stage Theaters and Music Venues	Reported Out OTP-AM/ ONTP		Carried On Approps Table			S1
IDEA	1650	An Act To Create the Small Business Capital Savings Account Program	Reported Out OTP-AM/ ONTP		Died Between Houses			S1
IDEA	1652	An Act To Build a Child Care System by Recruiting and Retaining Maine's Early Childhood Educators Workforce	Reported Out OTP-AM/ ONTP		Carried Over			S1
IDEA	1655	An Act To Create a Data Broker Registry and Improve Consumer Protections	Reported Out ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			S1
IDEA	1691	An Act To Require Licensing for Certain Mechanical Trades	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm			S1
IDEA	1694	An Act To Create the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority	Carry Over Approved		Carried Over In Comm			S1

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Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business (IDEA)

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IDEA	1709	Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Examine and Develop a Program Promoting Home Ownership by Reducing Education Debt	Reported Out: OTP-AM		Finally Passed	RESLV	64	SI
IDEA	1720	An Act To Protect the Privacy of Personal Information of Maine Residents	Reported Out: ONTP		Ought Not to Pass Pursuant to Joint Rule 310			SI

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC
ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS**

**LD 7 An Act To Expand the Membership of the Board of Directors of the Maine
International Trade Center**

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 46 does the following:

1. It increases the number of elected directors on the Board of Directors of the Maine International Trade Center from seven to 11;
2. It removes the requirement that one of the five appointed directors be the International Trade Director at the Department of Economic and Community Development; and
3. It requires that the president of the Maine International Trade Center serve as an ex officio voting member of the board of directors.

**LD 11 An Act To Clarify the Laws Regarding Reciprocity for Licensure of Professional
Engineers**

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 47 clarifies that an applicant for licensure by endorsement or comity who provides proof that the applicant has been a licensed professional engineer, in good standing, in another state, territory or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia or any foreign country for a minimum of eight years and whose license qualification are, in the opinion of the State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers, substantially equivalent to the requirements in the laws governing the licensure of engineers and who has never been subject to disciplinary action as a professional engineer may be licensed as a professional engineer. It allows the board to waive additional qualifications.

LD 18 An Act To Clarify the American Sign Language Interpreters Licensing Laws

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 48 makes the following changes to the law governing the licensure of American Sign Language Interpreters.

1. It removes specific language related to the requirements of licensure from the definition of “conditional license,” since the definition already contains a reference to the section of statute that outlines those requirements.
2. It gives the Director of the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation rule-making authority related to a

ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES

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**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC
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qualifying score on an American Sign Language proficiency interview. It also provides that a score of 3+ or higher is a qualifying score until the director is able to complete the rule-making process.

3. It removes the specific names of two separate knowledge exams that are no longer being used and replaces that language with reference to the knowledge exam administered by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.

LD 19 An Act To Amend the Maine Education Savings Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 17 conforms elements of the Maine Education Savings Program to recent changes to federal law affecting so-called Section 529 plans. These changes include the following:

1. Allowing use of up to \$10,000 per beneficiary each year at a K-12 school; and
2. Allowing from a 529 to an ABLE account for the same beneficiary or family member.

The law also makes certain other needed updates to the program and makes permissive rather than mandatory the investment of program fund dollars by the Finance Authority of Maine in state-based financial institutions.

Public Law 2021, chapter 17 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 17, 2021.

LD 20 An Act To Provide for the 2021 and 2022 Allocations of the State Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 1 establishes the allocations of the state ceiling on issuance of tax-exempt private activity bonds for calendar years 2021 and 2022 among the state-level issuers of tax-exempt bonds. It readjusts the allocations of the state ceiling on issuance of tax-exempt private activity bonds for calendar year 2021 by increasing the Finance Authority of Maine's commercial allocation and reducing the unallocated state ceiling for the same period by the same amount.

Private and Special Law 2021, chapter 1 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 17, 2021.

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC
ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS**

**LD 22 An Act To Authorize Early Payment of Anticipated Funds to the Loring Job
Increment Financing Fund**

Public Law 2021, chapter 18 requires the State Tax Assessor, at the direction of the Governor or upon the recommendation of the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and the approval of the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services, to deposit into the contingent account and pay to the Loring Job Increment Financing Fund an amount not to exceed the anticipated payment amount to the fund or the amount paid the previous year, whichever is greater. It provides that any difference between the amount advanced and the amount finally determined to be due, in the event of an underpayment, must be added to the final payment, due by July 31, 2021 or, in the event of an overpayment, must be deducted from the final payment due by July 31, 2022. It repeals the temporary provision, on August 1, 2022.

Public Law 2021, chapter 18 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 17, 2021.

**LD 149 An Act To Facilitate Licensure for Credentialed Individuals from Other
Jurisdictions**

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 167 implements some of the recommendations of Resolve 2019, chapter 79, which directed the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to form a working group to assess barriers to professional licensure for skilled individuals with foreign credentials and licensees of other states who apply for Maine licensure.

The law allows the Director of the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to exercise discretionary authority, after consultation with licensing entities, to:

1. Review and determine on a case-by-case basis examination and licensing eligibility for applications for licensure submitted by individuals who identify themselves as veterans with military service, experience or training;
2. Waive examination fees and license fees for applicants for licensure who identify themselves as veterans with military service, experience or training;
3. Waive documentation requirements for licensure submitted by applicants educated in or with relevant experience or licensure in other jurisdictions, including other states, United States territories, foreign nations and foreign administrative divisions, as long as the waiver does not reduce the requisite standards of proficiency for the licensed profession or occupation; and
4. Waive examination fees and license fees for applicants for licensure educated in or with relevant experience or licensure in other jurisdictions, including other states, United States territories, foreign nations and foreign administrative divisions.

ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES

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Public Law 2021, chapter 167 also allows the office, or a licensing board or commission within the office, to grant provisional licenses to applicants educated in or with relevant experience or licensure in other jurisdictions, including other states, United States territories, foreign nations and foreign administrative divisions and grants the director rule-making authority to implement these discretionary authorities.

The law also authorizes the director to adopt rules to define the term “jurisdiction” for licensing purposes to mean a state, a United States territory, a foreign nation or a foreign administrative division that issues a license or credential. The law further authorizes the director to accept funds from the Federal Government from any political subdivision of the State or from any individual, foundation or corporation, to expend those funds for purposes consistent with the purposes of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, section 8003 and to provide grants to nongovernmental entities for purposes consistent with that statute.

Finally, it also develops a process for licensure by endorsement for United States license holders who meet certain criteria.

**LD 171 An Act To Enable Out-of-state Certified Public Accountancy Firms To Provide
Services in Maine on the Basis of Substantial Equivalency**

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 68 establishes parity in license mobility between certified public accountancy firms and individual certified public accountants by enabling out-of-state certified public accountancy firms to provide services in Maine on the basis of substantial equivalency in the same manner as individual certified public accountants. A certified public accountancy firm providing services in Maine on the basis of substantial equivalency need not provide notice or register with the Board of Accountancy but must follow the requirements of Maine law and the board’s rules. The law also exempts an out-of-state certified public accountancy firm from being required to hold a Maine license if the firm meets the firm ownership and peer review provisions outlined in Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 12252 and performs services through an individual with practice privileges under section 12232. It also adds a cross-reference to the newly added provisions in the section related to unlawful acts in the practice of public accountancy and the section related to substantial equivalency for individual certified public accountants, or CPAs. Finally, the law removes a list of services provided by individual CPAs under the substantial equivalency section and instead refers to the list of services under the definition of “attest service.”

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**LD 195 Resolve, Directing the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation To
Develop a Draft Registration Program for General Contractors for Home Improvement
and Construction**

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 76 directs the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to develop a draft registration program for general contractors for home improvement and construction. The department is required to submit the draft registration program and any proposed legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business by December 1, 2021.

LD 246 Resolve, To Direct Funds to the Tourism Marketing Promotion Fund

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 2 directs the State Controller to transfer, after the deduction of all allocations, financial commitments and other designated funds and any other transfer authorized by statute, any remaining balance in the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Tourism account, Other Special Revenue Funds, to the Tourism Marketing Promotion Fund.

Resolve 2021, chapter 2 was finally passed as an emergency measure effective March 17, 2021.

**LD 374 An Act To Allow Veterans, Active Duty Service Members and Their Spouses to
Apply for Temporary Occupational Licenses**

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 106 clarifies the eligibility for temporary professional licenses for qualified returning military veterans, spouses of qualified returning military veterans, domestic partners of qualified returning military veterans, active duty service members, spouses of active duty service members and domestic partners of active duty service members. It requires that a license held in another jurisdiction be in good standing in order to qualify the individual for temporary licensure in this State. It makes a distinction between the process for temporary licensure when the profession is regulated directly by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation and the process when the profession is regulated by a board that is affiliated with the department. It also describes the application process for temporary licensure and allows for the granting of a limited extension to temporary licensure. Finally, it also adds definitions of “good standing,” “recently separated veterans” and “qualified person.”

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**LD 492 An Act To Create a Regional Grant Program To Help Rural Businesses Find
Qualified Staff**

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 420 creates a grant program and related fund for the purpose of supporting groups working on local economic development initiatives in rural regions of the State that will assist rural businesses in those regions in locating, recruiting and retaining qualified staff to meet workforce needs. The law defines “rural regions of the State” to mean the counties of Aroostook, Piscataquis, Somerset and Washington. It also requires that all funds awarded be matched by the group that receives the grant. It appropriates funds of \$200,000 in fiscal year 2021-22 and fiscal year 2022-23, and requires the Department of Economic and Community Development to report by January 15th of each year to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over economic development matters on the program, including the number of grants given and the results achieved.

**LD 768 Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development and
a Representative from the Office of the Governor To Study the Softwood Pulp Industry**

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 47 directs the Department of Economic and Community Development and a representative of the Office of the Governor to study the softwood pulp industry. The department shall submit a report, including recommendations for supporting the forest products industry and employment in that sector in this State, to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business by February 1, 2022.

**LD 857 An Act To Create a Municipal Grant Program To Promote Sustainable Economic
Development**

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 319 establishes a fund to provide competitive grants funding for cities and towns for projects that further the goals of sustainable economic development as outlined by the Maine Economic Growth Council, in the council’s annual “Measures of Growth” report or by the “Maine Economic Development Strategy 2020-2029.” It provides initial funding from the Federal Government through stimulus or relief funds received by the State in 2021 to counter the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic that are eligible for the purposes of the Municipal Grant Fund.

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LD 885 An Act To Promote Bulk Retail Purchasing

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 177 requires the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to ensure that its rules and guidelines neither preclude business owners from allowing nor require business owners to allow consumers to supply their own containers for the bulk purchase of shelf-stable food and nonfood items and to provide technical assistance and education regarding best practices. The law requires the department to report on its progress by February 1, 2022 to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business

LD 1214 An Act To Require Vehicle Safety within the Funeral Industry

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 268 requires the State Board of Funeral Service to adopt major substantive rules governing the safety of drivers of vehicles owned, leased or otherwise used by a practitioner of funeral service or a funeral establishment for the transport of human remains. It directs the board to work with stakeholders when developing the rules and to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business on the progress of stakeholders' work no later than December 1, 2021 and to submit a provisionally adopted rule to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2023.

LD 1287 An Act To Allow Unlicensed Persons To Sell Caskets To Bury Human Remains

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 183 removes from the definition of "practice of funeral service" the practice of selling funeral supplies to the public, the practice of making financial arrangements for the sale of such supplies and the manufacture or sale of caskets or alternative containers.

LD 1327 An Act To Create the Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 346 creates a new loan repayment program, administered by the Finance Authority of Maine, for health care providers who agree to live and work in the State for a minimum of three years. Under the program, the authority will pay up to \$30,000 per year and the lesser of \$90,000 in aggregate and 50% of the recipient's outstanding loan balance. The law also establishes a fund for the program, sets parameters for the administration of the program and establishes an advisory committee to guide the work of the Finance Authority of Maine in administering the program.

ENACTED LAW SUMMARIES

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LD 1517 An Act To Establish the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 450 establishes the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute and a related steering committee to advise the Legislature on matters related to workforce training, research and development, student debt and economic advancement in the State. The law directs the institute to align its work with the priorities established by the State's economic development strategy developed by the Department of Economic and Community Development. The law describes the 13 required steering committee members and establishes that each member, other than ex officio members, serves a two-year term and that the steering committee meets at least four times per year. The Institute is repealed on September 1, 2024. Finally, the law appropriates \$100,000 for the Legislature to contract with the University of Maine System to establish and maintain the institute for its duration.

LD 1533 An Act To Amend the Foreign Credentialing and Skills Recognition Revolving Loan Program

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 133 amends the Foreign Credentialing and Skills Recognition Revolving Loan Program to reflect changes in federal regulations, including:

1. Adding as a loan-eligible expense the costs of the filing fee for an immigrant's initial work permit application;
2. Defining "initial work permit";
3. Ensuring that a change in federal regulations will not require a future amendment of the statute governing eligibility under the program; and
4. In the statute governing eligibility under the program, changing a specific time frame while waiting for asylum to an unspecified time period while waiting on an application for asylum or other immigrant benefit or relief.

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LD 1551 An Act To Ban the Sale of Cosmetics That Have Been Tested on Animals

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Public Law 2021, chapter 160 prohibits manufacturers from selling or offering to sell a cosmetic in the State if the cosmetic was developed or manufactured using cosmetic animal testing.

LD 1709 Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Examine and Develop a Program Promoting Home Ownership by Reducing Education Debt

ENACTED LAW SUMMARY

Resolve 2021, chapter 64 directs the Maine State Housing Authority, in consultation with the Finance Authority of Maine, to examine and develop a program for promoting home ownership by reducing borrowers' education debt. The Maine State Housing Authority is directed to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business by December 1, 2021, and the committee is authorized to report out a bill based on that report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.