

# *Weekly*

# **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

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

Volume LII

Friday, April 17, 2026

No. 15

## 132nd LEGISLATURE

### SECOND REGULAR SESSION

#### BILLS ENACTED

##### Public Laws

Signed by the Governor  
Monday, April 13, 2026

**Ch. 651** - An Act to Improve the Management of Landfill Leachate and Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge at Solid Waste Landfills. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1383, L.D. 2070)

**Ch. 652** - An Act to Clarify That Health Insurers Must Comply with Plan Sponsors' Statutory Rights to Audit Claims and Data Requests Related to Those Audits. (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 135, L.D. 378)

**Ch. 653** - An Act to Regulate Shared Appreciation Agreements Relating to Residential Property. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1272, L.D. 1901)

**Ch. 654** - An Act to Authorize Certain Emergency Medical Services Providers to Procure, Possess, Administer and Furnish Controlled Substances. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 313, L.D. 484)

**Ch. 655** - An Act to Correct Inconsistencies, Conflicts and Errors in the Laws of Maine. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1458, L.D. 2170)

**Ch. 656** - An Act to Establish Municipal Cost Components for Unorganized Territory Services to Be Rendered in Fiscal Year 2026-27. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1499, L.D. 2222)

**Ch. 657** - An Act to Reduce Certain Costs Associated with Residential Construction. (S.P. 907, L.D. 2224)

**Ch. 658** - An Act to Increase Funding for Construction Plan Reviews and Clarify Rule-making Authority for Municipal Reviews of Development. (H.P. 1498, L.D. 2223)

**Ch. 659** - An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee Concerning Certain Existing Public Records Exceptions. (H.P. 1496, L.D. 2219)

**Ch. 660** - An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Automotive Right to Repair Working Group. (S.P. 899, L.D. 2211) (Governor's Bill)

**Ch. 661** - An Act to Require Notice to the Attorney General Prior to the Merger of Certain Health Care Entities as Recommended by the Commission to Evaluate the Scope of Regulatory Review and Oversight over Health Care Transactions That Impact the Delivery of Health Care Services in the State. (H.P. 1481, L.D. 2202)

**Ch. 662** - An Act to Amend Certain State Tax Laws. (H.P. 1469, L.D. 2188)

**Ch. 663** - An Act to Make Changes to the Laws Regarding the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Human Resources and the State Civil Service Appeals Board. (H.P. 1467, L.D. 2180)

**Ch. 664** - An Act to Update and Improve the MaineCare Reimbursement System. (H.P. 1465, L.D. 2177)

**Ch. 665** - An Act to Authorize Municipalities to Form Community Choice Aggregation Programs to Procure Electricity. (H.P. 1427, L.D. 2112)

**Ch. 666** - An Act to Update Employer Substance Use Testing Policy Requirements. (H.P. 1425, L.D. 2110)

**Ch. 667** - An Act to Update Maine's Mandated Reporting Laws. (H.P. 1420, L.D. 2105)

**Ch. 668** - An Act Requiring Hospitals to Adopt Cybersecurity Plans. (H.P. 1418, L.D. 2103)

**Ch. 669** - An Act to Modify Probationary Periods for Dispatchers. (H.P. 1405, L.D. 2090)

**Ch. 670** - An Act to Provide Health Care Cost Reimbursement for Retired Law Enforcement Canines. (H.P. 1396, L.D. 2081)

**Ch. 671** - An Act to Clarify the Requirement That Municipal and County Jails Be Available at All Times for Detention of Arrested Persons. (S.P. 845, L.D. 2058)

**Ch. 672** - An Act to Create a Limited-purpose License for Aquaculture Nursery and Husbandry Activities and to Clarify the Aquaculture Lease Amendment Process. (H.P. 1355, L.D. 2025)

- Ch. 673** - An Act to Clarify the Requirements of a County Audit. (S.P. 828, L.D. 2009)
- Ch. 674** - An Act Regarding Mail Order Delivery of Prescription Drugs. (S.P. 821, L.D. 2005)
- Ch. 675** - An Act to Amend the Maine Revised Unclaimed Property Act and Clarify the Definition of "Virtual Currency". (H.P. 1313, L.D. 1969)
- Ch. 676** - An Act to Fund Maine's Snowmobile Trail Programs. (S.P. 631, L.D. 1547)
- Ch. 677** - An Act to Clarify the Application of Finch v. U.S. Bank, N.A.. (S.P. 585, L.D. 1444)
- Ch. 678** - An Act to Protect Communication with Providers of Critical Incident Stress Management and Peer Support. (H.P. 568, L.D. 882)
- Ch. 679** - An Act Related to All-terrain Vehicle Registration. (H.P. 180, L.D. 276)
- Ch. 680** - An Act Regarding the Interconnection Ombudsman Position at the Public Utilities Commission. (S.P. 49, L.D. 32)
- Ch. 681** - An Act Regarding the Nonwires Alternative Process and Required Negative Pricing Provisions in Contracts for Energy Resulting from Competitive Solicitations Conducted by the Public Utilities Commission. (S.P. 386, L.D. 897)
- Ch. 682** - An Act to Promote Investment in Housing. (H.P. 581, L.D. 916)
- Ch. 683** - An Act to Expand Access to Vaccines Approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration by Allowing Pharmacists to Prescribe, Dispense and Administer Vaccines and Require Insurance Coverage. (H.P. 1384, L.D. 2071)
- Ch. 684** - An Act to Modify the Law Governing Revocation of a Code Enforcement Officer's Certification. (H.P. 1412, L.D. 2097)
- Ch. 685** - An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Health Insurance Premium Cap for State Employees. (S.P. 866, L.D. 2148)
- Ch. 686** - An Act to Amend the Requirements Governing Self-insurance Plans in the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program. (H.P. 1348, L.D. 2018)
- Ch. 687** - An Act to Regulate the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Providing Certain Mental Health Services. (H.P. 1397, L.D. 2082)
- Ch. 688** - An Act to Protect Affordability in Mobile Home Parks and Manufactured Housing Communities. (S.P. 867, L.D. 2149)
- Ch. 689** - An Act to Prohibit the Unauthorized Use of Drones on or over the Premises of Correctional Facilities and Jails. (H.P. 1446, L.D. 2157)
- Ch. 690** - An Act to Implement Certain Recommendations Related to the Regulatory Review and Approval of Certain Health Care Transactions Involving Private Equity Companies, Hedge Funds or Management Services Organizations from the Commission to Evaluate the Scope of Regulatory Review and Oversight over Health Care Transactions That Impact the Delivery of Health Care Services in the State. (H.P. 1480, L.D. 2201)
- Ch. 691** - An Act to Support Owners of Manufactured Housing, Mobile Homes and Tiny Homes. (H.P. 1506, L.D. 2231)
- Ch. 692** - An Act Regarding Public Records Maintained by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. (H.P. 1512, L.D. 2236)
- Ch. 693** - An Act to Amend the Maine Emergency Medical Services Act of 1982 to Modify Penalties for Unauthorized Operation or Practice of Emergency Medical Services, to Direct Maine Emergency Medical Services to Evaluate Improvements to Maine's Trauma System Reporting and to Make Certain Technical Changes. (S.P. 826, L.D. 2132)
- Ch. 694** - An Act to Modify Certain Statutes Governing Revocation of Probation, Victim Confidentiality and the Commissioner of Corrections. (H.P. 1450, L.D. 2161)
- Ch. 695** - An Act to Enhance Crime Victims' Rights. (H.P. 1452, L.D. 2163)
- Ch. 696** - An Act to Increase Accountability for Persons Engaged in Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking and to Support Victims. (H.P. 1457, L.D. 2168)

Signed by the Governor  
Wednesday, April 15, 2026

- Ch. 697** - An Act Regarding School Employee Investigations. (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 893, L.D. 2192)
- Ch. 698** - An Act to Update Certain Terms and References Regarding Information Technology and Cybersecurity. (H.P. 1407, L.D. 2092)
- Ch. 699** - An Act to Extend the Sunset Date of the Affordable Housing Income Tax Credit. (H.P. 1431, L.D. 2116)
- Ch. 700** - An Act to Increase the Cap on Bonds Issued by the Maine State Housing Authority to Reflect Current Housing Production Needs in the State. (S.P. 813, L.D. 2127)
- Ch. 701** - An Act to Support Victims of Trafficking in Maine in Response to Federal Funding Cuts. (S.P. 835, L.D. 2136)
- Ch. 702** - An Act to Increase Access to Critical Vaccinations. (S.P. 864, L.D. 2146)
- Ch. 703** - An Act to Establish the Maine Home Energy Navigator and Coaching Resource Hub. (H.P. 1497, L.D. 2220)
- Ch. 704** - An Act to Eliminate Inactive Boards and Commissions. (H.P. 1505, L.D. 2228)
- Ch. 705** - An Act to Amend Certain Tax Laws Regarding the Wabanaki Nations. (S.P. 344, L.D. 785)
- Ch. 706** - An Act to Eliminate the Natural Areas Program and Reassign Certain Responsibilities Under the Program to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and to Amend the Law Governing Administration of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Bureau of Resource Management. (H.P. 1433, L.D. 2118)
- Ch. 707** - An Act to Provide Indigenous Peoples Free Access to State Parks. (S.P. 27, L.D. 14)
- Ch. 708** - An Act to Increase the Size and Balance of Jury Pools. (H.P. 238, L.D. 338)
- Ch. 709** - An Act Regarding the Issuance of Silver Alerts. (H.P. 325, L.D. 496)
- Ch. 710** - An Act to Require Health Insurance Carriers to Provide Coverage for Blood Testing for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances. (S.P. 265, L.D. 582)
- Ch. 711** - An Act to Include Certain Mental Health Assessment Data in Firearm Fatalities and Hospitalizations Reports. (H.P. 792, L.D. 1187)
- Ch. 712** - An Act to Update the Requirements for Health Insurance Coverage of Prostate Cancer Screening. (H.P. 986, L.D. 1502)
- Ch. 713** - An Act to Expand the Dental Care Access Credit. (H.P. 1093, L.D. 1652)
- Ch. 714** - An Act to Criminalize Certain Offenses Related to Gift Card Thefts. (S.P. 691, L.D. 1773)
- Ch. 715** - An Act to Establish the Municipal Shoreline Protection Legal Fund. (S.P. 745, L.D. 1904)
- Ch. 716** - An Act to Authorize Issuance of Securities to Modernize and Consolidate Certain Court Facilities. (S.P. 810, L.D. 1997)
- Ch. 717** - An Act to Update Certain Statutes Governing School Nutrition. (H.P. 1347, L.D. 2017)
- Ch. 718** - An Act Relating to Noncompete Agreements Between Employers and Health Care Practitioners. (H.P. 1479, L.D. 2200)

Signed by the Governor  
Thursday, April 16, 2026

- Ch. 719** - An Act to Protect Children from Technology-facilitated Sexual Abuse. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 343, L.D. 524)
- Ch. 720** - An Act Making Supplemental Allocations from the Highway Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2026 and June 30, 2027. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1492, L.D. 2213) (Governor's Bill)
- Ch. 721** - An Act to Increase County Jail Funding. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1507, L.D. 2232)
- Ch. 722** - An Act Regarding Adult Education Funding and Oversight. (H.P. 1140, L.D. 1705)
- Ch. 723** - An Act to Reduce Dental Disease and Ensure Access to Essential Preventive Dental Care Among Maine Children. (H.P. 1164, L.D. 1746)

- Ch. 724** - An Act to Establish an Independent Office of the Child Advocate. (H.P. 1264, L.D. 1893)
- Ch. 725** - An Act to Improve Localization of Emergency Broadcast Messaging. (S.P. 819, L.D. 2003)
- Ch. 726** - An Act to Provide Funding to the Maine School of Science and Mathematics. (S.P. 827, L.D. 2008)
- Ch. 727** - An Act to Clarify the Laws Regarding Moose Hunting Permits for Hunting Outfitters. (H.P. 1378, L.D. 2054)
- Ch. 728** - An Act to Establish the Maine Nonprofit Security Grant Program. (H.P. 1422, L.D. 2107)
- Ch. 729** - An Act to Support Emergency Shelter Funding Using Revenue from the Real Estate Transfer Tax. (H.P. 1439, L.D. 2124)
- Ch. 730** - An Act to Modify Provisions of Law Governing Parking Enforcement on Property Accessible to the Public. (S.P. 836, L.D. 2137)
- Ch. 731** - An Act Regarding Enforcement of the Annual Reporting Requirement of the Laws Governing Unclaimed Beverage Container Deposits. (S.P. 859, L.D. 2141)
- Ch. 732** - An Act to Establish the Health Information Technology Fund to Support a State-designated Statewide Health Information Exchange. (H.P. 1443, L.D. 2154)
- Ch. 733** - An Act to Update the Laws Regarding Housing Developments and Accessory Dwelling Units. (H.P. 1461, L.D. 2173)
- Ch. 734** - An Act to Establish the Independent Office of Tax Appeals and Make Other Changes to the Laws Governing the Tax Appeals Process. (S.P. 883, L.D. 2178)
- Ch. 735** - An Act to Establish the Maine Blue Economy Center. (S.P. 903, L.D. 2216)
- Ch. 736** - An Act to Support Municipal Enforcement of Residential Construction Laws, Codes and Regulations. (S.P. 908, L.D. 2225)
- Ch. 737** - An Act to Amend the Essential Programs and Services School Funding Formula. (H.P. 1503, L.D. 2226)
- Ch. 738** - An Act to Combine the Board of Licensure in Medicine and Board of Osteopathic Licensure into a Single Licensing Board for All Physicians and Physician Associates. (H.P. 1509, L.D. 2233)
- Ch. 739** - An Act to Implement Certain Preliminary Recommendations of the Real Estate Property Tax Relief Task Force and to Make Other Changes to Tax Law. (S.P. 922, L.D. 2244)
- Ch. 740** - An Act to Reauthorize Funding of Collective Bargaining Agreements with Executive Branch Employees. (H.P. 1523, L.D. 2245) (Governor's Bill)
- Ch. 741** - An Act to Provide Funding to the Office of Aging and Disability Services to Support the Long-term Care Ombudsman. (S.P. 81, L.D. 145)
- Ch. 742** - An Act to Update Reimbursement Rates for Transportation of Deceased Persons by Funeral Homes When the Transport is at the Request of the Chief Medical Examiner. (S.P. 241, L.D. 562)
- Ch. 743** - An Act to Continue Support for the Maine Multicultural Center. (S.P. 341, L.D. 783)
- Ch. 744** - An Act to Advance the Maine Retirement Savings Program. (S.P. 141, L.D. 355)
- Ch. 745** - An Act to Address Food Insecurity by Helping Maine Residents Access Locally Produced Food. (S.P. 206, L.D. 468)
- Ch. 746** - An Act to Expand Testing for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances to Private Drinking Water Wells. (H.P. 322, L.D. 493)
- Ch. 747** - An Act to Include Certain Nurses Under the 1998 Special Plan for Retirement. (S.P. 260, L.D. 579)
- Ch. 748** - An Act to Prevent Domestic Violence by Providing Adequate Funding Support for Court-ordered Certified Domestic Violence Intervention Programs. (H.P. 434, L.D. 666)
- Ch. 749** - An Act to Provide a Death Benefit for Department of Transportation Workers. (H.P. 437, L.D. 669)
- Ch. 750** - An Act to Increase the Funding to the Live Fire Service Training Facilities Fund. (S.P. 294, L.D. 679)
- Ch. 751** - An Act to Establish a Health Care Gap Year Program for Recent College Graduates. (H.P. 442, L.D. 703)
- Ch. 752** - An Act to Correct Technical Errors in Public Law 2025, Chapter 650. (H.P. 444, L.D. 705)

- Ch. 753** - An Act to Modernize the State Supplement to Supplemental Security Income by Removing Marriage Disincentives. (S.P. 373, L.D. 840)
- Ch. 754** - An Act to Support the Maine Service Fellows Program. (H.P. 562, L.D. 876)
- Ch. 755** - An Act to Facilitate the Establishment of an Automated Crime Victim Notification System. (S.P. 408, L.D. 981)
- Ch. 756** - An Act Establishing the Retirement Improvement Fund. (H.P. 650, L.D. 1003)
- Ch. 757** - An Act to Adjust Certain Implementation and Reporting Dates in Legislation Held by the Governor That Became Law. (H.P. 651, L.D. 1004)
- Ch. 758** - An Act to Provide Funds for the Redevelopment of the Island Nursing Home in Hancock County into Affordable Senior Housing. (H.P. 725, L.D. 1106)
- Ch. 759** - An Act to Address Employee Retention of State Employees Who Are Firefighters at Bangor International Airport. (H.P. 811, L.D. 1236)
- Ch. 760** - An Act Regarding Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Activities. (H.P. 852, L.D. 1277)
- Ch. 761** - An Act Regarding Required Landings in the Menhaden Fishery. (H.P. 876, L.D. 1353)
- Ch. 762** - An Act to Strengthen the Teaching of Wabanaki Studies in Maine Schools. (H.P. 966, L.D. 1474)
- Ch. 763** - An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission and to Reestablish the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission. (S.P. 648, L.D. 1640)

#### **Private and Special Laws**

Signed by the Governor  
Monday, April 13, 2026

- Ch. 20** - An Act Increasing the Debt Limit of the West Paris Water District. (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 921, L.D. 2243) (Governor's Bill)

#### **Resolves**

Became law without the Governor's Signature  
Saturday, April 11, 2026

- Ch. 156** - Resolve, to Direct the Department of Health and Human Services to Develop Innovative Models for the Delivery of Dental Services to Expand Access to Oral Health Care Throughout the State. (H.P. 1488, L.D. 2209)

Signed by the Governor  
Monday, April 13, 2026

- Ch. 157** - Resolve, Regarding the Nursing Facility Reform Transition Fund. (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 824, L.D. 2131)
- Ch. 158** - Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 6: Standards Relating to Prescriptive Authorities and Collaborative Relationship for Naturopathic Doctors, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1521, L.D. 2242)
- Ch. 159** - Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 348: Exemption for On-farm Raising, Slaughter, and Processing of Less than 1,000 Ready-to-cook Whole Poultry, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1513, L.D. 2238)
- Ch. 160** - Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 115: The Credentialing of Education Personnel, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education, State Board of Education. (H.P. 1463, L.D. 2175)
- Ch. 161** - Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 10: Significant Wildlife Habitat, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. (H.P. 1515, L.D. 2240)
- Ch. 162** - Resolve, to Establish a Demand Response Program to Lower Electric Bills and Improve Grid Reliability. (S.P. 858, L.D. 2140)

Signed by the Governor  
Wednesday, April 15, 2026

**Ch. 163** - Resolve, Directing the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women to Study the Extent of Workforce Gender Segregation in the State. (H.P. 341, L.D. 522)

**Ch. 164** - Resolve, to Improve Dental Care Access by Modifying the MaineCare Reimbursement Methodology for the Provision of Certain Dental Services. (H.P. 1438, L.D. 2123)

**Ch. 165** - Resolve, Establishing the Working Group to Develop Recommendations for Extending Federal Beneficial Laws to the Wabanaki Nations. (S.P. 181, L.D. 395)

Signed by the Governor  
Thursday, April 16, 2026

**Ch. 166** - Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Study Unmanaged Storm Water Pollution. (H.P. 414, L.D. 646)

**Ch. 167** - Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Need to Codify or Recodify Laws Regarding Residential Community Ownership Associations by Adopting the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act. (S.P. 301, L.D. 760)

**Ch. 168** - Resolve, to Assess the Total Cost to the State of Greenhouse Gas Emissions. (S.P. 740, L.D. 1870)

**Ch. 169** - Resolve, Requiring the Department of Education to Develop Professional Opportunities for Educators in African American Studies. (S.P. 491, L.D. 1202)

**Ch. 170** - Resolve, to Support the Full Implementation of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics in the State. (H.P. 460, L.D. 721)

**Ch. 171** - Resolve, Directing the Maine Office of Community Affairs to Submit Legislation and Take Other Actions to Effectuate the Transition of Responsibility for Regulating Manufactured Housing Communities and the Construction and Installation of Manufactured Homes from the Manufactured Housing Board to the Maine Office of Community Affairs. (S.P. 156, L.D. 364)

(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.)

(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.)

S/Robert B. Hunt  
Clerk of the House