

# *Weekly* **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

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

Volume L

Friday, March 22, 2024

No. 12

## **131st LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION BILLS ENACTED**

### **Public Laws**

Became law without the Governor's Signature  
Tuesday, March 19, 2024

**Ch. 547** - An Act to Permit Municipalities to Establish by Ordinance a Program for Partial Deferral of Property Taxes for Seniors. (H.P. 859, L.D. 1345)

Signed by the Governor  
Tuesday, March 19, 2024

**Ch. 548** - An Act to Amend Licensing Requirements for Landscape Architects. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1322, L.D. 2060)

**Ch. 549** - An Act to Implement a Facility-based Monitoring System for Slot Machines. (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 871, L.D. 2070)

**Ch. 550** - An Act to Change the Number of Agency Liquor Stores Allowed in Certain Municipalities and to Convene a Stakeholder Group Regarding Licensing and Operations. (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 881, L.D. 2088)

**Ch. 551** - An Act to Expand the Use of Career and Technical Education Centers in the Development of the Electrician Workforce. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1357, L.D. 2133)

**Ch. 552** - An Act to Amend the Law Governing the Regulation of Manufactured Housing to Increase Affordable Housing. (H.P. 211, L.D. 337)

**Ch. 553** - An Act to Ensure That the Maine Electric Grid Provides Additional Benefits to Maine Ratepayers. (S.P. 257, L.D. 589)

**Ch. 554** - An Act to Establish a Clean Hydrogen Pilot Program. (H.P. 1138, L.D. 1775)

**Ch. 555** - An Act to Amend the Law Regarding the Board of the Finance Authority of Maine to Allow for the Addition of a Proxy Designee. (S.P. 867, L.D. 2039)

**Ch. 556** - An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Certain Advisory Councils and Boards Related to the Department of Marine Resources. (H.P. 1326, L.D. 2064)

**Ch. 557** - An Act to Make Technical Corrections to the Maine Juvenile Code, the Maine Criminal Code and the Intelligence and Investigative Record Information Act. (H.P. 1381, L.D. 2161)

Signed by the Governor  
Thursday, March 21, 2024

**Ch. 558** - An Act to Establish the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services and Establish Public Defender Offices for Aroostook, Penobscot and Piscataquis Counties. (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 270, L.D. 653)

**Ch. 559** - An Act to Increase the Cap on Bonds Issued by the Maine State Housing Authority to Reflect Current Housing Production Needs in the State. (H.P. 1416, L.D. 2209)

### **Private and Special Laws**

Signed by the Governor  
Tuesday, March 19, 2024

**Ch. 19** - An Act to Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2025. (H.P. 1404, L.D. 2190)

**Resolves**

Signed by the Governor  
Tuesday, March 19, 2024

**Ch. 144** - Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 64: Maine School Facilities Program and School Revolving Renovation Fund, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education and the Maine Municipal Bond Bank. (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1394, L.D. 2179)

**Ch. 145** - Resolve, to Direct the Public Utilities Commission to Adopt Rules Regarding Utility Shut-offs. (S.P. 798, L.D. 1962)

(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, MARCH 22, 2024****L.D. 2272, H.P. 1461**

An Act Related to Airboats and Airboat Noise Limits. (EMERGENCY) (Submitted by the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Public Law 2021, chapter 585, section 2.)

**L.D. 2273, H.P. 1462**

An Act to Establish a State Minimum Hourly Wage for Agricultural Workers. (Governor's Bill) (Presented by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland)

**L.D. 2274, S.P. 990**

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission and to Reestablish the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission. (EMERGENCY) (Submitted by the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 353, subsection 8.)

**L.D. 2275, S.P. 991**

An Act to Ensure That Rules Regarding the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Are Major Substantive Rules. (Presented by President JACKSON of Aroostook)

(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.)

Robert B. Hunt  
Clerk of the House