

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND AND SEVENTEEN

—
H.P. 1086 - L.D. 1579

**An Act To Amend and Add Consistency to the Maine Weights and Measures
Law**

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

Sec. 1. 10 MRSA c. 501, sub-c. 4-A is enacted to read:

SUBCHAPTER 4-A

LOCAL SEALERS

§2461. Election by municipal officers

The municipal officers of a municipality may elect or appoint a sealer of weights and measures, and a deputy sealer if necessary, not necessarily a resident of that municipality, and the sealer and deputy sealer hold office during their efficiency and the faithful performance of their duties. The state sealer has final approval authority over a sealer or deputy sealer elected or appointed pursuant to this section. Prior to approval or assuming any duties, a sealer or deputy sealer elected or appointed pursuant to this section must successfully complete certification by the National Conference on Weights and Measures as a weights and measures professional in the National Conference on Weights and Measures professional certification program for the device types the sealer or deputy sealer wishes to seal. On complaint being made to the municipal officers of the inefficiency or neglect of duty of a sealer or deputy sealer, the municipal officers shall set a date for and give notice of a hearing to the complainant, the relevant sealer and the state sealer. If evidence satisfies the municipal officers that the sealer or deputy sealer has been inefficient or has neglected the sealer's or deputy sealer's duty, they may remove the sealer or deputy sealer from office and elect or appoint another in the sealer's or deputy sealer's stead. The state sealer has jurisdiction over a sealer or deputy sealer elected or appointed pursuant to this section, and any vacancy caused by death or resignation must be filled by election or appointment by the municipal officers within 30 days. Within 10 days after each such election or appointment, the clerk of each municipality shall communicate the name of the person so elected or appointed to the state sealer. A sealer

of weights and measures in any municipality may be sealer for several municipalities, if such is the pleasure of the municipal officers of those municipalities, as long as this action receives the approval of the state sealer. The state sealer or the state sealer's designee shall test and certify annually municipal weights and measures equipment used by a sealer or deputy sealer elected or appointed pursuant to this section.

§2462. Municipalities that do not choose a sealer

If the municipal officers do not elect or appoint a sealer or fail to make a return to the state sealer of the election or appointment within 30 days after the election or appointment in accordance with section 2461, the state sealer retains sole authority to enforce this chapter in that municipality and the concurrent authority provided under section 2411 does not apply in that municipality. Pursuant to section 2402, subsection 7, the state sealer may appoint a qualified person to carry out the state sealer's responsibilities in that municipality, and any person appointed under this section may serve in that capacity for more than one municipality.

§2463. Powers and duties

A weights and measures official elected or appointed for a municipality has the duties enumerated in section 2402, subsections 2 to 9 and the powers enumerated in section 2403. These powers and duties extend to the official's jurisdiction.

§2464. Records of weights and measures sealed; annual report

A sealer shall keep records of all weights and measures, balances and measuring devices inspected, sealed or condemned by that sealer, giving the name of the owner or agent, the place of business, the date of inspection and kind of apparatus inspected, sealed or condemned. The sealer shall make an annual report on July 1st for the 12 preceding months on forms prescribed by the state sealer and shall furnish such information as the state sealer may require.

Sec. 2. 10 MRSA §2632 is enacted to read:

§2632. Compliance testing of net contents on packaged goods

The specifications, tolerances and other technical requirements for compliance testing of the net contents of packaged goods as adopted by the National Conference on Weights and Measures and published in the National Institute of Standards and Technology Handbook 133 (2016), "Checking the Net Contents of Packaged Goods," and supplements or revisions to this publication, apply to packaged goods in this State, except as modified or rejected by a regulation issued by the state sealer.