**§565. Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory**

The Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory is established within the department for the chemical and microbiological testing and examination of water supplies, food products, drinking water, environmental and forensic samples and the testing and examination of cases and suspected cases of infectious and communicable diseases. [PL 1991, c. 499, §2 (NEW); PL 1991, c. 499, §26 (AFF).]

**1. Coordination with the Department of Environmental Protection.**  In coordination with the Department of Environmental Protection, the department shall also provide laboratory services for environmental testing and analysis as necessary to implement the programs and duties of the Department of Environmental Protection, pursuant to Title 38, section 342, subsection 4. The commissioner and the Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall enter into joint agreements and establish joint policies as necessary to ensure the provision of appropriate laboratory services.

[PL 1991, c. 499, §2 (NEW); PL 1991, c. 499, §26 (AFF).]

**2. Director; duties.**  The Director of the Bureau of Health shall appoint a Director of the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory, subject to the Civil Service Law and in this chapter known as the "laboratory director." The laboratory director or a designated chief of laboratory operations shall administer the laboratory to safeguard the public health and environment.

[PL 1999, c. 62, §1 (AMD).]

**3. Fees for services.**  The department shall establish by rule a schedule of charges for services rendered by the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory based on the average costs for those services. The department shall establish services essential to the public health. These services must be provided free to residents of the State.

[PL 1991, c. 499, §2 (NEW); PL 1991, c. 499, §26 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1991, c. 499, §2 (NEW). PL 1991, c. 499, §26 (AFF). PL 1999, c. 62, §1 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Regular and First Special Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through November 1. 2023
 . The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.