

## §551. Maine Ground and Surface Waters Clean-up and Response Fund

The Maine Ground and Surface Waters Clean-up and Response Fund is established to be used by the department as a nonlapsing, revolving fund for carrying out the purposes of this subchapter. The balance in the fund is limited to \$18,500,000. The Department of Environmental Protection shall collect fees in accordance with subsection 4. To this fund are credited all license and registration fees, fees for late payment or failure to register, penalties, transfer fees, reimbursements, assessments and other fees and charges related to this subchapter and subchapter 2-B. To this fund are charged any and all expenses of the department related to this subchapter, including administrative expenses, costs of removal of discharges of pollutants, 3rd-party damages, costs of cleanup of discharges of oil and oil by-products, including, but not limited to, restoration of water supplies and any obligations of the State pursuant to Title 10, section 1024, subsection 1. [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

Money in the fund not needed currently to meet the obligations of the department in the exercise of its responsibilities under this subchapter must be deposited with the Treasurer of State to the credit of the fund, and may be invested in such manner as is provided for by statute. Interest received on that investment must be credited to the fund. [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

### 1. Research and development.

[PL 1993, c. 720, §2 (AMD); MRSA T. 38 §551, sub-§1 (RP).]

#### 1-A. Sensitive area data management and mapping.

[PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (RP).]

**1-B. Research and development.** The Legislature may allocate not more than \$100,000 per annum of the amount currently in the fund to be devoted to research and development in the causes, effects and removal of pollution caused by oil on waters of the State. Such allocations must be made in accordance with section 555.

[PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

**2. Third-party damages.** Any person claiming to have suffered property damage or actual economic damages, including, but not limited to, loss of income and medical expenses arising from physical bodily injury, directly or indirectly as a result of a discharge of oil prohibited by section 543 including all discharges of oil from interstate pipelines, in this subsection called "the claimant," may apply within 12 months after the occurrence of a discharge to coastal waters and for other discharges within 2 years after the occurrence or discovery of the injury or damage, whichever date is later, to the commissioner stating the amount of damage alleged to have been suffered as a result of that discharge. The commissioner shall prescribe appropriate forms and details for the applications. The commissioner may contract with insurance professionals to process claims. The commissioner may, upon petition and for good cause shown, waive the time limitation for filing damage claims. All 3rd-party damage claims for which no determination of award has been made must be processed in accordance with the substantive and procedural provisions of this section.

A. When a responsible party is known, the commissioner shall send by certified mail to the responsible party notice of claim and written notice of the right to join the 3rd-party damage claim process as an interested party. A responsible party shall provide written notification to the department of the responsible party's intent to join within 10 working days of receipt of this notice. If the responsible party joins as an interested party and formally agrees in writing to the amount of the damage claim, the determination of the amount of the claim and award is binding in any subsequent action for reimbursement to the fund. If a claimant has not been compensated for 3rd-party damages by the responsible party or the expenses are above the responsible party's deductible and the claimant, the responsible party and the commissioner agree as to the amount of the damage claim, or if the responsible party does not join as an interested party or when the responsible party is not known after the commissioner has exercised reasonable efforts to ascertain the responsible party, and the claimant and the commissioner agree as to the amount of the damage claim, the

commissioner shall certify the amount of the claim and the name of the claimant to the Treasurer of State and the Treasurer of State shall pay the amount of the claim from the fund. [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

B. If the claimant, the responsible party and the commissioner are not able to agree as to the amount of the damage claim, or if the responsible party does not join as an interested party or when the responsible party is not known after the commissioner has exercised reasonable efforts to ascertain the responsible party, and the claimant and the commissioner are not able to agree as to the amount of the damage claim, the claim is subject to subsection 3-A. [PL 1991, c. 817, §11 (AMD).]

C. Third-party damage claims must be stated in their entirety in one application. Damages omitted from any claim at the time the award is made are waived unless the damage or injury was not known at the time of the claim. [PL 1991, c. 817, §11 (AMD).]

D. Damage claims arising under this subchapter that are a result of a prohibited discharge to coastal waters are recoverable only in the manner provided under this subchapter, it being the intent of the Legislature that the remedies provided in this subchapter for discharges to coastal waters are exclusive. [PL 1991, c. 817, §11 (AMD).]

E. Awards from the fund on damage claims may not include any amount the claimant has recovered, on account of the same damage, by way of settlement with the responsible party or the responsible party's representatives or judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction against the responsible party to the extent these amounts are duplicative. [PL 1991, c. 817, §11 (AMD).]

F. A claimant shall take all reasonable measures to prevent and minimize damages suffered by the claimant as a result of a discharge of oil. Reasonable measures include title searches and site assessments for the acquisition of commercial or industrial properties. [PL 1991, c. 817, §11 (NEW).]

G. The remedies provided for 3rd-party damage claims compensated under this subchapter are nonexclusive for damages that are not a result of prohibited discharges to coastal waters. A court awarding damages to a claimant as a result of a discharge of oil to surface waters prohibited by section 543 shall reduce damages awarded by any amounts received from the fund to the extent these amounts are duplicative. [PL 1991, c. 817, §11 (NEW).]

H. Payments from the fund for 3rd-party damage claims may not exceed \$200,000 per claimant except when the damages are a result of a discharge to coastal waters or when the claimant is a publicly owned or operated public water system. [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

I. A 3rd-party damage claim for damages to real estate may not include the devaluation of the real estate associated with the loss of a water supply if the commissioner finds under section 548 or section 568, subsection 2 that a public or private water supply is available and if that water supply best meets the criteria of that section and the property owner did not agree to be served by that public or private water supply. If a water supply well is installed after October 1, 1994 to serve a location that immediately before the well installation was served by a viable community public water system, and the well is or becomes contaminated with oil:

(1) A 3rd party may not recover damages under this subchapter for expenses incurred in treating or replacing the well if the well is installed in an area delineated as contaminated as provided in section 548, subsection 1; and

(2) A 3rd-party damage claim under this subchapter with regard to treatment or replacement of the well is limited to reimbursement of the expense of installing the well and its proper abandonment if the well is installed in any other area.

For purposes of this paragraph, "viable community public water system" has the same meaning as in section 548. [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

J. A claimant is not eligible for compensation under this subsection for costs, expenses or damages related to a discharge if the commissioner determines that the claimant is a responsible party. [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

K. Prior to forwarding a claim to the hearing examiner under subsection 3-A, the commissioner may require that the amount of the claim be finalized. [PL 1991, c. 817, §11 (NEW).]

L. Third-party damage claims may not include expenditures for the preparation and prosecution of the damage claim, such as legal fees or real estate appraisal fees. [PL 1991, c. 817, §11 (NEW).]

M. The commissioner may dismiss a 3rd-party damage claim for untimely filing, for failure by the claimant to provide the information necessary to process the claim within 60 days after the claimant receives written notice that the claim is insufficient for processing or for ineligibility as determined by the commissioner under paragraph J. A dismissal may be appealed to Superior Court in accordance with Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 7. [PL 2003, c. 551, §10 (NEW).]

[PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

**2-A. Exceptions; 3rd party damage claims.**

[PL 1989, c. 890, Pt. A, §40 (AFF); PL 1989, c. 890, Pt. B, §118 (RP).]

**2-B. Claimant contact.** When the commissioner becomes aware of a claimant under subsection 2, the commissioner shall send a letter by certified mail to inform that person of the 3rd-party damage claims process under subsection 2. The letter must contain the name and telephone number of a contact person available to explain the claims procedure.

[PL 1991, c. 817, §12 (NEW).]

**3. Board of Arbitration.**

[PL 1991, c. 817, §13 (RP).]

**3-A. Determination of disputed 3rd-party damage claims.** The commissioner shall establish a disputed claims processing capability within the department to hear and determine claims filed under this subchapter that are not agreed upon by the claimant and the commissioner and any responsible party who has joined as an interested party.

A. An independent hearing examiner appointed by the commissioner shall hear and determine any disputed 3rd-party damage claims. The parties to the hearing are the commissioner and the claimant. [PL 1991, c. 817, §14 (NEW).]

B. To the extent practical, all claims arising from or related to a common discharge must be heard and determined by the same hearing examiner. [PL 1991, c. 817, §14 (NEW).]

C. Hearings before the hearing examiner are informal and the rules of evidence applicable to judicial proceedings are not binding. The hearing examiner may administer oaths and require by subpoena the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books, records and other evidence relative or pertinent to the issues presented to the hearing examiner for determination. [PL 1991, c. 817, §14 (NEW).]

D. Determinations made by the hearing examiner are final and those determinations may be subject to review by a Justice of the Superior Court, but only as to matters related to abuse of discretion by the hearing examiner. The party seeking review of a hearing examiner's determination must file an appeal in the Superior Court within 30 days of the determination. Determinations made by the hearing examiner must be accorded a presumption of regularity and validity in a subsequent reimbursement action, but this presumption may be rebutted by responsible parties. [PL 1993, c. 355, §12 (AMD).]

E. The commissioner shall certify the amount of the damage award, if any, after determination by the hearing examiner and shall certify the name of the claimant to the Treasurer of State. [PL 1991, c. 817, §14 (NEW).]

[PL 1993, c. 355, §12 (AMD).]

**4. Funding.** The fund is funded pursuant to this subsection.

A. A fee is assessed on the first transfer of products listed in this subsection by oil terminal facility licensees and on a person required to register with the commissioner under section 545-B who first transports oil into the State. These fees must be paid monthly on the basis of records certified to the commissioner. License fees must be paid to the department and upon receipt by it credited to the fund. [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

A-1. A fee is assessed of:

- (1) Three cents per barrel of unrefined crude oil and liquid asphalt;
- (2) Seven cents per barrel of #6 fuel oil;
- (3) Twenty-two cents per barrel of #2 fuel oil, kerosene, jet fuel, diesel fuel and other refined products and their by-products not otherwise specified in this subsection, excluding liquid asphalt; and
- (4) Forty-one cents per barrel of gasoline.

This paragraph does not apply to waste oil transported into the State in any motor vehicle that has a valid license issued by the department for the transportation of waste oil pursuant to section 1319-O, subsection 1, paragraph C and is subject to fees established under section 1319-I. [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (NEW).]

B. [PL 1991, c. 817, §15 (RP).]

C. [PL 1985, c. 496, Pt. A, §13 (RP).]

D. A person subject to this subsection shall make available to the commissioner and the commissioner's authorized representatives all documents relating to the oil the person transported or transferred during the period of registration or the licensed period. [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

E. When the commissioner projects that the fund balance will reach \$18,500,000, the commissioner shall provide a 15-day notice that the per barrel fees assessed under this subsection will be suspended. The \$18,500,000 fund limit may be exceeded to accept transfer fees assessed or received after the 15-day notice has been issued. Following any suspension of fees assessed under this subsection, the commissioner shall provide a 15-day advance notice to licensees before fees are reimposed. [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

F. If the fund balance is reduced to \$6,000,000 or less, the Clean-up and Response Fund Review Board under section 568-B may adopt rules increasing the fees imposed under paragraph A-1 by up to 20¢ per barrel for gasoline and up to 10¢ per barrel for other petroleum products, except unrefined crude oil, liquid asphalt and #6 fuel oil, as necessary to avoid a shortfall in the fund. The Clean-up and Response Fund Review Board may use the emergency rule-making procedures under Title 5, section 8054 if necessary to ensure that the fee increase is instituted in time to avoid a shortfall. Any fee increase adopted pursuant to this paragraph terminates and the fees imposed under paragraph A-1 apply when the fund balance reaches \$10,000,000. [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (NEW).]

[PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

**4-A. Penalty for late payment of fees.** Fees assessed under subsection 4 are due to the department on or before the last day of the month immediately following the month in which the oil was transferred or first transported in this State. Licensees or registrants who fail to pay the fee by that date shall pay an additional amount equal to 10% of the amount assessed under subsection 4. The department may waive the penalty for good cause shown by the licensee or registrant. Good cause may include, without

limitation, events that may not be reasonably anticipated or events that were not under the control of the licensee or registrant.

[PL 1999, c. 334, §1 (NEW).]

**4-B. Reimbursement for fees imposed on transfers out of state.** Any person who paid a fee under subsection 4, paragraph A-1, subparagraph (2), (3) or (4) on petroleum products that were exported from this State must be reimbursed by the department in the following amounts upon presentation of documentation of that payment and transfer:

A. Four cents per barrel of #6 fuel oil; [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (NEW).]

B. Nineteen cents per barrel of #2 fuel oil, kerosene, jet fuel, diesel fuel and other refined products and their by-products not otherwise specified in this subsection, excluding liquid asphalt; and [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (NEW).]

C. Thirty-eight cents per barrel of gasoline. [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (NEW).]

A fee paid on a transfer out of state is eligible for reimbursement under this subsection only if documentation of that payment and transfer are presented to the department within 12 months of the transfer.

[PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (NEW).]

**5. Disbursements from fund.** Money in the fund may be disbursed for the following purposes and no others:

A. Administrative expenses, personal services and equipment costs of the department related to the administration and enforcement of this subchapter and subchapter 2-B, except that total disbursements for personal services may not exceed \$7,000,000 per fiscal year; [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

B. All costs, including without limitation personnel undertaking oil spill response and clean-up activities and equipment expenses, involved in the removal of oil, the abatement of pollution and the implementation of remedial measures including restoration of water supplies, related to the discharge of oil, petroleum products and their by-products covered by this subchapter, including the discharge of oil from an oil storage facility not paid by a responsible party or an applicant for coverage by the fund, and all discharges from interstate pipelines and other discharges prohibited by section 543; [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

C. Sums allocated to research and development in accordance with this section; [PL 1985, c. 496, Pt. A, §13 (AMD).]

D. Payment of 3rd-party claims awarded in accordance with this section that are not paid by the responsible party or applicant for coverage by the fund and payment of 3rd-party damage claims that are paid to owners or operators pursuant to section 568-A, subsection 6; [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

E. Payment of costs of hearings, independent hearing examiners and independent claims adjusters for 3rd-party damage claims; [PL 2009, c. 501, §5 (AMD).]

F. Payment of costs of insurance by the State to extend or implement the benefits of the fund; [PL 1985, c. 496, Pt. A, §13 (AMD).]

G. [PL 1991, c. 817, §18 (RP).]

H. Sums, up to \$50,000 each year, that have been allocated by the Legislature on a contingency basis in accordance with section 555 for payment of costs for damage assessment for specific spills and site-specific studies of the environmental impacts of a particular discharge prohibited by section 543 that may have adverse economic effects and occur subsequent to such an allocation,

when those studies are determined necessary by the commissioner; [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

I. Payment of costs for the collection of overdue reimbursements; [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

J. All costs associated with the Board of Underground Oil Storage Tank Installers, not to exceed \$100,000; [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (NEW).]

K. Payments to or on behalf of applicants eligible for coverage by the fund under section 568-A, subsection 1 for expenses above the deductible specified in section 568-A, subsection 2 incurred in commissioner-approved clean-up activities and specified in an agreement under section 568-A, subsection 4; [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (NEW).]

L. All costs associated with the Clean-up and Response Fund Review Board, not to exceed \$200,000; [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (NEW).]

M. Costs incurred by the Office of the State Fire Marshal to implement the duties assigned to the State Fire Marshal in this chapter, not to exceed \$150,000; [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (NEW).]

N. Sums up to \$500,000 annually to retrofit, repair, replace or remove aboveground oil storage tanks or facilities when the commissioner determines that action is necessary to abate an imminent threat to a groundwater restoration project, a public water supply or a sensitive geologic area, including coastal islands and peninsulas. Money available under this paragraph may be disbursed by the department to pay reasonable costs actually incurred by municipalities in assisting the department in taking actions under this paragraph. Money available under this paragraph may also be used by the department to fund educational efforts that encourage the retrofit, repair, replacement or removal of aboveground oil storage tanks or facilities. Money may not be disbursed from the fund for the purposes of this paragraph until the department has presented a plan for such disbursements to the Clean-up and Response Fund Review Board. Money may not be disbursed from the fund under this paragraph unless the department has adopted a written policy in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act establishing:

(1) Criteria for determining those instances when funds should be disbursed under this paragraph, including criteria for determining what constitutes a sensitive geologic area;

(2) Guidelines that ensure that money disbursed from the fund under this paragraph will be used in the most cost-effective manner, considering the likelihood of actual contamination of water supplies absent action taken pursuant to this paragraph, the costs of remediation of such contamination and the possibility that the owner of an aboveground oil storage tank or facility would retrofit, repair, replace or remove the tank at the owner's own expense;

(3) Guidelines for payments to municipalities for reasonable administrative costs actually incurred by municipalities in assisting the department in taking actions under this paragraph;

(4) A means test for eligibility for disbursements from the fund;

(5) A deductible that is adjusted according to the financial means of the person receiving a disbursement; and

(6) Limits for eligibility to residents of this State; [PL 2019, c. 583, §1 (AMD).]

O. Sums up to \$2,000,000 annually to distribute to community action agencies as defined in Title 22, section 5321, subsection 2 for loans and grants to retrofit, repair, replace or remove aboveground and underground oil storage tanks and associated piping at single-family residences. Money may not be disbursed from the fund for the purposes of this paragraph until the department has presented a plan for such disbursements to the Clean-up and Response Fund Review Board. A community action agency shall administer the funds in accordance with program operating standards, including the allocation formula established by the Maine State Housing Authority for its weatherization program. Sums available under this paragraph may be disbursed by the

department to pay reasonable costs actually incurred by a community action agency in providing services pursuant to this paragraph. Money may not be disbursed from the fund under this paragraph unless the department has adopted a written policy in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act establishing guidelines for payments to community action agencies for reasonable administrative costs actually incurred by community action agencies in providing services pursuant to this paragraph; and [PL 2019, c. 583, §1 (AMD).]

P. Sums of up to \$500,000 annually for loans and grants for department-approved rebate programs to retrofit, repair, replace or remove aboveground and underground oil storage tanks and associated piping at residential dwellings. [PL 2019, c. 583, §2 (NEW).]  
[PL 2019, c. 583, §§1, 2 (AMD).]

**6. Reimbursements to Maine Ground and Surface Waters Clean-up and Response Fund.** For the use of the fund, the commissioner shall seek recovery of disbursements from the fund for the following purposes, including overdrafts and interest computed at 15% a year from the date of expenditure, unless the department finds the amount involved too small, the likelihood of success too uncertain or that recovery of costs is unlikely due to the inability of the responsible party to pay those costs, except that recoveries resulting from damage due to an oil pollution disaster declared by the Governor pursuant to section 547 must be apportioned between the fund and the General Fund so as to repay the full costs to the General Fund of any bonds issued as a result of the disaster:

A. All disbursements made by the fund pursuant to subsection 5, paragraphs A, B, D, E, H and I in connection with a prohibited discharge; [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

B. In the case of a licensee promptly reporting a discharge as required by this subchapter, disbursements made by the fund pursuant to subsection 5, paragraphs B, D and E in connection with any single prohibited discharge including 3rd-party claims in excess of \$15,000, except to the extent that the costs are covered by payments received under any federal program; [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

C. [PL 1989, c. 868, §9 (RP); PL 1991, c. 66, Pt. A, §21 (RP).]

D. [PL 1989, c. 868, §9 (RP); PL 1991, c. 66, Pt. A, §21 (RP).]

E. Disbursements made by the fund greater than \$750,000 per occurrence expended from the fund pursuant to subsection 5, paragraph K for an applicant for coverage by the fund found by the commissioner to be eligible under section 568-A, subsection 1, excluding occurrences at underground oil storage facilities; and [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (NEW).]

F. Disbursements made by the fund greater than \$1,000,000 per occurrence at an underground oil storage facility expended from the fund pursuant to subsection 5, paragraph K for an applicant for coverage by the fund found by the commissioner to be eligible under section 568-A, subsection 1. [PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (NEW).]

Requests for reimbursement to the fund, if not paid within 30 days of demand, may be turned over to the Attorney General for collection or may be submitted to a collection agency or agent or an attorney retained by the department with the approval of the Attorney General in conformance with Title 5, section 191, or the department may file suit in District Court. The commissioner may file claims with appropriate federal agencies to recover for the use of the fund all disbursements from the fund in connection with a prohibited discharge.

Requests for reimbursement to the fund for disbursements pursuant to subsection 5, paragraph B, if not paid within 60 days of demand, are subject to a penalty not to exceed twice the total amount of reimbursement requested. This penalty is in addition to the reimbursement requested and any other fines or civil penalties authorized by this Title.  
[PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

**6-A. Lien.** All costs incurred by the State in the removal, abatement and remediation of a prohibited discharge of oil, all costs incurred by the State in the abandonment of an underground oil storage facility or tank under section 566-A, subsection 4 and interest are a lien against the real estate of the responsible party. The lien does not apply to the real estate of a licensee if the discharge was caused or suffered by a carrier destined for the licensee's facilities. For a responsible party determined eligible for coverage under section 568-A, subsection 1, the lien is for the amount of any unpaid deductible assigned under section 568-A, subsection 2 and any eligible clean-up costs and 3rd-party damage claims above \$750,000, or above \$1,000,000 for underground oil storage facilities.

A certificate of lien signed by the commissioner must be sent by certified mail to the responsible party prior to being recorded and may be filed in the office of the clerk of the municipality in which the real estate is located. The lien is effective when the certificate is recorded with the registry of deeds for the county in which the real estate is located. The certificate of lien must include a description of the real estate, the amount of the lien and the name of the owner as grantor.

When the amount for which a lien has been recorded under this subsection has been paid or reduced, the commissioner, upon request by any person of record holding interest in the real estate that is the subject of the lien, shall issue a certificate discharging or partially discharging the lien. The certificate must be recorded in the registry in which the lien was recorded. Any action of foreclosure of the lien must be brought by the Attorney General in the name of the State in the Superior Court for the judicial district in which the real estate subject to the lien is located.

[PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

**7. Waiver of reimbursement.** Upon petition of any licensee, the board may, after hearing, waive the right to reimbursement to the fund if it finds that the occurrence was the result of any of the following:

A. An act of war; [PL 1985, c. 496, Pt. A, §13 (AMD).]

B. An act of government, either state, federal or municipal, except insofar as the act was pursuant to section 548; or [RR 1991, c. 2, §147 (COR).]

C. An act of God, which means an unforeseeable act exclusively occasioned by the violence of nature without the interference of any human agency. [RR 1993, c. 1, §125 (COR).]

Upon such finding by the board, immediate credit therefor must be entered for the party involved. The findings of the board are conclusive as it is the legislative intent that waiver provided in this subsection is a privilege conferred, not a right granted.

[RR 1993, c. 1, §125 (COR).]

**8. Disbursements to state agencies.** A state agency that seeks reimbursement from the fund for costs incurred in undertaking oil spill response activities shall keep time records demonstrating the amount of spill response activities performed for which reimbursement is sought. A state agency may establish a dedicated account for receipt of disbursements from the fund. Disbursements from the fund to a state agency pursuant to subsection 5, paragraph B must be deposited in that account, if it has been established, and may be used by the agency to support its activities.

[PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1969, c. 572, §1 (NEW). PL 1971, c. 618, §12 (AMD). PL 1973, c. 625, §§278,279 (AMD). PL 1975, c. 379, §§1-3 (AMD). PL 1977, c. 375, §§10-16 (AMD). PL 1979, c. 541, §A268 (AMD). PL 1979, c. 708 (AMD). PL 1981, c. 356, §§1,2 (AMD). PL 1983, c. 273, §§1,2 (AMD). PL 1983, c. 483, §§11-15 (AMD). PL 1985, c. 496, §A13 (AMD). PL 1985, c. 746, §22 (AMD). PL 1987, c. 750, §3 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 500, §§1-3 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 502, §A147 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 868, §§4-9,19 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 890, §§A40,B117- 123 (AMD). RR 1991, c. 2, §147 (COR). PL 1991, c. 66, §§A19-21 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 66, §A42 (AFF). PL 1991, c. 454,



§§8-12 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 454, §14 (AFF). PL 1991, c. 698, §§10,11 (AMD). PL 1991, c. 817, §§11-19 (AMD). RR 1993, c. 1, §125 (COR). PL 1993, c. 355, §§11-13 (AMD). PL 1993, c. 621, §2 (AMD). PL 1993, c. 720, §§2,3 (AMD). PL 1995, c. 399, §§2-4 (AMD). PL 1995, c. 399, §21 (AFF). PL 1997, c. 188, §1 (AMD). PL 1997, c. 364, §§26-29 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 334, §1 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 137, §1 (AMD). PL 2003, c. 551, §§9,10 (AMD). PL 2005, c. 330, §20 (AMD). PL 2005, c. 561, §5 (AMD). PL 2007, c. 292, §29 (AMD). PL 2009, c. 501, §§5, 6 (AMD). PL 2013, c. 349, §1 (AMD). PL 2015, c. 319, §16 (AMD). PL 2019, c. 583, §§1, 2 (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 Second Regular Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through January 1, 2025. 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.