

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
TWO THOUSAND AND THIRTEEN

S.P. 480 - L.D. 1373

An Act To Update the Polygraph Examiner Licensing Laws

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

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§74-H is enacted to read:

74-H.

<u>Public Safety</u>	<u>Polygraph</u>	<u>Not Authorized</u>	<u>32 MRSA §7371</u>
	<u>Examiners Advisory</u>		
	<u>Board</u>		

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA c. 85, as amended, is repealed.

Sec. 3. 32 MRSA c. 86 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 86

POLYGRAPH EXAMINERS ACT

SUBCHAPTER 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

§7351. Short title

This chapter may be known and cited as "the Polygraph Examiners Act."

§7352. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. Board. "Board" means the Polygraph Examiners Advisory Board under section 7371.

**2. Commissioner.** "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Safety.

**3. Department.** "Department" means the Department of Public Safety.

**4. Instrument.** "Instrument" means a device used to test a subject to directly or indirectly detect deception or verify the truth of a statement by, at a minimum, recording visually, permanently and simultaneously a subject's cardiovascular, respiratory and electrodermal patterns.

**5. Intern.** "Intern" means a person who holds a polygraph examiner intern license under this chapter.

**6. Polygraph examiner.** "Polygraph examiner" means a person licensed under this chapter to use an instrument.

**7. Polygraph examiner internship.** "Polygraph examiner internship" means a course of study of polygraph examinations and of the administration of polygraph examinations by an intern under the supervision and control of a polygraph examiner.

**§7353. Commissioner; powers and duties**

**1. Administer and enforce.** The commissioner shall administer and enforce this chapter.

**2. Rules.** The commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

**3. Board.** The commissioner shall consult with the board concerning the licensing of polygraph examiners, polygraph examiner internship requirements and any other matters necessary for the administration of this chapter.

**§7354. License required to maintain action or counterclaim**

A person may not maintain an action or counterclaim against another person in a court in this State with respect to an agreement for or the performance of a service for which a license is required by this chapter, including the recovery of any compensation under the agreement or for the service, unless the person alleges and proves that the other person was licensed at the time of making the agreement or performing the service.

**§7355. General criminal penalty**

**1. General violation.** A person commits a Class E crime if the person:

A. Intentionally violates this chapter other than section 7365;

B. Falsely represents that the person:

(1) Has been or is a polygraph examiner or intern; or

(2) Is qualified to use an instrument;

C. Maintains possession of a suspended or revoked polygraph examiner license; or

D. Fails to make a report required by section 7361, subsection 1, paragraph F.

2. Violation of confidentiality. A person commits a Class D crime if the person intentionally violates section 7365.

## SUBCHAPTER 2

### POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION ADMINISTRATION GENERALLY

#### §7361. Polygraph examiner's duties and responsibilities generally

1. Duties and responsibilities. A polygraph examiner or an intern shall:

A. Abide by the provisions of this chapter and rules adopted pursuant to this chapter;

B. Ensure that confidential information protected under section 7365 is disclosed only as authorized by that section;

C. Inform a subject to be examined of the nature of the examination;

D. Inform the subject of an examination of the examination results on request at the completion of the examination;

E. Provide within a reasonable time information requested by the commissioner as the result of a formal complaint to the commissioner alleging a violation of this chapter; and

F. Immediately report to the Department of Health and Human Services when the examiner knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that a person 14 years of age or younger will be the victim of a sexual assault crime as provided under Title 17-A, chapter 11 or is in imminent danger of substantial bodily injury or death.

The duty to report provided in this paragraph does not abrogate any other duty an examiner has to report by virtue of the examiner's profession pursuant to Title 22, section 3477 or 4011-A.

2. Prohibitions. A polygraph examiner or an intern may not:

A. Aid or abet another to violate this chapter or a rule adopted under this chapter;

B. Allow the person's license issued under this chapter to be used by an unlicensed person in violation of this chapter;

C. Make a material misstatement in an application for the issuance or renewal of a license;

D. Make a misrepresentation or false promise or cause the printing of a false or misleading advertisement to directly or indirectly obtain business;

E. Conduct an examination without the informed consent of the subject of the examination;

F. Administer a polygraph examination to a minor without the written consent of a parent of the minor or the minor's legal guardian;

G. Make a false report concerning an examination for polygraph examination purposes; or

H. Commit a criminal offense, including, but not limited to, an offense that directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of a polygraph examiner.

3. Disciplinary action. A person who fails to comply with this section is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to section 7388.

### **§7362. Minimum polygraph instrument requirements**

1. Minimum instrument requirements. An instrument must record visually, permanently and simultaneously a subject's cardiovascular, respiratory and electrodermal patterns. An instrument used by a polygraph examiner may also record patterns of other physiological changes.

2. Other devices prohibited. The use of any device by a polygraph examiner for the purpose of directly or indirectly detecting deception or verifying truth of statements that does not meet the minimum instrument requirements set forth in subsection 1 is prohibited.

### **§7363. Prohibitions**

1. Practice without a license. A person may not administer polygraph examinations, purport to be a polygraph examiner or use any other title that would cause members of the public to believe that the person is a polygraph examiner without first securing a license under this chapter. This prohibition does not apply to an employee of the Federal Government who administers polygraph examinations in the course of employment or who purports to be a polygraph examiner in connection with employment.

2. Prohibited questioning. A polygraph examiner conducting a polygraph examination may not ask any questions pertaining to sexual behavior of any type or questions that could be construed as being sexually oriented, unless the examination is conducted either in the course of a criminal investigation by law enforcement officials or in the course of civil litigation in which sexual behavior is at issue or the examination is conducted for the purpose of ensuring compliance with court-ordered sex offender treatment. This prohibition does not apply to polygraph examinations for applicants for positions in law enforcement agencies. If the polygraph examination is conducted for the purpose of ensuring compliance with court-ordered sex offender treatment, the results of the examination are not admissible into evidence in a court proceeding.

3. Political or religious beliefs. A polygraph examiner may not ask questions regarding the political or religious beliefs of any individual during a polygraph examination, except when the examination is conducted in the course of a criminal investigation conducted by law enforcement officials and the political or religious beliefs of the individual may be relevant to that investigation.

4. Knowledge and consent. A polygraph examiner may not conduct a polygraph examination without the subject's full knowledge and consent.

#### **§7364. Limitations on uses in employment**

**1. Preemployment screening.** An employer may not, directly or indirectly, require, request or suggest that an applicant for employment submit to a polygraph examination as a condition of obtaining employment or administer or cause to be administered to an applicant such an examination or use or refer to the results of such an examination for hiring purposes. For purposes of this subsection, "employer" includes an employment agency and "applicant" includes a person seeking to use an employment agency's services.

**2. Current employees.** An employer may not, directly or indirectly, require, request or suggest that an employee submit to a polygraph examination as a condition of continued employment or administer or cause to be administered to an employee such an examination or use or refer to the results of such an examination for employment purposes.

**3. Exception.** This section does not apply to employees of or applicants for employment with law enforcement agencies.

**4. Voluntary request.** This section does not prohibit an employee from voluntarily requesting a polygraph examination in connection with employment or an employer from using or referring to the results of any examination so requested, except that the results of that examination may not be used against the employee by the employer for any purpose, the employer must give the employee a copy of this chapter when the employee requests the examination and the examination must be recorded or a witness of the employee's choice must be present during the examination, or both, as the employee requests.

#### **§7365. Confidentiality of polygraph examination results and related records**

**1. Disclosure prohibited.** A polygraph examiner, intern or employee of a polygraph examiner may not disclose information acquired from a polygraph examination, or records resulting from a polygraph examination, to another person other than:

- A. The subject of the examination;
- B. Any other person specifically designated in writing by the subject of the examination;
- C. A member or agent of the department that licenses a polygraph examiner or law enforcement agency that supervises or controls a polygraph examiner's activities;
- D. Another polygraph examiner in private, professional consultation; or
- E. The Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to section 7361, subsection 1, paragraph F.

**2. Further disclosure prohibited.** A polygraph examiner or other person to whom information acquired from a polygraph examination is disclosed under subsection 1 may not further disclose the information or records.

**3. Examination records.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the pre-test, in-test and post-test records associated with the administration of a polygraph

examination that is administered for preemployment screening purposes or in association with a law enforcement investigation are confidential for the purposes of Title 1, chapter 13 and are not subject to compulsory legal process or otherwise discoverable or admissible in evidence in any civil action unless the confidentiality is expressly waived, in writing, by the subject of the examination. For purposes of this subsection, "records" includes, but is not limited to, video and audio recordings, graphs and examination results.

**4. Records in custody of commissioner.** Records in the custody of the commissioner pursuant to this chapter are confidential if those records contain:

- A. Personal medical information of an applicant or licensee under this chapter; or
- B. Personally identifying information of a minor to whom a polygraph examination has been administered.

**§7366. Information included in contract for services and waiver of liability**

If a written contract for a polygraph examiner's services or a waiver of liability is signed by the subject of a polygraph examination, the contract or waiver must inform the subject of the procedures for filing a complaint with the commissioner against the polygraph examiner and contain the name, mailing address and telephone number of the department.

**SUBCHAPTER 3**

**POLYGRAPH EXAMINERS ADVISORY BOARD**

**§7371. Polygraph Examiners Advisory Board**

**1. Establishment; advise commissioner.** The Polygraph Examiners Advisory Board, as established by Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 74-H, shall act as an advisory board to the commissioner on issues relating to the licensing and regulation of polygraph examiners.

**2. Members.** The board consists of 5 members appointed by the Governor as follows:

- A. Two polygraph examiners, each of whom is a polygraph examiner for a state, county or municipal law enforcement agency;
- B. Two polygraph examiners who are polygraph examiners in a commercial field; and
- C. One member who represents the public.

**3. Residency.** A member of the board must have been a resident of this State for at least 2 years immediately preceding the date of appointment.

**4. Active engagement.** Except for the member of the board who represents the public, a member of the board must be actively engaged as a polygraph examiner on the date of appointment to the board.

**5. Employment.** No 2 board members may be employed by the same employer.

**6. Meetings.** The board shall meet as needed, but at least twice annually.

**7. Terms.** Board members serve 3-year terms.

**8. Vacancies.** If a vacancy occurs on the board, the Governor shall appoint a successor to fill the unexpired term.

**9. Chair.** The board shall select from among its members a chair to serve for a 2-year term.

**10. Powers and duties.** The board shall:

**A.** Advise the commissioner on proposed rules;

**B.** At the request of the commissioner, review written examinations for polygraph examiner license applicants and provide advice regarding polygraph examiner internship requirements;

**C.** At the request of the commissioner, provide advice on granting, suspending and revoking the licenses of polygraph examiners;

**D.** Propose standards governing the conduct of persons licensed under this chapter, which may be incorporated by reference into rules adopted by the commissioner; and

**E.** At the request of the commissioner, provide advice and information on any matters the commissioner determines appropriate or necessary to administer this chapter.

## **SUBCHAPTER 4**

### **LICENSURE**

#### **§7381. License application**

**1. Application.** An application for a polygraph examiner license or polygraph examiner intern license must:

**A.** Be complete and made to the commissioner, in the manner and including the information prescribed by the commissioner; and

**B.** Be accompanied by the required nonrefundable fee. A fee for any license under this chapter may be charged only in an amount reasonably calculated by the commissioner to cover the aggregate costs of the administration of this chapter by the department.

**2. Term of polygraph examiner license.** A polygraph examiner license is issued for a 2-year term and may be renewed.

**3. Term of polygraph examiner intern license.** A polygraph examiner intern license expires on the first anniversary of the date of issuance and may be renewed once. After the expiration of the original term of a polygraph examiner intern license and renewal of that license granted by the commissioner, an intern may not hold another

polygraph examiner intern license before the first anniversary of the date the intern's previous polygraph examiner intern license expired.

4. Sole authority. The commissioner has sole authority to issue a license under this chapter.

**§7382. Qualifications for license**

1. Qualifications. A person is qualified for a polygraph examiner license if the person:

A. Has not been convicted of a crime for which a license may be denied under Title 5, chapter 341;

B. Either:

(1) Holds a baccalaureate degree from a college or university accredited by an organization recognized by the commissioner; or

(2) Has at least 5 years of active investigative experience with an investigative service of the United States as a sworn member of a branch of the United States Armed Forces, a federal investigative agency or a law enforcement agency immediately preceding the date of application;

C. Is a graduate of a commissioner-approved polygraph examiner course and has satisfactorily completed at least 6 months of a polygraph examiner internship; and

D. Has passed an examination approved by the commissioner to determine the person's competency for a license.

2. Examination. The commissioner shall provide for an examination for licensure under this chapter to be administered as needed, but at least at 3-month intervals.

**§7383. Nonresident applicant for license**

1. Consent to action. In addition to meeting all other requirements for a license, an applicant for the issuance or renewal of a polygraph examiner license who is not a resident of this State must file with the commissioner an irrevocable consent to have:

A. An action against the applicant filed in a court in a county or municipality of the state in which:

(1) The plaintiff resides; or

(2) A part of the transaction out of which the alleged cause of action arose occurred; and

B. Process in the action under paragraph A served on the applicant by leaving 2 copies of the process with the commissioner. Service of process in the manner described under this paragraph is binding for all purposes.

2. Copy to applicant. The commissioner shall immediately send by registered or certified mail a copy of the process under subsection 1, paragraph B to the applicant at the address shown on department records.

**§7384. Applicant with out-of-state license**

The commissioner may grant a license to an applicant who holds a valid license from another state that has license requirements substantially equivalent to or more stringent than those of this State.

**§7385. Continuing education**

A polygraph examiner shall participate in continuing education programs as required by rules of the commissioner.

**§7386. License holder information**

A polygraph examiner or intern shall notify the commissioner in writing of a change in the polygraph examiner's or intern's principal business location or residential location not later than the 30th day after the date the change is made.

**§7387. Display of license**

A polygraph examiner or intern shall prominently display the polygraph examiner's or intern's license or a copy of the license at the polygraph examiner's or intern's place of business or place of internship, as appropriate.

**§7388. Refusal; suspension; revocation; disciplinary action; grounds**

The commissioner may deny a license, refuse to renew a license, suspend or revoke a license or impose disciplinary or probationary conditions, fines or costs of hearing and investigation on a polygraph examiner or intern, as well as issue a written warning, for:

**1. Violation of chapter or rule.** A violation of any provision of this chapter or any rule adopted by the commissioner;

**2. Violation of standards of acceptable professional conduct.** A violation of the standards of acceptable professional conduct adopted by rule by the commissioner; or

**3. Cause for refusal.** The commission of an act that would have been cause for refusal to issue a license had the act occurred and been known to the commissioner at the time of issuance of a license.

A decision to deny, revoke or suspend a license or to impose disciplinary action of any kind under this chapter may be appealed pursuant to the Maine Administrative Procedure Act.

**§7389. Surrender of license**

A polygraph examiner or intern whose license is suspended or revoked by the commissioner shall immediately surrender the license to the commissioner.

**§7390. Administrative actions; Maine Administrative Procedure Act**

The Maine Administrative Procedure Act applies to and governs all administrative actions taken under this chapter.

**Sec. 4. Polygraph Examiners Advisory Board; staggered terms.**

Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, section 7371, subsection 7, of the initial members appointed to the Polygraph Examiners Advisory Board, the Governor shall appoint 2 members for terms of 3 years, 2 members for terms of 2 years and one member for a term of one year.

**Sec. 5. Effective date.** This Act takes effect April 1, 2014.