

### §3033. Work assignments

**1. Public works.** The commissioner may authorize the employment of able-bodied prisoners in the construction and improvement of highways or other public works within the State under such arrangements as may be made with the Department of Transportation or with another department or commission of the State, county or municipality in charge of these public works, and the commissioner may prescribe whatever rules and conditions the commissioner considers expedient to ensure the proper care and treatment of the prisoners while so employed and to ensure their safekeeping and return. [PL 1989, c. 127, §7 (AMD).]

**2. Fire or disaster.** The commissioner may authorize the training and use of able-bodied prisoners by the Bureau of Forestry or the Maine Emergency Management Agency, to fight fires or provide assistance during or after a civil disaster. [PL 1989, c. 127, §8 (AMD); PL 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §7 (REV); PL 2013, c. 405, Pt. A, §23 (REV).]

**3. Charitable property improvement.** The commissioner may authorize the use of able-bodied prisoners to provide assistance in the improvement of property owned by charitable, nonprofit organizations.

A. The commissioner shall promulgate such rules as he deems proper to ensure the care and treatment of the prisoners and the safe working conditions of prisoners and departmental employees. [PL 1983, c. 581, §§ 18, 59 (NEW).]

B. The commissioner may request that charitable, nonprofit organizations pay for the transportation of the prisoners and pay the per diem compensation of guards, correctional officers or instructors who must accompany the prisoners or oversee the work to be performed. [PL 1983, c. 581, §§ 18, 59 (NEW).]

[PL 1983, c. 581, §§ 18, 59 (RPR).]

**4. Prohibited act.** A person is guilty of escape under Title 17-A, section 755, if that person is a prisoner and escapes from any assignments described in this section or from any other assignment beyond the walls or other security restraints surrounding a correctional facility or otherwise off the grounds of an assigned location.

[PL 1989, c. 127, §9 (AMD).]

#### SECTION HISTORY

PL 1983, c. 459, §6 (NEW). PL 1983, c. 581, §§18, 59 (AMD). PL 1987, c. 370, §7 (AMD). PL 1989, c. 127, §§7-9 (AMD). PL 2011, c. 657, Pt. W, §7 (REV). PL 2013, c. 405, Pt. A, §23 (REV).

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 Special Session of the 132nd Maine Legislature and is current through October 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.