

# **120TH LEGISLATURE**

# SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Bill Requests Received before Cloture on October 5, 2001 and Submitted for Consideration by the Legislative Council on October 29, 2001.

> Office of the Revisor of Statutes 7 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333-0007

SPONSOR: Rep. Annis of Dover-Foxcroft

LR: 2818

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Setoff of Debts Against Tax Refunds to Include Convicted Felons
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to allow the State to attach the state income tax refund of a convicted felon.

SPONSOR: Rep. Ash, Jr. of Belfast

LR: 3210

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Lobster and Crab Fishing Licenses
- COMMENTS: This bill allows anyone who has previously held a Class I, Class II or Class III lobster and crab fishing license to obtain the same license.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 468 CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2796 - PINKHAM

SPONSOR: Rep. Ash, Jr. of Belfast

LR: 3211

TITLE: An Act Regarding Tax Payments Made to Municipalities

COMMENTS: This bill requires a municipality to apply tax payments made to that municipality by a taxpayer first to personal property taxes that are owed by that taxpayer and then to property taxes.

SPONSOR: Rep. Ash, Jr. of Belfast

LR: 3212

- TITLE: An Act to Allow a Municipality to Refuse to Issue or Renew a License or Permit for Failure to Pay Personal Property Taxes
- COMMENTS: This bill allows a municipality to refuse to issue or renew a license or permit for failure to pay personal property taxes.

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SPONSOR: Rep. Baker of Bangor

LR: 2769

- TITLE: An Act to Extend Maternity Leave to Mothers of Adopted Children Under the Age of One Year
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to extend maternity leave to mothers who adopt children that are under the age of one year.

SPONSOR: Rep. Baker of Bangor

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Clean Government Initiative to Include all State-supported Institutions of Higher Education
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to include all state-supported institutions of higher education in the Clean Government Initiative.

SPONSOR: Rep. Baker of Bangor

LR: 3230

- TITLE: An Act Concerning the Cumulative Effects of Nonpoint Source Pollution
- COMMENTS: This bill will direct the Department of Environmental Protection to consider the cumulative effects of nonpoint source pollution during the permitting process. Further, it will instruct the department to create standards for the amount of impervious surfaces that a watershed can support.

SPONSOR: Rep. Baker of Bangor

LR: 3231

TITLE: An Act to Ensure the Upkeep of University Facilities

COMMENTS: This bill will require each University of Maine System campus to create and administer a plan that will ensure the proper maintenance and upkeep of buildings and other facilities. Further, it will direct the campuses to favor renovation of existing buildings over new construction.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bennett of Oxford

- TITLE: An Act Concerning Confidentiality of Investigations by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices
- COMMENTS: This bill repeals the provision of law that requires the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to keep a request for investigation confidential if it is filed within 10 business days immediately preceding the election.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bennett of Oxford

LR: 2735

TITLE: An Act to Exempt Benefits Received From Public and Private Pensions From Maine Income Tax

COMMENTS: This bill would fully exempt from Maine income tax the first \$6,000 of benefits received from public and private pensions.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERSLD(S)810CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ:LR 2771 - EDMONDSCLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ:LR 3201 - MENDROS

SPONSOR: Sen. Bennett of Oxford

LR: 2737

TITLE: An Act to Exempt From Sales Tax the Sale of Textbooks

COMMENTS: This bill exempts from taxation the sale of textbooks.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 571

SPONSOR: Sen. Bennett of Oxford

LR: 2870

TITLE: An Act to Designate March 16th as Liberty Day

COMMENTS: This bill would establish March 16th as Liberty Day.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bennett of Oxford

LR: 3266

TITLE: An Act to Protect Manufactured Home Owners

COMMENTS: This bill allows the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Manufactured Housing Board to provide training to and license mechanics to install and upgrade oil tanks in manufactured homes to current standards thereby ensuring that owners of manufactured homes have access to reasonable and qualified oil tank technician services.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bennett of Oxford

LR: 3267

- TITLE: An Act to Establish Preferences for Domestic Manufacturers of Portable Temporary Classroom Space
- COMMENTS: This bill requires that any portable temporary classroom purchased, leased or maintained by state funds must be manufactured in the United States and preference must be given to Maine manufacturers.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bennett of Oxford LR: 3268 TITLE: An Act to Equalize the Fee Structure for Class I and Class II Liquor Licenses

COMMENTS: This bill reduces the fee for a Class II license under the retail liquor sales law to \$220 per year.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bennett of Oxford

LR: 3269

- TITLE: An Act to Expedite Employment in the Maine Construction Industry
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow the use of on-site, rapid response drug tests by construction companies operating in this State for potential new hires.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bennett of Oxford

LR: 3278

- TITLE: An Act to Require Majority Resident Representation on the Board of any Assisted Living Facility Receiving Bonds from the Maine Health and Higher Education Facilities Authority
- COMMENTS: This bill requires that an assisted living facility receiving bonds from the Maine Health and Higher Education Facilities Authority must have majority resident representation on its governing board.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bennett of Oxford

- TITLE: An Act to Require Tax-exempt Corporations to File Copies of Federal Internal Revenue Service Form 990 with the Secretary of State
- COMMENTS: Most charitable corporations qualifying as tax-exempt under federal law must file IRS form 990 as a means of ensuring public accountability. This bill requires such an organization to file a copy of that form with the Secretary of State as well.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bennett of Oxford

LR: 3302

TITLE: An Act to Clarify the Overtime Statute

COMMENTS: This bill clarifies the laws concerning employees involved in the motor transport industry who work overtime.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3180 - BUNKER CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3245 - MATTHEWS

SPONSOR: Rep. Bliss of South Portland

LR: 2773

- TITLE: An Act to Ensure Accountability in the Cumberland County Budget Process
- COMMENTS: This bill would change the name of the Cumberland County Budget Advisory Committee to the Cumberland County Budget Committee and require any changes in the budget proposed by the committee to be approved by majority vote of the committee and the county commissioners.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2804 - SNOWE-MELLO CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2976 - CUMMINGS

SPONSOR: Rep. Bliss of South Portland

LR: 2913

TITLE: An Act to Clarify Title to Abandoned Railroad Corridors

COMMENTS: This bill would establish the Abandoned Railroad Corridor Registry to determine the rightful ownership of abandoned railroad corridors in Maine.

SPONSOR: Rep. Laverriere-Boucher of Biddeford

LR: 2724

- TITLE: An Act to Allow Certain Licensed Mental Health Professionals to Directly Bill Medicaid
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow licensed clinical social workers and licensed clinical professional counselors to directly bill Medicaid for services rendered to persons with Medicaid coverage.

SPONSOR: Rep. Laverriere-Boucher of Biddeford

LR: 2725

TITLE: An Act to Create the Foster Parent State Board of Review

COMMENTS: This bill would establish the Foster Parent State Board of Review to review for acceptance or rejection any rule made by the Department of Human Services regarding foster parents. The board would consist of 16 foster parents, one from each county.

SPONSOR: Rep. Laverriere-Boucher of Biddeford

- TITLE: An Act to Include the Money Spent on Building Portable Classrooms in the Leasing Conversion Construction Allowance
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to allow school districts to include the money spent to build their own portable classrooms in the formula that determines the funding amount for renovation.

SPONSOR: Rep. Laverriere-Boucher of Biddeford

LR: 2802

- TITLE: An Act to Include Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists Under Medicaid Coverage
- COMMENTS: The bill would direct the Department of Human Services to amend the Medicaid rules to provide for reimbursement of licensed marriage and family therapists.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2704 - PATRICK

SPONSOR: Rep. Laverriere-Boucher of Biddeford

LR: 2911

TITLE: An Act to Promote Affordable Housing in Downtown Areas

COMMENTS: This bill exempts from municipal minimum lot size standards multiple-unit affordable housing developments that are located in municipal downtown areas or other areas of the municipality served by a public sewer system that has the capacity to support the development.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3037 - SULLIVAN

SPONSOR: Rep. Bouffard of Lewiston

LR: 3083

- TITLE: An Act to Prohibit the Use of a Mobile Telephone while Operating a Motor Vehicle
- COMMENTS: This bill prohibits the use of a mobile telephone while operating a motor vehicle. It also requires a report regarding specific types of driver inatttention that contribute to accidents in this State.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 95

SPONSOR: Rep. Bowles of Sanford

LR: 2852

TITLE: An Act to Amend the Law Regarding Severance Pay

COMMENTS: This bill amends the law governing severance pay so that, upon determination by the Department of Labor that a substantial cessation of operations in a covered establishment has occurred, any employee that was laid off within a period of one year prior to that determination is also eligible for severance pay under the law. Employees terminated for cause or who voluntarily left would not be eligible under the law.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bromley of Cumberland

LR: 2883

- TITLE: An Act Regarding the Property Tax Liability of the Seller Upon the Sale of Property
- COMMENTS: This bill provides that a seller of property is exempt from tax liability and consequences, such as the filing of a lien, as a result of a buyer's failure to pay taxes on the property. This exemption is effective upon receipt by the tax assessor of notice that the property has been sold.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1108

SPONSOR: Sen. Bromley of Cumberland

LR: 2923

TITLE: An Act to Increase Funding for the County Jails

COMMENTS: This bill requires the Department of Corrections to fund 50% of the operational costs of the county jails.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bromley of Cumberland

LR: 2924

- TITLE: An Act to Improve the Effectiveness of the Beverage Container Deposit Law
- COMMENTS: This bill allows the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to follow the Vermont law of halting the sale by distributors of products subject to the law when the distributors sell the same product with a Maine deposit logo in an adjacent state.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bromley of Cumberland

LR: 2925

TITLE: An Act to Establish a Licensed Case Worker Credential

COMMENTS: This bill would create an entry-level licensed case worker credential to all new Department of Human Service workers whether or not they have a bachelor's or master's degree in social work. These employees would become fully licensed social workers "LSW" within a time frame given to allow the workers to get the needed degrees.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3049 - MILLS CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3247 - COLWELL

SPONSOR: Sen. Bromley of Cumberland

LR: 3299

TITLE: An Act to Address Inequities in Consumer Credit Fees

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to assess proportionately the servicing fee that is charged a mortgage company when it underwrites a mortgage.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bromley of Cumberland

LR: 3301

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Insurance Laws as They Pertain to Rental of Cars
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to require insurance companies to pay for a rental car for as long as it takes to make the necessary repairs to the automobile.

SPONSOR: Rep. Brooks of Winterport LR: 2728 TITLE: An Act to Revise the Current Uniform Accident Report

COMMENTS: This bill requires the revision of the uniform accident report to expand the subtopics under driver inattention to include factors such as cell phone use, electronic device use and consumption of food.

SPONSOR: Rep. Brooks of Winterport

- TITLE: An Act Requiring the State to Develop a Comprehensive Health Care Plan That Includes Mental Health as Well as Physical Health
- COMMENTS: This bill would develop dynamic health plans and create a coordinated health planning framework within State Government by establishing the Health Care Planning Advisory Commission and giving the State Planning Office jurisdiction over the health planning function activities.

SPONSOR: Rep. Brooks of Winterport

LR: 2763

TITLE: An Act to Relieve the Nursing Shortage

COMMENTS: This bill seeks to address the nursing shortage crisis by permitting a licensed practical nurse to become a registered nurse if that licensed practical nurse substitutes 5 years of work experience as a licensed practical nurse for the additional educational requirements to become a registered nurse and passes the state board examination to become a registered nurse.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2738 - DOUGLASS

SPONSOR: Rep. Brooks of Winterport

LR: 2764

- TITLE: An Act to Maximize the Amount of State Funds Available to Provide Services by Requiring the State to Meet its Contractual Obligations in a Timely Manner
- COMMENTS: This bill requires the State to meet the terms of its contracts within 30 days after the beginning of the fiscal year following the signing of those contracts.

SPONSOR: Rep. Brooks of Winterport

LR: 2765

TITLE: An Act to Ensure Improvements at Fort Knox

COMMENTS: This bill ensures improvements at Fort Knox by increasing the entrance fee from \$2 to \$3 and dedicating the \$1 increase to the nonprofit organization, Friends of Fort Knox.

SPONSOR: Rep. Brooks of Winterport

LR: 3053

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Charter of the Winterport Sewerage District
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow the Winterport Sewerage District to issue bonds.

SPONSOR: Rep. Brooks of Winterport

LR: 3054

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Timely Issuance of Paychecks
- COMMENTS: This bill would require paychecks to be issued within 2 business days of the end of the pay period.

SPONSOR: Rep. Brooks of Winterport

- TITLE: Resolve, to Ensure Consumer Representation in Medicaid Prescription Drug Programs
- COMMENTS: This resolve would direct the Department of Human Services to amend 2 rules as follows: First, it would add 2 consumer members, both of whom would have the same rights and privileges as the physician and pharmacist members, to the Drug Utilization Review Committee; 2nd, the membership provisions for the drug formulary committee would be amended so that the committee's 2 consumer members, neither of whom currently has voting privileges, would be granted voting privileges equal to those of the committee's other members.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bruno of Raymond

LR: 2707

- TITLE: An Act to Change the Registration Requirement for Certain Motorboats Used in Maine Waters
- COMMENTS: This bill requires that motorboats registered in another state or country that are used in Maine waters in excess of 14 consecutive days must be registered in Maine.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bruno of Raymond

LR: 2723

- TITLE: An Act to Prohibit a Person From Operating a Boat, Personal Watercraft, Snowmobile or All-terrain Vehicle if That Person's License Has Been Suspended as the Result of an OUI Offense
- COMMENTS: This bill prohibits a person from operating a boat, personal watercraft, snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle if that person's license has been suspended as the result of an OUI offense.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bruno of Raymond

- TITLE: An Act to Improve the Health of Maine Citizens Through Hepatitis C Prevention and Detection
- COMMENTS: This bill directs the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health to provide: a media campaign to increase awareness of hepatitis C; accessible laboratory testing for hepatitis C; education of medical and social service providers; epidemiological data collection; and coordination and evaluation of the aforementioned items.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bryant of Dixfield

LR: 2703

- TITLE: An Act to Establish Guidelines for Broadcasting High School Sports
- COMMENTS: This bill requires the Maine Principals' Association to require that the broadcasting company that broadcasts a state championship game guarantee coverage of the district areas that are participating in the game.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bryant of Dixfield

LR: 2749

TITLE: An Act to Provide Access to Health Care in Western Maine

COMMENTS: This bill appropriates \$750,000 to provide access to health care to the citizens of western Maine.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bryant of Dixfield

- TITLE: An Act to Remove the Dialysis Unit Responsibility from the Certificate of Need Process
- COMMENTS: This bill would remove the dialysis unit responsibility from the certificate of need process.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bumps of China

LR: 2702

- TITLE: An Act to Allow Owners of Multiple Vehicles that are Driven Less than 1,000 Miles Per Vehicle Per Calendar Year to Register up to 5 vehicles on the Same License Plate
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow owners of multiple vehicles that are driven less than 1,000 miles per vehicle per calendar year to register up to 5 vehicles on the same license plate.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bunker Jr. of Kossuth Township

LR: 3180

- TITLE: An Act to Codify the Interpretation of the Maine Department of Labor as it Pertains to the Motor Carrier Industry
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to clarify and codify the current practice that motor carriers use in compensating those employees whose qualifications and hours of service are established by the United States Secretary of Transportation. This bill exempts from overtime rates those employees in the motor transport industry whose qualifications and hours of service are regulated by the United States Secretary of Transportation or by the State Police.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3245 - MATTHEWS CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3302 - BENNETT

SPONSOR: Rep. Bunker Jr. of Kossuth Township

LR: 3181

- TITLE: An Act to Require the Department of Environmental Protection to Enforce Junkyard Laws in Absence of a Municipal or County Comprehensive Plan
- COMMENTS: This bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection to be the lead agency in the enforcement of junkyard laws in the absence of a municipality's or county's comprehensive plan.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bunker Jr. of Kossuth Township

LR: 3182

- TITLE: An Act to Require the Department of Public Safety to Consolidate and Cross-train Employees of the State Fire Marshal's Office and all Employees Involved in Liquor Enforcement, Licensing and Inspections
- COMMENTS: This bill requires the Department of Public Safety to consolidate licensing and inspection services into a single unit for one-stop delivery and enforcement.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bunker Jr. of Kossuth Township

- TITLE: An Act to Allow the State to Collect Excise Taxes and Other Fees When Registering Vehicles
- COMMENTS: This bill allows the State to collect excise taxes and other fees when registering motor vehicles.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bunker Jr. of Kossuth Township

LR: 3185

- TITLE: An Act to Allow the Use of Local Road Assistance Funds for any Maintenance of a Municipality's or County's Roads
- COMMENTS: This bill allows a municipality or county to use state highway funds received as part of the local road assistance program for any maintenance of its roads, including winter maintenance.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bunker Jr. of Kossuth Township

LR: 3186

- TITLE: An Act to Make the Position of State Supervisor of the Division of Forest Protection of the Maine Forest Service a Classified Position
- COMMENTS: This bill makes the position of the State Supervisor of the Division of Forest Protection of the Maine Forest Service a classified position.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bunker Jr. of Kossuth Township

LR: 3226

- TITLE: An Act to Make the Receipt of Personal Care Assistance Consumer Friendly
- COMMENTS: This bill streamlines the issuance and receiving of personal care assistance by disabled consumers.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3184 - SCHNEIDER CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3272 - QUINT

SPONSOR: Rep. Canavan of Waterville

LR: 2963

- TITLE: An Act to Allow the Court Discretion to Not Commit to an Institution a Person Who is Found Not Criminally Responsible by Reason of Mental Disease or Defect
- COMMENTS: Under current law when a person is found not criminally responsible by reason of mental disease or defect, the court is required to order the person committed to be placed in an appropriate institution. This bill allows the court discretion to not commit the individual under certain specified conditions.

SPONSOR: Rep. Canavan of Waterville

LR: 2964

- TITLE: An Act to Eliminate Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement for Retail Businesses and to Use Revenue Generated for College Scholarships
- COMMENTS: This bill would eliminate retail businesses from qualifying for the business equipment tax reimbursement, or "BETR," program, and would direct any revenue available from this limiting of the BETR program to be used for college scholarships.

SPONSOR: Rep. Canavan of Waterville

- TITLE: An Act to Ensure the Continuation of Funding of the High Hopes Clubhouse in Waterville
- COMMENTS: This bill would ensure the continuation of funding for the High Hopes Clubhouse in Waterville.

SPONSOR: Sen. Carpenter of York

LR: 3079

- TITLE: Resolve, to Validate the Assessment, Commitment and Tax Collection of the Town of Wells for the Fiscal Year 2000-01
- COMMENTS: This bill corrects the oversight by the Town of Wells in not swearing in the town's tax assessor and tax collector in April of 2000 by ratifying their appointments and declaring the town's fiscal year 2000-01 tax assessments and collections valid.

SPONSOR: Rep. Carr of Lincoln

LR: 2800

- TITLE: An Act to Require that the State Hold the Title to any Land to Which it Contributes Toward the Purchase Price
- COMMENTS: This bill requires that the State hold the title to any land to which it contributes toward the purchase price.

SPONSOR: Rep. Carr of Lincoln

- TITLE: Resolve, Establishing a Commission to Study the Issue of Youth at Risk
- COMMENTS: This resolve establishes a commission to study the issue of youth at risk. As part of its study, the commission will examine a program for youth at risk in Palm County, Florida called Eagle Academy.

SPONSOR: Rep. Carr of Lincoln

LR: 2862

- TITLE: An Act to Permit Solicitation of Contributions by Law Enforcement Officers in Exigent Circumstances
- COMMENTS: This bill permits solicitation of contributions by law enforcement officers in exigent circumstances after unanimous approval by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, the Attorney General and the Chief of the State Police.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2851 - SMALL CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3085 - MUSE C

SPONSOR: Rep. Carr of Lincoln

LR: 2863

TITLE: An Act to Reduce the Excise Tax on Recreational Vehicles

COMMENTS: This bill reduces the excise tax on recreational vehicles to 8 mills, regardless of the year in which the vehicle was manufactured.

SPONSOR: Rep. Carr of Lincoln

- TITLE: An Act to Prohibit a Convicted Sexual Offender From Acquiring Custody or Obtaining Visitation Rights Without Adult Supervision
- COMMENTS: This bill prohibits a convicted sexual offender from acquiring custody or obtaining visitation rights without adult supervision.

SPONSOR: Rep. Carr of Lincoln

LR: 3029

TITLE: An Act to Provide Fairness in State Bid Criteria

COMMENTS: This bill provides a preference of 10% in bidding on state contracts to a Maine business if at least 75% of the employees of that business are Maine residents.

SPONSOR: Sen. Cathcart of Penobscot

LR: 2697

TITLE: An Act to Adopt the Uniform Athlete Agents Act

COMMENTS: This bill enacts the Uniform Athlete Agents Act.

SPONSOR: Sen. Cathcart of Penobscot

LR: 2820

TITLE: An Act to Establish the Retired Teachers Insurance Fund

COMMENTS: This bill would establish the Retired Teachers Insurance Fund and would require that it be funded as a priority from the unappropriated surplus.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3303 - PARADIS

SPONSOR: Sen. Cathcart of Penobscot

LR: 2946

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Emergency Funds to the University of Maine System to Supplement for the Increased Cost of Health Insurance
- COMMENTS: This bill provides emergency funds to the University of Maine System to supplement for the increased cost of health insurance.

SPONSOR: Sen. Cathcart of Penobscot

LR: 3297

- TITLE: An Act to Clarify the Lines of Effort in a Search and Rescue Operation
- COMMENTS: This bill will authorize local fire and police departments, local medivac and dive teams and other similar organizations to become involved in search and rescue efforts as first responders without conflicting with state search and rescue efforts.

SPONSOR: Rep. Chick of Lebanon

- TITLE: An Act to Allow Landowner Permits to be Issued for Turkey Hunting
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow, similar to the system now allowed for hunting anterless deer, the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to issue turkey hunting permits to landowners who keep their land open to the public for hunting.

SPONSOR: Rep. Chick of Lebanon

LR: 2949

TITLE: An Act to Prohibit the Killing of Certain Bears

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit the killing of a bear that is accompanied by cubs and would prohibit the killing of bear cubs.

SPONSOR: Rep. Chick of Lebanon

LR: 2950

- TITLE: An Act to Extend the Date By Which the Use of Tokens or Tickets is Required for Games of Chance at Agricultural Fairs
- COMMENTS: This bill would extend by one year the date by which the use of tokens or tickets is required for games of chance at agricultural fairs.

SPONSOR: Rep. Clark of Millinocket

LR: 3216

TITLE: An Act Concerning Legal Counsel for Real Estate Closings

COMMENTS: This bill prohibits banks and mortgage companies from requiring that specific lawyers be used for real estate closings.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 629

SPONSOR: Rep. Clough of Scarborough

LR: 2709

TITLE: An Act to Modify the Time of Constituent Service Allowance Payments

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COMMENTS: This bill would change the time that payment for constituent services would be made. Currently, the payment is made at the time the Legislator receives the first paycheck. This bill changes it so that payment would be made in January.

SPONSOR: Rep. Clough of Scarborough

LR: 2871

- TITLE: An Act to Require the Owner of a Submerged Snowmobile or Boat to Remove the Snowmobile or Boat
- COMMENTS: This bill would require the owner of a boat or snowmobile submerged in the waters of the State to remove that boat or snowmobile.

SPONSOR: Rep. Clough of Scarborough

LR: 2902

- TITLE: An Act to Require Rulemaking to Be Reviewed by the Legislature
- COMMENTS: This bill would require all rulemaking done by state agencies to be reviewed and approved by the Legislature.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3032 - WESTON CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3048 - DAIGLE

SPONSOR: Rep. Collins of Wells

LR: 2837

TITLE: An Act Regarding Sales Tax on New Car Prices

COMMENTS: This bill allows a purchaser of a new automobile to pay the sales tax on the net amount of the vehicle after the new car manufacturer purchase allowance has been deducted from the gross price on the window sticker.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3292 - DUNLAP

SPONSOR: Rep. Collins of Wells

LR: 2838

- TITLE: An Act to Establish a New Department within the Maine State Police to Deal with Terrorism
- COMMENTS: This bill would establish a new department of the Maine State Police to field all calls involving possible terrorists and forward the information reported by Maine citizens to the appropriate federal agencies.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2811 - SNOWE-MELLO CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3232 - NORBERT CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3298 - MATTHEWS

SPONSOR: Rep. Collins of Wells

- TITLE: An Act to Ensure that all Maine Towns Adhere to the Maine School Education Funding Formula
- COMMENTS: This bill would ensure that all Maine towns adhere to the Maine school education funding formula, as established by the Department of Education.

SPONSOR: Rep. Collins of Wells

LR: 2869

TITLE: An Act to Refund Sales Tax on Returned Core Parts

COMMENTS: Currently, a person purchasing an automobile part, such as a battery or starter, pays the purchase price plus an amount held by the retailer for the return of the core of that automobile part. The amount held to ensure the return is taxed because it is considered a trade-in and not a deposit. When the person returns the automotive core, the amount is returned, less the sales tax levied on the amount held by the retailer. This bill provides for a refund of the sales tax upon return of the automotive core part.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 3233

TITLE: An Act to Authorize \$2,500,000 to Improve Court Safety

COMMENTS: This bill allows the courts to utilize the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to issue a bond of \$2,500,000 to finish the repairs at the Lewiston District Court.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 3234

TITLE: An Act to Improve Public Safety

COMMENTS: This bill calls for the release of mental health information on applicants who apply for a concealed weapons permit.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 3235

- TITLE: An Act to Create a Single Payment System for State and Federal Income Taxes for Small Businesses
- COMMENTS: This bill provides for the combination of all state and federal income taxes on one form.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 3236

TITLE: An Act to Protect Retirement Income

COMMENTS: This bill preserves retirement benefits for teachers who serve in the Legislature.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 3237

TITLE: An Act to Promote the Health of Maine Women and Girls

COMMENTS: This bill establishes the Women's Health Initiative through a state contract coordinated by the Department of Human Services to improve the health of and access to health services for women and girls.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3286 - MITCHELL B

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 3238

TITLE: An Act to Protect Electric Utility Customers

COMMENTS: This bill restores the traditional franchise rights of transmission and distribution utilities and requires that delivery rates be regulated by the Public Utilities Commission.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 3239

- TITLE: An Act to Prepare Residential Electricity Customers for Competitive Electricity Markets in Maine
- COMMENTS: This bill advances by 2 years the reporting deadline for a Public Utilities Commission study of the value and necessity of standard-offer service in Maine's competitive electricity market, specifies in greater detail the matters the commission must study and requires the commission to make recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 3240

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Retirement Equity for Law Enforcement Officers
- COMMENTS: This bill places capitol security officers on a straight 25-year retirement plan.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3241 - COLWELL

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 3241

- TITLE: An Act to Conform the State's Law Enforcement and Corrections Officers Retirement Plans
- COMMENTS: This bill places Attorney General investigators, motor vehicle investigators and all probation and parole officers on a straight 25-year retirement plan.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3240 - COLWELL

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 3242

- TITLE: An Act to Expand Membership of the State Employee Health Commission
- COMMENTS: This bill adds a current employee of the Maine State Retirement System to the State Employee Health Commission.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 3243

TITLE: An Act to Restructure the Deferred Compensation Council

COMMENTS: This bill changes the structure of the Deferred Compensation Council to include 3 labor members, 5 management members and the Director of the Deferred Compensation Council.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 3247

TITLE: An Act to Provide Continuity of Mental Health Care

COMMENTS: This bill grandfathers all licensed social workers and social work supervisors who are current state employees and were employees on September 21, 2001 from new licensing requirements for social workers.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2925 - BROMLEY CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3049 - MILLS

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner LR: 3248 TITLE: An Act to Promote Equity in Teacher Certification

COMMENTS: This bill requires that all teacher certification examinations be available in American Sign Language.

SPONSOR: Rep. Cote of Lewiston LR: 2706 TITLE: An Act to Name a Portion of the Turnpike the POW-MIA Memorial Highway

COMMENTS: This bill names a portion of the Maine Turnpike the POW-MIA Memorial Highway.

SPONSOR: Rep. Cowger of Hallowell

LR: 3147

- TITLE: An Act to Fund the Operational Costs of a Household Hazardous Waste Collection System
- COMMENTS: This bill appropriates sufficient funds for ongoing costs of a statewide household hazardous waste collection system.

SPONSOR:	Rep.	Cowger	of	Hallowell	
LR:	3148				
TITLE:	An Act Product		Out	the Availability of Mercury-added	

COMMENTS: This bill phases out, over a period of 6 years, products to which mercury has been intentionally added and establishes a process for exempting certain products from the ban.

SPONSOR: Rep. Cowger of Hallowell

LR: 3149

- TITLE: An Act to Restrict the Availability of Products with Excessive Levels of Arsenic
- COMMENTS: This bill bans the sale of fertilizer with high levels of arsenic and requires the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health to study and make recommendations concerning arsenic levels in other products.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3265 - MCKEE

SPONSOR: Rep. Cowger of Hallowell

LR: 3150

- TITLE: An Act to Improve Public Health and Minimize the Climate Impact of Energy Use
- COMMENTS: This bill creates a task force to make specific recommendations for implementation of the State of Maine Climate Change Action Plan.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3175 - KOFFMAN

SPONSOR: Rep. Cressey, Jr. of Baldwin

LR: 2918

- TITLE: An Act to Provide a Wider Calling Area for Telephone Customers
- COMMENTS: This bill requires that telephone utilities allow customers to make local nontoll calls to all neighboring telephone exchanges, to the greatest extent possible.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2809 - MICHAUD ME

SPONSOR: Rep. Cummings of Portland

LR: 2975

TITLE: An Act to Provide Property Tax Relief in Cumberland County

COMMENTS: Current law increases the amount of unencumbered surplus funds county commissioners may use annually for purposes other than reducing the county property tax levy. This bill restores the 10% limit in Cumberland County.

SPONSOR: Rep. Cummings of Portland

LR: 2976

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the County Budget Process in Cumberland County
- COMMENTS: This bill amends existing law by giving the Cumberland County Budget Advisory Committee the authority to set the final county budget.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2773 - BLISS CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2804 - SNOWE-MELLO

SPONSOR: Rep. Cummings of Portland

LR: 3036

- TITLE: An Act to Ensure the Public Benefits of Solid Waste Facilities
- COMMENTS: The bill requires new or expanded solid waste disposal facilities or certain new or expanded solid waste facilities to obtain a determination from the State Planning Office that the facilities provide a substantive public benefit.

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 3096

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Funding for the Advisory Commission on Women Veterans
- COMMENTS: This bill appropriates \$50,000 to the Advisory Commission on Women Veterans.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3080 - O'BRIEN L

SPONSOR: Rep. Daigle of Arundel

LR: 3039

TITLE: An Act to Provide for Legislative Review of Dissolved Oxygen Standards in Riverine Impoundments

COMMENTS: This bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection to review dissolved oxygen standards for riverine impoundments and provides for legislative review of those standards.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3040 - DAIGLE

SPONSOR: Rep. Daigle of Arundel

LR: 3040

- TITLE: An Act to Provide for Legislative Review of Dissolved Oxygen Standards in Estuarine and Marine Waters
- COMMENTS: This bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection to review dissolved oxygen standards for estuarine and marine waters and provides for legislative review of those standards.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3039 - DAIGLE

SPONSOR: Rep. Daigle of Arundel

LR: 3048

- TITLE: An Act to Ensure Legislative Oversight of Major Environmental Policy Proposals
- COMMENTS: Existing law requires the Department of Environmental Protection to identify provisions of a proposed rule that are more stringent than applicable federal requirements. Under this bill, such rules would also be subject to legislative review as major substantive rule proceedings.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2902 - CLOUGH CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3032 - WESTON

SPONSOR: Rep. Daigle of Arundel

LR: 3215

- TITLE: An Act to Permit Consumer-owned Utilities to Enter into Competitively Bid Wholesale Electric Energy Contracts
- COMMENTS: This bill allows consumer-owned utilities to competitively bid and accept wholesale electric energy contracts. The standard bid offer and the competitive electric provider bid process will not be affected by this bill.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3285 - LAFOUNTAIN

SPONSOR: Rep. Davis of Falmouth

LR: 2952

- TITLE: Resolve, Establishing a Commission to Study Remuneration for Volunteer Firefighters
- COMMENTS: This resolve establishes a commission to study remuneration for volunteer firefighters.

SPONSOR: Rep. Davis of Falmouth

- TITLE: An Act to Apply a 5% Sales Tax to the Sale of any Food Item That is Currently Taxed
- COMMENTS: This bill applies a 5% sales tax to the sale of any food item that is currently taxed.

SPONSOR: Rep. Davis of Falmouth

LR: 3167

- TITLE: An Act to Allow Parents to Train their Children to Drive
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow teenagers from 15 to 18 years of age to apply for an instruction permit upon their receiving training from their parents, who have themselves been trained to provide instruction subject to Department of Public Safety guidelines.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3249 - PARADIS

SPONSOR: Sen. Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis

LR: 2782

- TITLE: An Act to Establish a Sales Tax Exemption for Certain Nonprofit Organizations That Supply Food and Lodging for Visitors of Hospital Patients
- COMMENTS: This bill would create a sales tax exemption for certain nonprofit organizations that supply food and lodging for visitors of hospital patients.

SPONSOR: Sen. Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis

- TITLE: An Act to Increase the Amount That Certain Part-time Employees May Earn and Still Be Considered Part-time Employees
- COMMENTS: This bill would increase from \$10,000 to \$20,000 the amount that certain part-time town, county or state law enforcement personnel or correctional employees may earn and still be considered part-time employees.

SPONSOR: Sen. Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis

LR: 2784

- TITLE: An Act to Increase the Length of Time in Which a Retired State Employee May Add a Dependent to the Employee's Maine State Health Insurance Plan
- COMMENTS: This bill would increase the length of time in which a retired state employee may add a dependent to the employee's health insurance plan by establishing a 2-week open enrollment period per year to add dependents.

SPONSOR: Sen. Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis

LR: 2872

TITLE: An Act to Permit the Town of Atkinson to Deorganize

COMMENTS: This bill would allow the town of Atkinson to deorganize.

SPONSOR: Sen. Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis

- TITLE: Resolve, Relating to the State Valuation for the Town of Dexter
- COMMENTS: This resolve allows the Town of Dexter to request a reduction in its state valuation due to the pending closure of the Dexter Shoe Company factory.

SPONSOR: Sen. Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis

LR: 2889

- TITLE: An Act to Authorize a Community With More Than 25% of its Taxable Land Designated Under the Tree Growth Tax Law to Reject Additional Applications for Designation Under That Law
- COMMENTS: This bill allows a community that already has more than 25% of taxable property designated under the Tree Growth Tax Law to decline to allow additional parcels of property in that community to enroll in the program under that law.

SPONSOR: Sen. Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis

LR: 2926

TITLE: An Act to Amend the Bicycle Safety Education Act

COMMENTS: This bill authorizes the chief of police of a municipality to impound the bicycle of a juvenile under the age of 16 if the juvenile was operating the bicycle without wearing a bicycle helmet.

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SPONSOR: Sen. Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Charter of the Sewer District in the Town of Corinna
- COMMENTS: This bill will amend the charter of the sewer district in the Town of Corinna by allowing the trustees to set a date for the annual meeting at their discretion.

SPONSOR: Rep. Desmond of Mapleton

LR: 2699

- TITLE: An Act Requiring the Use of LED Lights in Exit Signs in Public Buildings
- COMMENTS: This bill provides that the light for an exit sign in a public building must be generated by a light emitting diode, LED, bulb.

SPONSOR: Rep. Desmond of Mapleton

- TITLE: An Act to Extend Teacher Certification by 5 Years to Teachers With 25 or More Years of Teaching Experience
- COMMENTS: This bill would extend certification to teachers with 25 or more years of experience by 5 extra years.

SPONSOR:	Rep. Desmond of Mapleton	
LR:	3119	• •
TITLE:	An Act to Provide Single-source Drinking Water Assistance	
COMMENTS:	The purpose of this bill is to provide technical resources for homeowners with private wells to find any pollution source and offer assistance in obtaining drinkable water.	

SPONSOR: Sen. Douglass of Androscoggin

LR: 2730

- TITLE: An Act to Establish a Pilot Program to Computerize Medical Records
- COMMENTS: This bill would fund a pilot project to computerize medical records at a central Maine hospital.

SPONSOR: Sen. Douglass of Androscoggin

LR: 2731

- TITLE: An Act to Expedite the Credentialing of Medical Care Providers by Health Maintenance Organizations
- COMMENTS: This bill would expedite the credentialing of medical care providers by health maintenance organizations.

SPONSOR: Sen. Douglass of Androscoggin

- TITLE: An Act to Increase Reimbursement Rates to Nurses Drawing Blood to Test Blood Alcohol Levels for the Department of Public Safety
- COMMENTS: This bill would increase reimbursement rates to nurses drawing blood to test blood alcohol levels for the Department of Public Safety.

SPONSOR: Sen. Douglass of Androscoggin

LR: 2738

- TITLE: An Act to Provide for Reciprocity in Temporary Licensing of Nurses Licensed in Other States
- COMMENTS: This bill provides for reciprocity in temporary licensing of nurses that are licensed in other states.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2763 - BROOKS

SPONSOR: Sen. Douglass of Androscoggin

LR: 2759

- TITLE: An Act to Increase the Penalty for Unauthorized Use of Property
- COMMENTS: This bill increases the penalty for unauthorized use of property.

SPONSOR: Sen. Douglass of Androscoggin

- TITLE: An Act to Increase Accountability for Independent Election Spending
- COMMENTS: This bill will expand the scope of reporting for independent electioneering expenditures in excess of \$100 and extend the matching funds provision of the Maine Clean Election Act to these newly reported expenditures. It will define independent electioneering to include communciations that expressly advocate the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate during the 45 days before a primary or 60 days before a general election.

SPONSOR: Sen. Douglass of Androscoggin

LR: 3228

- TITLE: An Act to Allow Persons with Disabilities to Purchase Coverage Under the Medicaid Program
- COMMENTS: This bill requires the Department of Human Services to amend the rules regarding eligibility for persons with disabilities to purchase coverage under the Medicaid Program.

SPONSOR: Sen. Douglass of Androscoggin

LR: 3229

- TITLE: An Act to Prohibit Snowmobiles from Traveling on Open Water
- COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit snowmobiles from traveling on open water.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dudley of Portland

- TITLE: An Act to Maintain the Family Caregiver Initiative for Elderly Citizens in Maine
- COMMENTS: This bill would allocate \$250,000 to the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Elder and Adult Services to serve as the 25% state match for the family caregiver federal initiative.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dudley of Portland

LR: 3289

TITLE: An Act to Promote Maine's Brewing Industry

COMMENTS: This bill would allow off-premise beer licensees who stock at least 75% of the available inventory of Maine-brewed beer to conduct beer tastings similar to wine tastings now allowed by law.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dudley of Portland

LR: 3290

- TITLE: An Act to Encourage Maine's Retired Professionals to Participate in Public Education
- COMMENTS: This bill directs the Department of Education to implement a program that makes use of the educational and life experiences of Maine's retired professionals for the benefit of Maine's public school students.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dudley of Portland

LR: 3291

TITLE: An Act to Protect Police Horses

COMMENTS: This bill affords the same protection to police horses that is now offered to police dogs.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dudley of Portland

LR: 3293

TITLE: An Act to Support the State's Homeless Youth

COMMENTS: This bill continues funding for an innovative pilot program for homeless youth conducted in Portland, Lewiston and Bangor.

SPONSOR: Rep. Duncan of Presque Isle

LR: 2880

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Eligibility for General Assistance
- COMMENTS: This bill amends the definition of a "lump sum payment" in the laws governing eligibility for general assistance to be consistent with other portions of those laws.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2941 - WHEELER E

SPONSOR: Rep. Dunlap of Old Town

LR: 2853

- TITLE: An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$20,000,000 for Library Upgrades and Construction
- COMMENTS: This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$20,000,000 for library upgrades and construction. It sets up a revolving loan fund for libraries to expand and improve compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and other requirements and to help bring the digital library on-line.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 1471 CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2867 - DUNLAP

SPONSOR: Rep. Dunlap of Old Town

LR: 2865

- TITLE: An Act to Protect the Rights of Maine Citizens Under Collective Bargaining Agreements
- COMMENTS: Current law allows random drug testing without cause to be a part of a labor agreement. This bill would eliminate that provision.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dunlap of Old Town

LR: 2866

- TITLE: An Act to Improve Government Service to Maine Citizens
- COMMENTS: This bill proposes to establish a state switchboard and information clearinghouse. This clearinghouse, through a toll-free number, would route a citizen to the appropriate agency to address the citizen's specific question or problem. Each government agency would designate at least one person to assist citizens with gathering information and supplying state publications.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dunlap of Old Town

LR: 2867

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Services for a Statewide Interlibrary Loan System
- COMMENTS: This bill enables the State's major libraries to link with smaller municipal libraries in order to provide citizens with greater access to materials on a statewide basis.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 1471 CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2853 - DUNLAP

SPONSOR: Rep. Dunlap of Old Town

LR: 2868

TITLE: An Act to Establish a Library Construction Assistance Fund

COMMENTS: This bill establishes a fund to assist localities in building or expanding libraries.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dunlap of Old Town

LR: 3292

TITLE: An Act to Fairly assess Sales Tax on Used Vehicles

COMMENTS: This bill requires that the sales tax on a used vehicle be assessed on the amount of money paid for that vehicle as opposed to the value of the vehicle. The bill makes the requirement retroactive to January 1, 2001.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2837 - COLLINS

SPONSOR: Rep. Duplessie of Westbrook

- TITLE: An Act to Regulate Lead Smart Renovators and Lead Sampling Technicians
- COMMENTS: This bill increases the number of training hours required for lead smart renovators and lead sampling technicians and it requires that they be registered and licensed by the Department of Environmental Protection.

SPONSOR: Rep. Duprey of Hampden

LR: 3306

- TITLE: Resolve, to Increase Security in the State House and the Burton M. Cross Building
- COMMENTS: This resolve directs the Bureau of Public Safety and capitol police to develop recommendations to increase security in the State House and the Burton M. Cross Building and report those recommendations to the Legislature.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3274 - QUINT

SPONSOR: Rep. Duprey of Hampden

LR: 3307

- TITLE: An Act to Eliminate State Funding of Health Benefits for Domestic Partners
- COMMENTS: This bill eliminates the state funding for health benefits for domestic partners.

SPONSOR: Rep. Duprey of Hampden

- TITLE: An Act to Temporarily Waive the One Week Waiting Requirement for Unemployment Benefits
- COMMENTS: This bill would waive for 6 months the one week waiting requirement for unemployment benefits.

SPONSOR: Sen. Edmonds of Cumberland

LR: 2771

TITLE: An Act to Protect Federal Pension Benefits

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to exempt federal retirement plan benefits from being subject to the offset for social security and railroad retirement benefits.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 810 CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2735 - BENNETT CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3201 - MENDROS

SPONSOR: Sen. Edmonds of Cumberland

LR: 2936

TITLE: An Act to Cap the Number of Lobster Trap Tags

COMMENTS: This bill caps the number of lobster trap tags at the present number.

SPONSOR: Rep. Etnier of Harpswell

- TITLE: An Act to Establish Educational Requirements for Granting Noncommercial Lobster Licenses
- COMMENTS: This bill would require that, beginning in 2003 and 2004, applicants for noncommercial lobster licenses meet educational requirements established by the Department of Marine Resources and pass a written test. Under this bill, any cost to the department in implementing this program would be covered by an increase in that license fee.

SPONSOR: Rep. Etnier of Harpswell

LR: 2888

- TITLE: Resolve, to Establish a Commission to Erect a Memorial in Capitol Park to the People Who Perished on September 11, 2001
- COMMENTS: This bill would establish a commission to erect a memorial in Capitol Park to the people who perished in the tragic events on September 11, 2001.

SPONSOR: Rep. Etnier of Harpswell

LR: 3152

TITLE: An Act to Establish the Maine Marine Fisheries Commission

COMMENTS: This bill would establish the Maine Marine Fisheries Commission, which would have full regulatory authority over fisheries management activities, including fish and shellfish size limits, area and time closures, fishery quotas, vessel size characteristics and gear use and design.

SPONSOR: Sen. Ferguson, Jr. of Oxford

LR: 2719

TITLE: An Act to Rename the Bridge Between Rumford and Mexico

COMMENTS: This bill changes the name of the Veterans Memorial Bridge to the Ridlonville Veterans Memorial Bridge.

SPONSOR: Sen. Ferguson, Jr. of Oxford

LR: 2786

- TITLE: An Act to Require Tractor-trailer Drivers to Clean Off the Roof of Their Vehicles
- COMMENTS: This bill would require a tractor-trailer driver to keep the roof of the vehicle that the tractor-trailer driver is driving clean of snow and ice.

SPONSOR: Rep. Fisher of Brewer

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LR: 3131

- TITLE: An Act to Clarify the Overweight Fine Violation for Trucks Carrying Special Commodities and Registered for 100,000 Pounds
- COMMENTS: This bill clarifies that 6-axle combination vehicles carrying wood products and other special commodities that are registered for 100,000 pounds and that meet the appropriate axle weight and spacing requirements will be fined for overloads in the same manner as similarly registered 6-axle vehicles carrying general commodities.

SPONSOR: Rep. Fisher of Brewer

- TITLE: An Act to Clarify Licensure for the Operation of Antique Trucks
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow a person to operate an antique truck without being licensed as long as the truck is not operated in commerce but for recreational, pleasure or show purposes.

SPONSOR: Rep. Foster of Gray

LR: 2805

TITLE: An Act to Prohibit Bear Baiting

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit bear baiting.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1067

SPONSOR: Rep. Foster of Gray

LR: 2806

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TITLE: An Act to Prohibit the Separation of a Husband and Wife Forced into State-funded Nursing Facilities

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit a husband and wife placed into nursing facilities and funded by the State from being placed into separate nursing facilities unless they so wished.

SPONSOR: Rep. Foster of Gray

- TITLE: An Act to Protect the Value of Land from Damage Caused by Beaver Dams
- COMMENTS: This bill would require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to take action when a beaver dam, built on one parcel of land, through water backup causes damage and a decrease in value to another parcel of land.

SPONSOR: Rep. Fuller of Manchester

LR: 2745

- TITLE: An Act to Dissolve the Ministerial Accounts in the Town of Readfield's Trust Fund
- COMMENTS: This bill authorizes the municipal officers of the Town of Readfield to dissolve the ministerial accounts in its trust fund and to use the money in these accounts for the purchase and installation of a Readfield veterans memorial monument. This action was approved by the voters of the Town of Readfield at the annual town meeting in June 2001.

SPONSOR: Rep. Fuller of Manchester

- TITLE: Resolve, to Provide Access to Personal Care Assistant Home Care Services
- COMMENTS: This bill provides immediate relief to alleviate the crisis in recruiting and retaining personal care assistants for home care services by directing the Department of Human Services to increase the reimbursement rate for these services by \$1 per hour. It also directs the department to review their rules regarding the reimbursement structure for these services, identify barriers to these services and revise rules as necessary to improve the delivery of these services.

SPONSOR: Rep. Fuller of Manchester

LR: 2878

- TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Department of Human Services to Develop a Fee Schedule for Fee-for-service Providers of Medicaid Services
- COMMENTS: This bill directs the Department of Human Services to develop a fee schedule reflecting rates for fee-for-service providers based on nationally recognized relative value units and a conversion factor pegged to Medicare. The department shall submit the revised fee schedule with the fiscal analysis reflecting the cost of these changes to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services by November 1, 2002.

SPONSOR: Rep. Fuller of Manchester

- TITLE: An Act Regarding Fire Safety Laws for Residential Care Facilities
- COMMENTS: This bill provides that, prior to being licensed, a residential care facility must be certified as meeting Life Safety Code 101 of the National Fire Protection Association as adopted by the State Fire Marshal's Office. This bill repeals certain state laws that conflict with the Life Safety Code. This bill will direct the use of the current Life Safety Code whenever applicable, eliminating conflicting laws and rules without compromising resident safety.

SPONSOR: Rep. Fuller of Manchester

LR: 3158

TITLE: An Act to Amend the State's Clean Indoor Air Law

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to protect those who work in or patronize taverns and lounges by prohibiting smoking in those establishments.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2919 - MAYO

SPONSOR: Rep. Fuller of Manchester

LR: 3159

- TITLE: An Act to Establish the Asthma Prevention and Control Program in the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health
- COMMENTS: This bill establishes an asthma prevention and control program, which qualifies for federal grant money, within the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Health.

SPONSOR: Rep. Gagne of Buckfield

- TITLE: An Act Regarding Electrical Inspections for Single-family Dwellings
- COMMENTS: This bill removes the requirement that a master electrician inspect a single-family dwelling before electrical service is provided to that dwelling when the owner of the dwelling is building the dwelling.

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec

LR: 2840

- TITLE: An Act to Allow Cable Television Companies to Participate in the BETR Program
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow cable television providers to participate in the Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement program.

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec LR: 2841

TITLE: An Act to Exempt Certain Fish Lifts from the Property Tax

COMMENTS: This bill would exempt from the property tax fish lifts along the Sebasticook River required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec

- TITLE: An Act to Ensure Adequate Qualifications of Maine's Hydroelectric Dams
- COMMENTS: This bill would require prospective purchasers of a hydroelectric dam in Maine to have the qualifications necessary for licensing of the dam by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec

LR: 2942

- TITLE: An Act to Ensure Continued Reporting of Tax Incentive Recipients
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to continue the reporting requirement for recipients of \$10,000 or more per year in tax incentives.

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec

LR: 2944

- TITLE: An Act to Ensure Equitable Taxation of Purchased Goods and Services
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to collect sales taxes from Internet retailers that are selling goods and services to people in the State.

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec

LR: 3100

TITLE: An Act to Clarify Certain Aspects of Maine's Tax Code

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to clarify aspects of the tax laws relating to the implementation of the expanded meals tax.

SPONSOR: Rep. Glynn of South Portland

LR: 2966

TITLE: An Act to Protect School Districts From Ongoing Substantial Losses in School Funding

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to distribute any increases in school funding equally among the school districts.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1548

SPONSOR: Sen. Goldthwait of Hancock

LR: 3220

TITLE: An Act to Fund the Maine Biomedical Research Program

COMMENTS: This bill would provide for the appropriation of funds to the Maine Biomedical Research Fund to support biomedical research in the State for the fiscal year 2002-03 in the amount of \$5,000,000.

SPONSOR: Rep. Goodwin of Pembroke

LR: 2812

TITLE: An Act to Control Internet Spam

COMMENTS: This bill would require persons sending unsolicited E-mail, or spam, to provide a toll-free phone number, legitimate E-mail address and a United States postal address in Maine. Violation would be an unfair trade practice.

SPONSOR: Rep. Goodwin of Pembroke

LR: 3045

TITLE: An Act to Ensure a Fair Rate of Return for Public Utilities

COMMENTS: This bill links the recovery of stranded costs, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3207, to the existence of a utility's rate of return that is determined by the Public Utilities Commission.

SPONSOR: Rep. Goodwin of Pembroke

LR: 3046

- TITLE: Resolve, Authorizing Public Utilities Commission Oversight for Development of Regional Transmission Organization Participation
- COMMENTS: This resolve requires the Public Utilities Commission to conduct a study of the feasibility of Maine's transmission and distribution utilities' participation in a regional transmission organization that includes northern Maine and Canada. The resolve also requires transmission and distribution utilities to join regional transmission organizations that provide for meaningful consumer participation.

SPONSOR: Rep. Goodwin of Pembroke

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Funds for a Court Facility in Washington County
- COMMENTS: This bill would provide funds for a court facility in Washington County.

SPONSOR: Rep. Goodwin of Pembroke

LR: 3118

- TITLE: An Act to Establish a Moratorium on Removal of Dams and to Establish a Study to Develop a Comprehensive Plan for Rivers
- COMMENTS: This bill establishes a moratorium on the removal of dams from rivers and establishes a legislative study to develop a comprehensive plan to deal with issues concerning the rivers of the State, including dam breaching, fish ladders and power generation.

SPONSOR: Rep. Goodwin of Pembroke

LR: 3122

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Restricting the Hiring of Spouses by School Boards
- COMMENTS: This bill amends the law to prohibit the employment of the spouse of a member of a school board in that board member's own town but allows employment of the spouse in other towns within the jurisdiction of the board.

SPONSOR: Rep. Goodwin of Pembroke LR: 3123

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Washington County Emergency Medical Services Authority
- COMMENTS: This bill would make minor changes to the laws governing the Washington County Emergency Medical Services Authority to enhance the authority's ability to serve communities.

SPONSOR: Rep. Goodwin of Pembroke

LR: 3160

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Law Governing Passamaquoddy Tribe Land in Calais
- COMMENTS: This bill sets aside 100 acres in the City of Calais for the Passamaquoddy Tribe to purchase by 2020 and place in trust.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2908 - MORRISON

SPONSOR: Rep. Gooley of Farmington

LR: 2912

- TITLE: An Act to Restrict the Use of Motors on a Chain of Ponds in Franklin County to 10 Horsepower
- COMMENTS: This bill would limit the motor size on boats used on a chain of ponds in Franklin County to 10 horsepower.

SPONSOR: Rep. Green of Monmouth

- TITLE: An Act to Provide that Certain Land Transfers Accomplished Through Stock Transfers are Subject to the Real Estate Transfer Tax
- COMMENTS: This bill provides that certain land transfers accomplished through stock transfers are subject to the real estate transfer tax.

SPONSOR: Rep. Green of Monmouth

LR: 2712

- TITLE: An Act to Appropriate Funds to Support the Educational Learning Marketplace
- COMMENTS: This bill appropriates funds to support the educational learning marketplace.

SPONSOR: Rep. Green of Monmouth

LR: 2713

- TITLE: An Act to Appropriate Funds to Support the Maine Writing Project
- COMMENTS: This bill appropriates funds to support the Maine Writing Project.

SPONSOR: Rep. Green of Monmouth

LR: 2715

- TITLE: An Act to Appropriate Funds for the Seeds of Peace Camp Scholarships
- COMMENTS: This bill would appropriate \$25,000 for the Seeds of Peace Camp to be used for scholarships for camp attendees.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2776 - HEIDRICH

SPONSOR: Rep. Green of Monmouth

LR: 2916

- TITLE: An Act to Provide That Salary Paid to Teachers for Duties Relating to Technology is Subject to the Maine State Retirement System
- COMMENTS: This bill provides that the salary paid to teachers for duties relating to technology is subject to the Maine State Retirement System.

SPONSOR: Rep. Hall of Bristol

LR: 2884

- TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Department of Marine Resources to Participate in a Scientific Assessment of the Activities in the Great Salt Bay
- COMMENTS: This bill requires the Department of Marine Resources to participate in a scientific assessment of the activities in the Great Salt Bay. The bill also requires the department to put a ban on fishing and harvesting activities for the next 4 years pending the outcome of the assessment.

SPONSOR: Rep. Hall of Bristol

- TITLE: An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$12,000,000 for Conservation and Access to Public Lands
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to provide funds for renovation and expansion of facilities for state parks and historic sites, for boat launch ramps and for trails.

SPONSOR: Rep. Hall of Bristol

LR: 3154

TITLE: An Act Regarding Utility Easements

COMMENTS: This bill establishes that utilities retain the same rights when a railroad is abandoned as when a public way is abandoned. It clarifies that electric utilities can take action to cross railway lines unless that action interferes with railroad operation. It also clarifies the determination of the value of land or an easement.

SPONSOR: Rep. Hall of Bristol

LR: 3166

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Consumers with a Renewable Energy Choice
- COMMENTS: This bill provides that, whenever the Public Utilities Commission establishes a standard-offer price that is below the competitive retail market rate, the standard offer provided must also offer customers a 100% renewable energy option.

SPONSOR: Rep. Heidrich of Oxford

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices
- COMMENTS: This bill repeals changes to the membership of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices. The bill also repeals authorization for that commission to employ an administrative director and a general counsel, and repeals authorization for monthly meetings.

SPONSOR: Rep. Heidrich of Oxford

LR: 2776

TITLE: An Act to Ensure Funding for the Seeds of Peace Camp

COMMENTS: This bill would appropriate \$200,000 for the Seeds of Peace Camp.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2715 - GREEN

SPONSOR: Rep. Hutton of Bowdoinham

LR: 2813

- TITLE: An Act to Prohibit the Reduction of Unemployment Benefits to Social Security Recipients
- COMMENTS: This bill prevents the reduction of unemployment benefits to recipients of social security benefits.

SPONSOR: Rep. Hutton of Bowdoinham

LR: 2814

- TITLE: An Act Authorizing the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to Suspend Vehicle Registrations Due to Nonpayment of Excise Taxes
- COMMENTS: This bill requires the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to suspend vehicle registrations due to the return of checks for insufficient funds or the use of other worthless instruments for payment of the required excise taxes.

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SPONSOR: Rep. Hutton of Bowdoinham

LR: 2815

- TITLE: An Act to Safeguard Volunteer Firefighters' Regular Employment
- COMMENTS: This bill provides that a fire department volunteer may not be fired for being late to or departing from the volunteer's regular employment due to responding to a fire call.

SPONSOR: Rep. Jacobs of Turner

LR: 2855

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Law Pertaining to the Sales Tax Exemption for Incorporated Nonprofit Memorial Foundations
- COMMENTS: This bill will repeal the future effective date of the sales tax exemption for sales to incorporated nonprofit memorial foundations, contained in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 1760, subsection 42, and make the provision effective immediately.

SPONSOR: Rep. Jacobs of Turner

LR: 2856

TITLE: An Act to Exempt Bakeries From the Sales Tax

COMMENTS: This bill would exempt bakeries from charging sales tax on baked goods that are sold in lots smaller than 6.

SPONSOR: Rep. Jacobs of Turner

LR: 3124

- TITLE: An Act to Require that the State Board of Education Have at Least One Student Member
- COMMENTS: This bill would require that the State Board of Education have at least one student member.

SPONSOR: Rep. Jacobs of Turner

LR: 3125

- TITLE: An Act to Authorize the Transportation of Water from Its Source to a House or Apartment Well as Needed
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow a person to transport water from its source to a house or apartment well as needed.

SPONSOR: Rep. Jacobs of Turner

- TITLE: An Act to Place Franchise Authority for Cable Companies with the Public Utilities Commission
- COMMENTS: This bill removes franchise authority for cable companies from municipalities and places it with the Public Utilities Commission.

SPONSOR: Rep. Jones of Greenville

LR: 2718

TITLE: An Act to Restore Maine State Parks

COMMENTS: This bill directs the Department of Conservation to work with the National Guard to clean up state parks by repairing roads and performing trail maintenance and other beautification measures.

SPONSOR: Rep. Kane of Saco LR: 2817 TITLE: An Act to Address the Staff Crisis in Long-term Care

COMMENTS: This bill requires the Department of Education, the Department of Human Services, the Board of Nursing and direct-care providers to address the problem of recruitment and retention of direct-care staff in the long-term care system.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3179 - KANE

SPONSOR: Rep. Kane of Saco

LR: 2821

TITLE: An Act to Require the Rebasing of Residential Care Rates

COMMENTS: This bill requires the Department of Human Services to provide 100% reimbursement of eligible costs to residential care providers.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2896 - MARTIN

SPONSOR: Rep. Kane of Saco

LR: 2874

- TITLE: An Act to Require Annual Blood Lead Level Testing of Children
- COMMENTS: This bill requires annual blood lead-level testing of children 6 months old or older and under 3 years old. Children 3 years old or older and under 7 years old must be tested annually unless results from the previous 2 tests are under a certain level or all responses to a state-developed risk assessment questionnaire are negative.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2753 - MATTHEWS

SPONSOR: Rep. Kane of Saco

LR: 3155

- TITLE: An Act Requiring Temporary Nurse Agencies to Meet Registration Standards in the State
- COMMENTS: This bill directs the Department of Human Services to develop registration standards for temporary nurse agencies operating in the State.

SPONSOR: Rep. Kane of Saco

LR; 3161

- TITLE: Resolve, to Establish a Blue Ribbon Commission to Address Financing of Long-term Care Costs
- COMMENTS: This resolve would establish a blue ribbon commission to investigate and analyze the future costs of providing long-term health care to elderly and disabled adults and recommend an integrated system of financing the projected costs of these services.

SPONSOR: Rep. Kane of Saco

LR: 3179

- TITLE: Resolve, to Address the Crisis Caused by a Shortage in Direct Care Staff in the Long-term Care System
- COMMENTS: This resolve consists of directives to the Department of Human Services, the State Board of Nursing and the State Board of Education to undertake initiatives regarding the training and certification of unlicensed direct care staff in the long-term care system. The resolve also requires a public awareness campaign and legislation to expand training opportunities.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2817 - KANE

SPONSOR: Rep. Kasprzak of Newport

- TITLE: An Act to Protect Family Income and Ensure Economic Recovery
- COMMENTS: This bill provides that the annual revenue from the corporate income tax, individual income tax and the sales tax available during any fiscal year may not exceed revenues received in the previous fiscal year from each of these 3 sources by more than one percentage point less than the average annual growth rate, whether positive or negative, of Maine personal income during the most recent 8 quarters.

SPONSOR: Sen. Kilkelly of Lincoln

LR: 2798

- TITLE: An Act to Allow the State to Attach and Hold in Escrow Funds From Legal Settlements and Awards for the Purpose of Paying Child Support Obligations
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow the State to attach and hold in escrow funds from legal settlements or awards to be used to pay the recipients' child support obligations.

SPONSOR: Sen. Kilkelly of Lincoln

LR: 2799

- TITLE: An Act to Permit the State to Continue as a Member of the Northeast States Association for Agricultural Stewardship
- COMMENTS: This bill would appropriate \$25,000 to allow the State to continue its membership in the Northeast States Association for Agricultural Stewardship.

SPONSOR: Sen. Kilkelly of Lincoln

LR: 2819

TITLE: An Act to Increase the Penalty for Appropriating Another Person's Social Security Number

COMMENTS: This bill would increase the penalty for appropriating another person's social security number.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1098

SPONSOR: Sen. Kilkelly of Lincoln

LR: 2915

- TITLE: An Act to Strengthen the Promotion of Maine Agricultural Products
- COMMENTS: This bill appropriates funds for a new position in the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources.

#### SPONSOR: Sen. Kilkelly of Lincoln

LR: 3084

- TITLE: An Act to Promote and Simplify Transportation Assistance to Medically Necessary Appointments
- COMMENTS: This bill makes transportation to medically necessary medical appointments more easily available to people covered by Medicaid and Cub Care's transportation program, including families with children, elderly persons 65 years of age or over and persons with disabilities. It promotes administrative efficiency by simplifying the application process for transportation services, ensures families are promptly reimbursed for out-of-pocket transportation services, provides educational materials to those eligible for transportation assistance about available service and increases the reimbursement rates to families for providing transportation to more accurately reflect their actual cost.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1515 CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3090 - MICHAUD MH

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SPONSOR:	Sen.	Kilkelly	of Lincoln
LR:	3151		
TITLE:	An Act to Mitigate the Effect of Large Mandatory Environmental Penalties		
COMMENTS:	mandato	ory environ	is bill is to mitigate the effect of large mental penalties by limiting the penalties ed, establishing a new process for the

SPONSOR: Sen. Kilkelly of Lincoln

LR: 3296

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Equity for State Employees Upon Retirement
- COMMENTS: This bill will allow state employees to retire under the retirement provisions that were in effect at the time of their being hired.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 748, 890 and 1469 CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2890 - NUTTING J

SPONSOR: Sen. Kneeland of Aroostook

LR: 2978

- TITLE: An Act Requiring the Development of Ethanol
- COMMENTS: This bill will require the development of ethanol in the State.

SPONSOR: Rep. Koffman of Bar Harbor

- TITLE: An Act to Improve Coordination Between the Department of Environmental Protection and the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission
- COMMENTS: This bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection to request and consider comments from the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission on projects that are in part within the commission's jurisdiction but do not require a permit from the commission. The bill would also clarify that the department must protect outstanding river segments and protect against erosion and sedimentation, regardless of whether the project is located within the organized or unorganized territories.

SPONSOR: Rep. Koffman of Bar Harbor

LR: 3175

- TITLE: An Act to Implement Recommended Changes by the State of Maine Climate Change Action Plan
- COMMENTS: This bill would implement the changes to the climate change action plan as recommended by the Maine Global Climate Change conference.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3150 - COWGER

SPONSOR: Sen. LaFountain III of York

LR: 3285

- TITLE: An Act to Permit Consumer-owned Utilities to Competitively Bid on Wholesale Electric Energy Contracts
- COMMENTS: This bill increases customer choice by allowing consumer-owned utilities to competitively bid on and accept wholesale electric energy contracts.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3215 - DAIGLE

SPONSOR: Rep. LaVerdiere of Wilton

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Charter of the Mount Blue Water District
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to change the eligibility requirements for the election of trustees.

SPONSOR: Rep. LaVerdiere of Wilton

LR: 3188

- TITLE: An Act to Correct the Retroactive Effect of Changes Made to the Subdivision Laws
- COMMENTS: This bill would make only the home-rule part of Public Law 2001, chapter 359 retroactive to June 1, 2001. The remainder of the chapter would take effect on September 21, 2001.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2974 - SNOWE-MELLO

SPONSOR: Rep. LaVerdiere of Wilton

LR: 3197

TITLE: An Act Concerning Acceptance of Forms by the Probate Court

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to require the Probate Court to accept forms that are the same as the forms supplied by the court without requiring a separate affidavit stating that the form is the same.

SPONSOR: Rep. LaVerdiere of Wilton

LR: 3198

TITLE: An Act to Establish the Avon-Phillips Airport Authority

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to create an authority for the leasing, owning and easement rights to maintain the existing airport located in Phillips and Avon. SPONSOR: Rep. Lemoine of Old Orchard Beach

LR: 2876

- TITLE: An Act to Require Timely Consideration of Appeals of the Registrar of Voters
- COMMENTS: This bill would require the registration appeals board to convene prior to the polls closing to consider any appeals from the decision of the registrar of voters to refuse to allow a person to vote in that town or city.

SPONSOR: Rep. Lemoine of Old Orchard Beach

LR: 2881

- TITLE: An Act Concerning the Disposal and Storage of Cremains
- COMMENTS: This bill allows a funeral home to dispose of abandoned cremains and authorizes the funeral home to charge a refundable remains disposal fee.

SPONSOR: Sen. Lemont of York

- TITLE: An Act to Exempt Certain Vessel Operators from Professional Engineer Licensing Requirements
- COMMENTS: This bill would exempt from professional engineer licensing requirements persons operating fishing vessels less than 80 feet in length or pleasure craft.

SPONSOR: Sen. Lemont of York

LR: 3295

TITLE: An Act Regarding Notification Teams

COMMENTS: This bill would require a superintendent of a school district to convene a notification team after the superintendent receives notice from a district attorney that a juvenile has been summonsed for a juvenile offense; current law requires convening a notification team following notice of an alleged offense.

SPONSOR: Sen. Longley of Waldo

LR: 3309

TITLE: An Act Regarding Competitively Bidding for State Contracts

COMMENTS: This bill requires the University of Maine to award contracts to the lowest "responsible" bidder. It also requires the State to provide a 15% preference in the awarding of contracts to companies that provide health insurance to employees.

SPONSOR: Sen. Longley of Waldo

- TITLE: An Act Regarding the Payment of Workers' Compensation Benefits
- COMMENTS: This bill prohibits the reduction of workers' compensation benefits until a hearing is held on the merits of the request for a reduction.

SPONSOR: Sen. Longley of Waldo

LR: 3311

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Tree Trimming by Utilities
- COMMENTS: This bill requires a utility to provide notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where tree trimming activity will occur at least 30 days before the tree trimming activity occurs. It also requires a utility to provide notice to a property owner whose land abuts an area where trees are to be trimmed before the trimming occurs. Finally, it provides authority to municipal boards to reject a plan to trim trees.

SPONSOR: Sen. Longley of Waldo

LR: 3312

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Full Funding of Vocational Education in the State's Neediest Counties
- COMMENTS: This bill provides full funding of vocational education in the State's neediest counties. The Department of Education will adopt rules based on levels of unemployment and income to determine which counties of the State are in the greatest need.

SPONSOR: Sen. Longley of Waldo

- TITLE: An Act Authorizing a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$5,000,000 to support the Maine Technical College System
- COMMENTS: This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$5,000,000 to support the Maine Technical College System. Proceeds from the bond issue will be targeted to support programs in areas of greatest employment and growth need.

SPONSOR: Sen. Longley of Waldo

LR: 3314

TITLE: An Act Regarding Treatment for Convicted Arsonists

COMMENTS: This bill gives judges the authority to require institutionalization or treatment for convicted arsonists.

SPONSOR: Sen. Longley of Waldo

LR: 3315

TITLE: An Act Regarding the Use of Prescription Drugs by Children

COMMENTS: This bill prohibits school employees from recommending or requiring that parents put their children on medication.

SPONSOR: Sen. Longley of Waldo

LR: 3316

TITLE: An Act to Require Prompt Payment of Insurance Claims

COMMENTS: This bill requires insurance companies to pay claims submitted by substance abuse providers no later than 30 days after the filing of the claim.

SPONSOR: Rep. Loring of Penobscot Nation

- TITLE: An Act to Specifically Exempt Tribal Proceedings and Documents from the State Freedom of Access Laws
- COMMENTS: This bill would specify that the state freedom of access laws do not apply to any tribal proceeding or documents held by the tribe.

SPONSOR: Rep. Loring of Penobscot Nation

- LR: 2906
- TITLE: An Act to Authorize the Trial of Child Welfare Cases Involving the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians in the Penobscot Tribal Court
- COMMENTS: This bill would provide that, until such time that the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians has their own tribal court, all child welfare cases must be tried in the Penobscot Tribal Court as the court of original jurisdiction.

SPONSOR: Rep. MacDougall of North Berwick

LR: 3169

TITLE: An Act to Clarify Sex Offender Notification Requirements

COMMENTS: This bill requires the Department of Public Safety to notify a municipality when a sex offender is conditionally released or discharged into the municipality to reside or work.

SPONSOR: Rep. Marley of Portland

LR: 2746

TITLE: An Act to Adopt the "Amber Plan"

COMMENTS: This bill implements the "Amber Plan," which is a plan to assist law enforcement officials to locate missing children by informing the public as soon as possible of the clues pertaining to the disappearances through the media.

SPONSOR: Rep. Marley of Portland

LR: 2747

- TITLE: An Act to Provide School Funding Through the BETR Education Plan
- COMMENTS: This bill would change the percent of reimbursement for the State's BETR program from 100% to 70%. The remaining 30% of the tax would be used for school funding.

SPONSOR: Rep. Marley of Portland

LR: 2748

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Maine Students with Educational Opportunities
- COMMENTS: This bill would change where the funds for the educational technology plan (laptop plan) would go if the Governor is not able to raise the \$15,000,000 in private money within the next year to implement the program. The funds would divert to a revolving college loan fund for Maine's students.

SPONSOR: Rep. Marley of Portland

LR: 2766

TITLE: An Act to Better Serve Children with Special Needs

COMMENTS: This bill would add an additional year of eligibility for services from Child Development Services to cover those children that do not attend kindergarten until after age 5.

SPONSOR: Rep. Marley of Portland

LR: 2767

TITLE: An Act to Promote Organ Donation

COMMENTS: This bill would provide eligibility under the Family Medical Leave Act to organ donors.

SPONSOR: Rep. Marley of Portland

LR: 2891

TITLE: An Act to Establish a "Celebrate Freedom Week" in Schools

COMMENTS: This bill establishes a "Celebrate Freedom Week" during the week of September 25, the anniversary of the Bill of Rights. The bill directs the Department of Education to develop a curriculum for the week that focuses on the tradition and values of democracy.

SPONSOR: Rep. Marley of Portland

- TITLE: An Act to Ensure Greater Protection to Children Who Are in Automobile Accidents
- COMMENTS: This bill raises the age and weight requirements for children using booster seats.

SPONSOR: Rep. Marley of Portland

LR: 2893

- TITLE: An Act to Allow Maine to Participate in the Federal Pilot Program for Drivers Delivering Home Heating Oil
- COMMENTS: This bill instructs the Commissioner of Public Safety to allow Maine to participate in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, or "FMCSA," pilot program that allows for a restart of drivers' hours in order to allow for flexibility of the hours-of-service regulations. This pilot program, which lasts for 3 years, is managed and monitored by the FMCSA and will provide data to the FMCSA for the purpose of evaluating current hours-of-service regulations.

SPONSOR: Rep. Marrache of Waterville

LR: 2859

TITLE: An Act to Stop Medicaid Funding of Circumcisions

COMMENTS: This bill stops Medicaid funding of circumcision, making it an elective procedure paid by the parents.

SPONSOR: Sen. Martin of Aroostook

- TITLE: An Act to Consolidate Training and Licensing of Code Enforcement Officers and Licensed Site Evaluators Within the Department of Human Services
- COMMENTS: This bill consolidates responsibility for training and licensing of licensed site evaluators and code enforcement officers under the Department of Human Services.

SPONSOR: Sen. Martin of Aroostook

LR: 2785

- TITLE: An Act Regarding the Deferment of Loan Repayments for Remediation of Waste Oil Sites
- COMMENTS: This bill would defer repayments of loans issued under the Plymouth Waste Oil Feasibility Loan Program until the United States Environmental Protection Agency is reimbursed for its costs and all 3rd parties are reimbursed for their costs of performing the final remedy at the waste oil sites.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3038 - STANLEY

SPONSOR: Sen. Martin of Aroostook

LR: 2896

- TITLE: An Act to Support a Continuum of Quality Long-term Care Services
- COMMENTS: This bill would provide relief to nursing facilities, including that the payment system must reflect costs and be rebased every 3 years. The bill clarifies what constitutes "fixed costs". The bill modifies conditional licensing of social workers and fair hearing procedures on Medicaid payment issues.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2821 - KANE

SPONSOR: Rep. Matthews of Winslow

LR: 2717

TITLE: An Act to Ensure Safety in Large Retail Stores

COMMENTS: This bill requires stores that stack or shelve items at a height over 4 feet to have fall guards to prevent consumer and employee injuries from falling items.

SPONSOR: Rep. Matthews of Winslow

LR: 2742

TITLE: An Act to Ensure Cost-of-living Adjustments in the Workers' Compensation Program

COMMENTS: This bill ensures cost-of-living adjustments in the workers' compensation program.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1253

SPONSOR: Rep. Matthews of Winslow

LR: 2751

- TITLE: An Act to Create a Fishway on the Sebasticook Dam in Winslow
- COMMENTS: This bill would appropriate \$1,000,000 to create a fishway on the Sebasticook Dam in Winslow.

SPONSOR: Rep. Matthews of Winslow

LR: 2753

- TITLE: An Act to Assist the Maine Lead Advisory Council in Testing High-risk Children for Lead Poisoning
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to utilize the screening tool for lead poisoning testing developed by the lead Poisoning Advisory Council by providing the council with money and support staff to implement the plan.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2874 - KANE

SPONSOR: Rep. Matthews of Winslow

LR: 3130

TITLE: An Act to Require that Medication in Schools be Administered Only by Licensed Personnel

COMMENTS: This bill permits only licensed personnel to administer medication in the public schools or approved private schools.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 758

SPONSOR: Rep. Matthews of Winslow

LR: 3244

- TITLE: An Act to Expand the Duties of the Executive Director of the Workers' Compensation Board
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to expand the duties of the Executive Director of the Workers' Compensation Board to include voting on board matters.

SPONSOR: Rep. Matthews of Winslow

LR: 3245

TITLE: An Act to Clarify Overtime Compensation

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to exclude truck drivers for an egg processing facility from the overtime rate provision.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3180 - BUNKER CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3302 - BENNETT

SPONSOR: Rep. Matthews of Winslow

LR: 3298

- TITLE: An Act to Coordinate State Resources Relating to Emergency Preparedness
- COMMENTS: This bill would establish a way to better coordinate state agencies in the event of a state emergency.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2811 - SNOWE-MELLO CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2838 - COLLINS CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3232 - NORBERT

SPONSOR: Rep. Mayo III of Bath

LR: 2919

- TITLE: An Act to Prohibit Smoking in any Facility That Caters to the Public
- COMMENTS: This bill prohibits smoking in any facility that caters to the public.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3158 - FULLER

SPONSOR: Rep. Mayo III of Bath

LR: 2920

TITLE: An Act to Make 50% of Any COBRA Payments Tax Deductible

COMMENTS: This bill provides that 50% of the dollar amount of COBRA insurance payments are tax deductible.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1129 CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3095 - MITCHELL B

SPONSOR: Rep. Mayo III of Bath

LR: 2921

- TITLE: An Act Requiring Certain Health Care Professionals to File Prescription Ethics and Responsibility Statements
- COMMENTS: This bill requires that all prescribers of medication who receive gifts or honoraria from persons who manufacture, sell, market or distribute prescription drugs or medical services are expected to publicly disclose such benefits.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mayo III of Bath

LR: 3030

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Parity in Lending by State-chartered Financial Institutions
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to update Maine's lending laws and make Maine-chartered institutions more competitive with nationally chartered institutions.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mayo III of Bath

LR: 3050

- TITLE: An Act to Eliminate Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance Travel Restrictions for Obtaining Health Care
- COMMENTS: This bill changes current Bureau of Insurance rules that restrict travel distances for obtaining health care by allowing patients to seek appropriate care in centers of excellence outside of the travel area.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3051 - MAYO

SPONSOR: Rep. Mayo III of Bath

LR: 3051

- TITLE: An Act to Allow Health Maintenance Organization Insurance Products to Identify Centers of Excellence
- COMMENTS: This bill changes current Bureau of Insurance rules to allow consumers belonging to HMOs to choose the best treatment locale based on quality and outcomes data, utilizing appropriate differentials within the benefit structure.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3050 - MAYO

SPONSOR: Rep. Mayo III of Bath

LR: 3052

- TITLE: An Act to Implement a Health Insurance Pilot Project Under the Supervision of the Bureau of Insurance
- COMMENTS: This bill implements a project under supervision of the Bureau of Insurance to develop an integrated program to provide consumers with data concerning cost and quality, allowing them to make informed decisions about health care treatment options while demanding providers based upon quality of outcomes.

SPONSOR: Sen. McAlevey of York

- TITLE: An Act to Allow an Employee Who Rejoins the Maine State Retirement System to Repay Withdrawn Benefits
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow an employee who rejoins the Maine State Retirement System after 3 years to repay any contributions withdrawn after leaving the retirement system.

SPONSOR: Sen. McAlevey of York

LR: 2922

- TITLE: An Act to Revise the Formula for Distribution of Community Corrections Funds
- COMMENTS: This bill requires the legislative committee that oversees corrections to review and revise the formula for distribution of community corrections funds to counties pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 34-A, section 1210-A, subsection 3.

SPONSOR: Sen. McAlevey of York

LR: 3097

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services and Child Protection Act
- COMMENTS: This bill would amend the Child and Family Services and Child Protection Act by, among other ways: (1) Allowing for jury trial in termination of parental rights actions; (2) Requiring caseworkers to advise parents of their rights; (3) Providing a definition of "threat of serious harm"; and (4) Requiring the State to prove its case by a "clear and convincing evidence" standard.

SPONSOR: Sen. McAlevey of York

LR: 3098

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Requirements for Reimbursement for Law Enforcement Officer Training Costs
- COMMENTS: This bill would change the requirements for reimbursement of training costs of law enforcement officers who are hired by another department or agency so that additional training received by that officer after graduation from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy is covered.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 868

SPONSOR: Sen. McAlevey of York

LR: 3164

- TITLE: An Act Regarding Protective Orders in Public Utilities Commission Proceedings
- COMMENTS: This bill changes the criteria for the issuance of protective orders in Public Utilities Commission proceedings. It repeals some of the changes that were made in 1998 that made confidential information available to more people and closes loopholes in the law that allowed such information to be available to parties with multiple interests. The bill also allows the Public Utilities Commission to determine the financial interests of the parties seeking access to confidential information in order to protect consumers and competitors from the inappropriate release or use of that information.

SPONSOR: Sen. McAlevey of York

LR: 3214

- TITLE: An Act to Authorize the Formation of Regional County Corrections Authorities
- COMMENTS: This bill authorizes groups of 2 or more counties to finance, construct and operate regional correctional facilities.

SPONSOR: Rep. McGlocklin of Embden

- TITLE: An Act to Appropriate Funds to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources for the Spaying and Neutering of Animals
- COMMENTS: This bill appropriates funds to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources for the spaying and neutering of animals.

SPONSOR: Rep. McGlocklin of Embden

LR: 3044

TITLE: An Act to Benefit Maine's Economy

COMMENTS: This bill provides a new section in the divestiture provisions that will use funds from the asset sale gain account to provide relief from high energy prices to nonresidential electricity consumers. The bill requires emergency action of the Legislature because Maine's industries and Maine's economy are threatened by continued volatility in regional electric energy markets.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 741

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 3263

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Allagash Wilderness Waterway
- COMMENTS: This bill requires the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, or "AWW," to make an annual report to the Legislature; removes the AWW from the list of state parks and establishes it as a separate entity that reports to the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands; changes the title of the director of the AWW; and requires that the director of the AWW receive wilderness management training.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1761 CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3282 - MCKEE SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 3264

- TITLE: An Act to Remove the Sunset Provision for the Great Pond Task Force Law
- COMMENTS: This bill would remove the sunset deadline established by the 118th Legislature and would allow municipalities to submit surface use recommendations at any time in the future to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to be subsequently approved by the Legislature.

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

TITLE: An Act to Strengthen the Maine Commercial Fertilizer Law

COMMENTS: This bill would authorize the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to register a brand or grade of commercial fertilizer; allow the department to require additional information in the registration application; expand the labeling requirements; and prohibit the distribution of commercial fertilizer that contains substances that render it injurious to beneficial plant life, animals, humans, aquatic life, soil or water.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3149 - COWGER

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

- TITLE: An Act to Improve the Ability of the Judicial System to Prosecute Boating Accidents
- COMMENTS: This bill will require that the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife bring Maine's inland lake boating laws into conformity with the United States Coast Guard's inland navigation laws, making both enforcement and prosecution possible and equivalent across the State in both inland waters and coastal waters.

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 3271

TITLE: An Act to Improve Boating Safety in Waters of the State

COMMENTS: In order to address the growing number of serious boating accidents in the State, this bill would require a sound-making device for alerting other boaters, allow municipalities to submit recommendations regarding mandatory reduced speed limits in certain areas surrounding youth camps, establish zero tolerance for minors operating watercraft under the influence of alcohol and establish a training program for volunteer boating safety instructors.

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 3280

- TITLE: Resolve, Authorizing David Manter and Roberta Manter to Sue the State
- COMMENTS: This bill would authorize the Manters to sue the State because the State has changed both the name and definition of what once was a "private way" to the current "public easement" and made it retroactive, so that the road the Manters have now is not what it was when they purchased their property.

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 3281

TITLE: An Act Concerning How Contempt Can be Assessed

COMMENTS: Contempt proceedings may be used only when the accused has affected the procedural operation of the Court. Any action taken outside the courtroom by the accused that is not in direct regard to the procedural operation of the Court may be addressed by statute or by a civil complainant bringing charge in a civil action.

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 3282

- TITLE: An Act to Improve the Management of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway
- COMMENTS: This bill establishes the Allagash River Authority to administer the Allagash Wilderness Waterway. The authority will consist of 3 members. With the exception of the powers to control activities previously delegated by law to the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Forestry, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Department of Environmental Protection, Board of Environmental Protection, the authority will have final decision-making authority over the management of the waterway. A nonlapsing Allagash Waterway Fund will be established to fund permanent stewardship and additional land acquisition with the one-mile zone. The bill also requires that the Allagash Wilderness Waterway is managed to develop its maximum wilderness character in a way that is consistent with its designation as a wild river.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1761 CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3263 - MCKEE

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

- TITLE: An Act to Reduce Pollution to Androscoggin Lake by Repairing and Altering the Existing State-owned Barrier on the Dead River
- COMMENTS: This bill authorizes emergency funding to pay for the cost of immediate improvements needed to the barrier owned by the State located on the Dead River in Leeds and known as the "Dead River Dam". The bill transfers ownership of the barrier from the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to the Department of Environmental Protection. Finally, the bill authorizes funding to implement long-term changes to the barrier. Without these immediate and long-term actions by the State, the water quality of Androscoggin Lake will continue to decline and remediation may become very difficult and costly.

SPONSOR: Rep. McNeil of Rockland

LR: 2904

TITLE: An Act to Establish a Lobster Research and Monitoring Fund

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to establish a lobster research and monitoring fund. The bill will establish surcharges to be assessed on lobster and crab fishing licenses to provide revenue to the fund. The bill also requires the Lobster Advisory Council to seek advice from the lobster management policy councils with the formulation of the research and monitoring programs.

SPONSOR: Rep. McNeil of Rockland

LR: 2914

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Concerning Specialty License Plates
- COMMENTS: This bill would amend the laws governing specialty license plates to authorize the issuance of only 2 new specialty plates per year; to require the sponsor of specialty plates to provide a minimum number of signatures of support; and to tighten the requirement regarding payment in advance of the manufacture of the specialty plate.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mendros of Lewiston

LR: 3199

- TITLE: An Act to Support Victims of the Terrorist Incident and Military Veterans' Organizations
- COMMENTS: This bill would create a new specialty license plate with the American flag. Proceeds from the sale of the plates would benefit disaster relief funds or veterans' organizations, as determined by the purchaser.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2823 - TRACY

SPONSOR: Rep. Mendros of Lewiston

LR: 3200

TITLE: An Act to Create Fairness in Legal Proceedings

COMMENTS: This bill would eliminate the ability of the prosecuting attorney to offer a rebuttal of the closing summary of the defense, thus limiting the closing summaries to one per side.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mendros of Lewiston LR: 3201 TITLE: An Act to Make Maine a Veteran Friendly State COMMENTS: This bill would eliminate state income taxes on veterans' pensions. CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 810 CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2735 - BENNETT CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2771 - EDMONDS SPONSOR: Rep. Mendros of Lewiston LR: 3202 TITLE: An Act to Protect Children from Sexual Predators COMMENTS: This bill would increase the age of consent to 16 years of age. A person who engages in sexual contact with a person less than 16 years of age and who is more than 5 years older than that person would be guilty of gross sexual assault.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mendros of Lewiston

LR: 3203

- TITLE: An Act to Protect Children from Sexual Predators on the Internet
- COMMENTS: This bill would require a statewide task force to make children more aware of the dangers on the Internet and to implement a plan for "sting" operations to catch sexual predators using the Internet.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mendros of Lewiston

LR: 3204

- TITLE: An Act to Promote Energy Efficiency in State Offices and Lower Energy Costs
- COMMENTS: This bill would require all new computer monitors purchased by the State to be low-energy-usage, flat-screen monitors.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mendros of Lewiston

- TITLE: Resolve, to Allow David and Marilyn Schoefield to have a Hearing Before a Judge and Jury of Their Peers Concerning Alleged Misconduct by the Department of Human Services
- COMMENTS: This bill removes barriers by the State and levels the playing field for David and Marilyn Schoefield, who may have been harmed by the Department of Human Services, by allowing David and Marilyn Schoefield an opportunity to a fair hearing before an impartial judge and jury of their peers. The jury, after reviewing all facts, evidence and testimony, will decide liability and damages.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mendros of Lewiston

LR: 3256

- TITLE: Resolve, to Allow the Family of Logan Marr to Have a Hearing Before a Judge and Jury of Its Peers Concerning Alleged Misconduct by the Department of Human Services
- COMMENTS: This bill removes barriers by the State and levels the playing field for the family of Logan Marr, which may have been harmed by the Department of Human Services, by allowing the family of Logan Marr an opportunity to a fair hearing before an impartial judge and jury of their peers. The jury, after reviewing all facts, evidence and testimony, will decide liability and damages.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mendros of Lewiston

- TITLE: Resolve, to Allow William and Anne Tower to Have a Hearing Before a Judge and Jury of Their Peers Concerning Alleged Misconduct by the Department of Human Services
- COMMENTS: This bill removes barriers by the State and levels the playing field for William and Anne Tower, who may have been harmed by the Department of Human Services, by allowing William and Anne Tower an opportunity to a fair hearing before an impartial judge and jury of their peers. The jury, after reviewing all facts, evidence and testimony, will decide liability and damages.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mendros of Lewiston

LR: 3258

- TITLE: Resolve, to Allow Linda and Trisha Corbin to Have a Hearing Before a Judge and Jury of Their Peers Concerning Alleged Misconduct by the Department of Human Services
- COMMENTS: This bill removes barriers by the State and levels the playing field for Linda and Trisha Corbin, who may have been harmed by the Department of Human Services, by allowing Linda and Trisha Corbin an opportunity to a fair hearing before an impartial judge and jury of their peers. The jury, after reviewing all facts, evidence and testimony, will decide liability and damages.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mendros of Lewiston

- TITLE: Resolve, to Allow Michael and Linda Van Dyke to Have a Hearing Before a Judge and Jury of Their Peers Concerning Alleged Misconduct by the Department of Human Services
- COMMENTS: This bill removes barriers by the State and levels the playing field for Michael and Linda Van Dyke, who may have been harmed by the Department of Human Services, by allowing Michael and Linda Van Dyke an opportunity to a fair hearing before an impartial judge and jury of their peers. The jury, after reviewing all facts, evidence and testimony, will decide liability and damages.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mendros of Lewiston

LR: 3260

- TITLE: Resolve, to Allow Cynthia Wedgewood to Have a Hearing Before a Judge and Jury of Her Peers Concerning Alleged Misconduct by the Department of Human Services
- COMMENTS: The bill removes barriers by the State and levels the playing field for Cynthia Wedgewood, who may have been harmed by the Department of Human Services, by allowing Cynthia Wedgewood an opportunity to a fair hearing before an impartial judge and jury of her peers. The jury, after reviewing all facts, evidence and testimony, will decide liability and damages.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mendros of Lewiston

- TITLE: Resolve, to Allow Doug and Rhonda Fisher to Have a Hearing Before a Judge and Jury of Their Peers Concerning Alleged Misconduct by the Department of Human Services
- COMMENTS: This bill removes barriers by the State and levels the playing field for Doug and Rhonda Fisher, who may have been harmed by the Department of Human Services, by allowing Doug and Rhonda Fisher an opportunity to a fair hearing before an impartial judge and jury of their peers. The jury, after reviewing all facts, evidence and testimony, will decide liability and damages.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mendros of Lewiston

LR: 3262

- TITLE: Resolve, to Allow Peter Campbell to Have a Hearing Before a Judge and Jury of His Peers Concerning Alleged Misconduct by the Department of Human Services
- COMMENTS: This bill removes barriers by the State and levels the playing field for Peter Campbell, who may have been harmed by the Department of Human Services, by allowing Peter Campbell an opportunity to a fair hearing before an impartial judge and jury of his peers. The jury, after reviewing all facts, evidence and testimony, will decide liability and damages.

SPONSOR: Rep. Michael of Auburn

LR: 3178

TITLE: An Act to Enhance and Extend the Farmshare Program

COMMENTS: This bill extends and funds the farmshare program that was started by the United States Department of Agriculture as a one-time program.

SPONSOR: Rep. Michaud of Fort Kent

LR: 2809

- TITLE: An Act to Prohibit the Charging of Tolls for Phone Calls Made Between Contiguous Communities
- COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit phone companies from charging a toll for phone calls made between contiguous communities.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2918 - CRESSEY

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SPONSOR: Sen. Michaud of Penobscot

LR: 2716

TITLE: An Act to Promote Cultural Tourism and Economic Growth

COMMENTS: This bill appropriates \$3,000,000 to provide assistance in the planning and construction of the Franco-American Heritage Center at St. Mary's in Lewiston to promote the academic, economic, social and cultural heritage of Franco-Americans in Maine. The center will transform the existing St. Mary's Church into an all-purpose performance hall, museum and learning center. Additional funds will be raised to complete the renovation and establish a \$1,000,000 endowment for the center. This bill also appropriates \$1,000,000 to match federal grants to plan and construct the Downeast Heritage Center on the St. Croix River in Calais and and to promote tourism and economic growth in Washington County. These funds, combined with the \$1,000,000 already appropriated, will provide a total of \$2,000,000 for the center.

SPONSOR: Sen. Michaud of Penobscot

- TITLE: An Act to Transfer Funds From the Service Retirement Benefit Reserve to the Maine State Retirement System in Order to Fund the Change in Retirement Eligibility Requirements for Game Wardens and Marine Patrol Officers
- COMMENTS: This bill transfers funds from the service retirement benefit reserve to the Maine State Retirement System in order to fund the change in retirement eligibility requirements for game wardens and marine patrol officers.

SPONSOR: Sen. Michaud of Penobscot

LR: 2844

- TITLE: An Act to Stimulate Economic Growth in Underserved Areas of Maine
- COMMENTS: This bill would appropriate \$200,000 in one-time federally matched funds to a for-profit subsidiary of Coastal Enterprises, Incorporated for technical and operational assistance for entrepreneurial ventures in Maine and to help generate \$3,000,000 in technical assistance and \$10,000,000 in venture capital for underserved areas of Maine.

SPONSOR: Sen. Michaud of Penobscot

LR: 2940

TITLE: An Act Regarding Cigarette Tax Stamps

COMMENTS: This bill changes the law regarding cigarette tax stamps enacted by the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature by replacing it with the law that was previously in effect. Current law requires the State Tax Assessor to sell cigarette stamps to licensed cigarette distributors at a discount of 2 and 16/100% from face value for stamps sold prior to July 1, 2002 and 2 and 3/100% for stamps sold on or after July 1, 2002. This bill requires the State Tax Assessor to sell these stamps at a discount of 2 and 50/100% from face value and applies this change retroactively to July 1, 2001.

SPONSOR: Sen. Michaud of Penobscot

LR: 3087

TITLE: An Act to Provide Computers to Rural Fire Stations

COMMENTS: This bill would give the State Fire Marshal the authority to donate surplus state computers to rural fire stations so that they have access to state databases.

SPONSOR: Sen. Michaud of Penobscot

LR: 3088

- TITLE: An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Health Care Workforce Steering Committee
- COMMENTS: This bill would create a health care workforce leadership council to address the shortage of skilled health care workers in the State. The council would be composed of members from health care employers, public and private institutions of higher education and public policy leaders.

SPONSOR: Sen. Michaud of Penobscot

LR: 3089

TITLE: An Act to Create the Adult Education Outreach Grant Program

COMMENTS: This bill would provide \$200,000 in funding to create the Adult Education Outreach Grant Program to make competitive grants to local adult education programs to encourage their students to continue their education after they receive high school diplomas or GEDs. The program would be administered by the Department of Education, Adult Education Office.

SPONSOR: Sen. Michaud of Penobscot

LR: 3090

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Transportation for Seniors for Medical Appointments
- COMMENTS: This bill would appropriate an additional \$50,000 to area agencies on aging to provide volunteer transportation to and from medical appointments to seniors who are not eligible for Medicaid and unable to afford transportation.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1515 CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3084 - KILKELLY

SPONSOR: Sen. Michaud of Penobscot

LR: 3091

- TITLE: Resolve, to Recognize Veterans of World War II and the Korean War in the State House Hall of Flags
- COMMENTS: This resolve would establish a commission to arrange for a plaque and a flag or flags to be displayed in the Hall of Flags in the State House to honor Maine veterans of World War II and the Korean War.

SPONSOR: Sen. Michaud of Penobscot

LR: 3305

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Trade Adjustment Assistance and Trade Reduction Adjustment
- COMMENTS: This bill would ensure that an applicant for trade adjustment assistance or trade reduction assistance who is initially denied benefits but who ultimately is granted benefits may receive unemployment compensation.

SPONSOR: Sen. Mills of Somerset

LR: 2917

TITLE: An Act to Strengthen Maine's Litter Law

COMMENTS: This bill adds cigarettes to the list of items which are considered litter.

SPONSOR: Sen. Mills of Somerset

LR: 2957

TITLE: An Act to Prevent the Illegal Delivery of Tobacco Products

COMMENTS: This bill prohibits anyone other than a person licensed by the State of Maine from delivering tobacco products and imposes a fine and possible injunction by the Attorney General's Office for violators.

SPONSOR: Sen. Mills of Somerset

LR: 3049

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Licensing Requirements for Social Workers
- COMMENTS: This bill would repeal the requirement, scheduled to take effect July 1, 2002, that a person obtain a bachelor's degree in social work prior to being licensed as a social worker.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2925 - BROMLEY CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3247 - COLWELL

SPONSOR: Sen. Mitchell of Penobscot

LR: 2875

TITLE: An Act to Increase General Purpose Aid for Local Schools Funding in 2003 to 5%

COMMENTS: This bill would increase the amount of funding for general purpose aid for local schools to 5% in fiscal year 2003.

SPONSOR: Sen. Mitchell of Penobscot

LR: 3094

TITLE: An Act to Reduce Identity Theft by Enacting Legislation concerning Truncated Credit Receipts

COMMENTS: This bill prohibits printing more than the last 5 digits of a credit card account number or the expiration date on a credit card receipt, to be phased in over 3 years.

SPONSOR: Sen. Mitchell of Penobscot

LR: 3095

- TITLE: An Act to Provide an Income Tax Credit for Health Insurance Premiums Paid by an Individual
- COMMENTS: This bill helps uninsured people and those paying large health insurance premiums by reducing the cost of insurance by providing an income tax credit equal to the premium.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1129 CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2920 - MAYO

SPONSOR: Sen. Mitchell of Penobscot

LR: 3279

- TITLE: An Act to Allow the Formation of Charter Schools in Maine if Federal Funding for Charter Schools Becomes Available
- COMMENTS: This bill allows the formation of charter schools in Maine if federal funding or grants for charter schools become available.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1531

SPONSOR: Sen. Mitchell of Penobscot

LR: 3286

TITLE: An Act to Focus on Improving the Health of Women in Midlife

COMMENTS: This bill focuses on improving the health of women in midlife through various mechanisms, including creating an Office of Women's Health, requiring the Commissioner of Human Services to issue a report, conducting public forums and awareness campaigns, encouraging private employers to cover preventive services, educating providers, establishing tax incentives and community health centers and supporting research and higher education curricula concerning health issues of women in midlife.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3237 - COLWELL

SPONSOR: Rep. Morrison of Baileyville

LR: 2777

- TITLE: An Act to Provide the State with the Power of Eminent Domain to Acquire Public Access to Great Ponds
- COMMENTS: This bill provides the State with the power of eminent domain to acquire public access to great ponds.

SPONSOR: Rep. Morrison of Baileyville

- TITLE: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Reduce the Size of the Legislature
- COMMENTS: This constitutional resolution reduces the size of the Legislature to 16 members in the Senate, one elected from each county, and 69 members in the House of Representatives, elected based on population.

SPONSOR: Rep. Morrison of Baileyville

LR: 2908

TITLE: An Act to Extend the Period During Which the Passamaquoddy Tribe May Acquire Land in the City of Calais

COMMENTS: This bill extends until the year 2020 the option for the Passamaquoddy Tribe to acquire land in the City of Calais.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3160 - GOODWIN

SPONSOR: Rep. Morrison of Baileyville

LR: 2909

- TITLE: An Act to Establish a Process for Certification of Food Safety Managers
- COMMENTS: This bill proposes to establish a certified food safety manager program within the Department of Human Services to ensure appropriate food safety measures in licensed eating establishments.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3121 - SHOREY

SPONSOR: Rep. Murphy of Berwick

LR: 2885

TITLE: An Act to Amend the Maine Condominium Act

COMMENTS: This bill amends the Maine Condominium Act to provide protection for condominium unit owners. SPONSOR: Rep. Muse of South Portland

LR: 2894

TITLE: An Act to Clarify the Qualifications Necessary for Candidates for the Office of Sheriff

COMMENTS: Current law requires that candidates for the office of sheriff have, among other qualifications, 5 years of supervisory employment experience. This bill would specify that that supervisory experience be in the field of corrections.

SPONSOR: Rep. Muse of South Portland

LR: 2895

- TITLE: An Act to Provide That a Legislator Serving on a Study Commission Be Considered in Session for Purposes of Fundraising
- COMMENTS: This bill would provide that a Legislator serving on a study commission be considered to be "in session" for the purpose of fundraising.

SPONSOR: Rep. Muse of South Portland

- TITLE: An Act to Clarify the Law Regarding the Use of a Polygraph in Employment
- COMMENTS: This bill would clarify the permissible uses of polygraph tests for employees or applicants for employment.

SPONSOR: Rep. Muse of South Portland

LR: 3085

TITLE: An Act Allowing the Solicitation of Funds by Law Enforcement Officers

COMMENTS: This bill will allow law enforcement officers to solicit funds for making charitable contributions to other law enforcement officers or their families.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2851 - SMALL CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2862 - CARR

SPONSOR: Rep. Nass of Acton

LR: 2935

- TITLE: An Act Concerning Unfunded Mandates in the Provision of Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services
- COMMENTS: This bill requires the Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services to develop a methodology for reimbursing providers of services for any new state or federal regulation or contract requirement that increases the cost of providing current services.

SPONSOR: Rep. Nass of Acton

- TITLE: An Act to Require Continuing Education for Professional Engineers
- COMMENTS: This bill mandates continuing education for professional engineers.

SPONSOR: Rep. Norbert of Portland

LR: 3035

- TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Fully Reimburse Center-based Developmental Therapy Programs under Contract with Child Development Services
- COMMENTS: This resolve directs the Department of Education to fully reimburse a nonprofit agency that operates developmental therapy programs under contract with the Child Development Services System for children from birth to 5 years of age.

SPONSOR: Rep. Norbert of Portland

LR: 3232

TITLE: An Act to Protect Maine from Bioterrorism

COMMENTS: This bill creates a task force to study measures to protect the State from bioterrorism.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2811 - SNOWE-MELLO CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2838 - COLLINS CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3298 - MATTHEWS

SPONSOR: Rep. Norton of Bangor

LR: 3129

TITLE: An Act Concerning Student Threats Against School Personnel

COMMENTS: This bill would establish school board policies to address student threats of physical harm to education personnel.

SPONSOR: Rep. Norton of Bangor

LR: 3304

- TITLE: An Act to Clarify the Status of Retirees Who Return to Service Under the Maine State Retirement System
- COMMENTS: This bill clarifies that a retired teacher who returns to work under Public Law 2001, chapter 442 is eligible upon ceasing work to return to coverage under the group health insurance plan in effect for active teachers in the school unit from which the teacher originally retired, including state payment of a percentage of the premium cost under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20, section 13451.

SPONSOR: Sen. Nutting of Androscoggin

LR: 2722

- TITLE: An Act to Require Legislative Review of Rules Governing Conservation Easements
- COMMENTS: This bill requires that rulemaking regarding the handling of conservation easements by the Bureau of Parks and Lands be major substantive rulemaking.

SPONSOR: Sen. Nutting of Androscoggin

LR: 2727

- TITLE: Resolve, to Direct the Animal Welfare Board to Undertake a Public Information Campaign to Inform the Public of the Insurance Ramifications of Ownership of Certain Breeds of Dogs
- COMMENTS: This bill would require the Animal Welfare Board to undertake a public information campaign to inform the public of the insurance consequences of ownership of certain breeds of dogs.

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SPONSOR: Sen. Nutting of Androscoggin

LR: 2794

- TITLE: An Act to Establish a Temporary Disability Insurance Program in the State
- COMMENTS: This bill would establish in the State a temporary disability insurance program, which would provide wage replacement to employees who are temporarily disabled through illness or accident that is not covered under workers' compensation laws. The insurance may also be used to provide wage replacement for employees on extended sick leave to care for their immediate family members.

SPONSOR: Sen. Nutting of Androscoggin

LR: 2886

TITLE: An Act Allowing the Hunting of Female Turkeys

COMMENTS: This bill establishes a lottery for the taking of 1500 female turkeys.

SPONSOR: Sen. Nutting of Androscoggin

LR: 2890

- TITLE: An Act to Ensure Equity for Teachers Who are Part of the Maine State Retirement System
- COMMENTS: Under current law, the retirement benefits for members of the Maine State Retirement System who have 10 or more years of service on July 1, 1993 are vastly different than the benefits available to members with fewer years of service on that date. This bill would establish a trust account designed to equalize the benefits of members of the Maine State Retirement System.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 748 LD 890, LD 1469 CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3296 - KILKELLY

SPONSOR: Sen. Nutting of Androscoggin

LR: 3187

- TITLE: An Act to Require that the Department of Human Services Follow Up with former Recipients of TANF
- COMMENTS: This bill requires that the Department of Human Services follow up with former recipients of Temporary Assistance to Needy Families one year after their TANF benefits are terminated. The department shall compile the data on the status and welfare of the former recipients and report its findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services.

SPONSOR: Sen. Nutting of Androscoggin

- TITLE: An Act to Improve Silvicultural Standards for Lands Purchased and Resold Within a 5-year Period
- COMMENTS: This bill establishes minimum silvicultural standards for timberland bought and resold or subdivided within a 5-year period of purchase, specifies land that is exempt from the standards and directs the Maine Forest Service to modify its timber harvest notification form to inform landowners of the standards and facilitate tracking of harvests that may be subject to this bill. The bill also directs the State of Maine Implementation Committee of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, or "SFI," to establish comprehensive sustainable forestry standards for wood and fiber purchased by SFI-certified mills.

SPONSOR: Rep. O'Brien of Lewiston

LR: 3080

- TITLE: An Act to Provide funding for the Advisory Commission on Women Veterans
- COMMENTS: This bill provides funds to the Advisory Commission on Women Veterans for holding public hearings and providing statewide outreach services and a conference.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3096 - DAGGETT

SPONSOR: Sen. O'Gara of Cumberland

LR: 2887

TITLE: An Act to Expand the Use of Low-speed Vehicles

COMMENTS: This bill expands the permissible uses of low-speed vehicles and authorizes their use statewide wherever the maximum speed limit is less than or equal to 35 miles per hour.

SPONSOR: Rep. O'Neil of Saco

LR: 2846

TITLE: An Act to Protect Uninsured Workers

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to ensure that employers provide health insurance to their employees. If the employer does not provide health insurance, then a fee or tax will be assessed on the employer to be paid to the State to be used to provide insurance.

SPONSOR: Rep. O'Neil of Saco

LR: 2847

TITLE: Resolve, to Allow Leroy Lander to Sue the State

COMMENTS: This bill would allow Leroy Lander to sue the State.

SPONSOR: Rep. O'Neil of Saco

LR: 2848

TITLE: An Act to Amend Community Rating

COMMENTS: This bill would require that rates charged to individuals for individual health plans would be the full rate, with no adjustments for family membership, age, smoking status, occupation or industry or geographic area.

SPONSOR: Rep. O'Neil of Saco

LR: 2956

TITLE: An Act to Amend the Maine Consumer Credit Code

COMMENTS: This bill clarifies that if a deferral of a first period payment is for in excess of 90 days then no interest or costs may accrue in connection with the entirety of that deferral. If a deferral is for 90 days or less, then interest may accrue in connection with such a deferral. This bill clarifies the intent of Public Law 2001, chapter 82, which was enacted in the First Regular Session of the l20th Legislature.

SPONSOR: Rep. O'Neil of Saco

LR: 3056

- TITLE: An Act to Modify Investment-related Insurance Company Provisions of the Maine Insurance Code
- COMMENTS: This bill would permit a property and casualty carrier, upon prior approval of the Superintendent of Insurance, to invest more than 10% of its assets in qualifying indexed mutual funds managed by one investment firm. This would result in fund management cost savings to the insurer since it would not have to invest in more than one fund as it must presently do.

SPONSOR: Rep. O'Neil of Saco

- TITLE: An Act to Increase the Availability of Individual and Small Group Health Insurance Policies in Maine
- COMMENTS: This bill authorizes the Superintendent of Insurance to approve pilot projects under which insurers may be exempted from certain provisions of the insurance code in order to offer the same product in Maine as in New Hampshire and Vermont.

SPONSOR: Rep. Paradis, Jr. of Frenchville

LR: 3249

- TITLE: Resolve, to Direct the Secretary of State to Study Inequitable Benefits Afforded to Young Drivers Depending on the Source of Driver Education
- COMMENTS: This resolve directs the Department of the Secretary of State to consider the issue of poor and home-schooled drivers and to ensure that they enjoy the same rights as those young drivers who take a formal drivers education course as long as they are taught by competent parents or guardians to drive safely.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3167 - DAVIS G

SPONSOR: Rep. Paradis, Jr. of Frenchville

LR: 3250

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Seat Belt Law from a Secondary Offense to a Primary Offense
- COMMENTS: This bill allows drivers to be stopped for safety belt violations. Currently, a driver not wearing a seat belt can only be cited if the driver has been stopped for another reason.

SPONSOR: Rep. Paradis, Jr. of Frenchville

- TITLE: An Act to Provide \$25,000 to the Maine Tourism Association to Assist with Financial Costs Incurred by a Required Study of Northern and Downeast Maine
- COMMENTS: This bill allocates \$25,000 to the Maine Tourism Association to assist in ameliorating the financial impact that a required study of tourism in Aroostook County and Washington County will cause the association through guide and map rewrites.

SPONSOR: Rep. Paradis, Jr. of Frenchville

LR: 3252

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Financial Assistance to Aroostook County for Implementation and Operation of the E-9-1-1 System
- COMMENTS: This bill provides financial assistance to Aroostook County to help the required new enhanced 9-1-1 system go into effect and to help the State Police barracks in Houlton start up its answering point.

SPONSOR: Rep. Paradis, Jr. of Frenchville

LR: 3253

- TITLE: An Act to Enable Aroostook County to Fund on a Per Capita Basis the E-9-1-1 System
- COMMENTS: This bill allows Aroostook County to assess its municipalities for the impending E-9-1-1 system on a per capita basis rather than by the required system of valuation.

SPONSOR: Rep. Paradis, Jr. of Frenchville

- TITLE: An Act to Clarify Reciprocity for Prisoner Transfers Under the Transfer of Offenders Treaty Between the United States and Canada
- COMMENTS: This bill clarifies what constitutes true reciprocity for prisoner transfers as intended under the treaty between the United States and Canada.

SPONSOR: Rep. Paradis, Jr. of Frenchville

LR: 3303

- TITLE: An Act to Increase the State's Share of the Cost of Medical Insurance for Retired Teachers from 35 Percent to 50 Percent
- COMMENTS: This bill builds on the 5% increase passed during the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature. It would help rectify the inequity in medical insurance benefits between what is presently granted to teachers and the 100% all other state employees receive.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2820 - CATHCART

SPONSOR: Rep. Patrick of Rumford

LR: 2704

- TITLE: An Act to Include Services Provided by Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists in Medicaid Coverage
- COMMENTS: This bill would provide Medicaid coverage for services provided by licensed marriage and family therapists.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2802 - BOUCHER

SPONSOR: Rep. Peavey of Woolwich

- TITLE: Resolve, Establishing a Commission to Study County Jail Population, Cost and Reimbursement by the State
- COMMENTS: This resolve establishes a commission to study county jail population, cost and reimbursement by the State.

SPONSOR: Rep. Peavey of Woolwich

LR: 3156

TITLE: An Act to Expand the Property Tax Refund Program

COMMENTS: This bill expands eligibility for the property tax refund program by lowering the tax-to-income ratio threshold.

#### SPONSOR: Rep. Peavey of Woolwich

LR: 3157

TITLE: An Act to Enhance the Juvenile Drug Courts by Increasing Access to Treatment Services

COMMENTS: This bill enhances the ability of drug courts to work with and treat juveniles with substance abuse issues.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2791 - SAVAGE W CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2903 - SAVAGE W

- TITLE: An Act to Require Parental Participation in Juvenile Justice Proceedings
- COMMENTS: This bill requires a juvenile's parent or other legal custodian to be present at all rehabilitative treatment services, hearings and court appearances.

SPONSOR: Sen. Pendleton of Cumberland

LR: 2695

- TITLE: An Act to Ensure Freedom of Speech and Association on Campuses
- COMMENTS: This bill prohibits a postsecondary educational institution incorporated or chartered by the State from punishing a student at that institution for participation in a protected speech or association activity, as defined.

SPONSOR: Rep. Perry of Bangor

LR: 2842

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Drug Prevention Education in Maine High Schools
- COMMENTS: This bill would mandate drug education in every public high school in Maine.

SPONSOR: Rep. Pinkham of Lamoine

- TITLE: An Act to Increase the Number of Traps That Can be Fished Under a Noncommercial Lobster License and to Permit the Sale at Retail of Such Lobsters
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow the holder of a noncommercial lobster and crab fishing license to fish up to 25 traps and sell the lobsters at retail.

SPONSOR: Rep. Pinkham of Lamoine

LR: 2796

- TITLE: An Act to Provide a Waiver Under the Apprentice Program for Entry into the Lobster Fishery
- COMMENTS: This bill allows a waiver of all or part of the practical lobster fishing experience component of the apprentice program for a person who held for 5 years a Class I, II or III lobster and crab fishing license.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 468 CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3210 - ASH

SPONSOR: Rep. Povich of Ellsworth

LR: 3104

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Free Postsecondary Education to Maine Residents
- COMMENTS: This bill would provide a free postsecondary education at a state-supported school to state residents.

SPONSOR: Rep. Povich of Ellsworth

- TITLE: An Act to Require all Biohazardous Material to be Secured
- COMMENTS: This bill would require all biohazardous material to be secured and provide for enhanced penalties for failure to comply.

SPONSOR: Rep. Povich of Ellsworth

LR: 3106

TITLE: An Act to Require the Replacement of Harvested Trees

COMMENTS: This bill would require the replacement, on at least a one-for-one basis, of trees harvested in logging activities.

SPONSOR: Rep. Povich of Ellsworth

LR: 3107

- TITLE: An Act to Establish a Mandatory Punishment for Possession of Illegal Drugs
- COMMENTS: This bill would establish the following penalty for possession of illegal drugs: (1) Mandatory 2-year jail sentence; (2) \$5,000 fine; and (3) Loss of all licenses for 5 years.

SPONSOR: Rep. Povich of Ellsworth

LR: 3108

- TITLE: An Act to Require Firearms Education for Purchasers of Firearms
- COMMENTS: This bill would require a person who purchases a firearm to complete a firearm safety course.

SPONSOR: Rep. Povich of Ellsworth

LR: 3109

TITLE: An Act to Provide for Secure Schools

COMMENTS: This bill would require all schools to x-ray students' book bags for the presence of weapons or bombs.

SPONSOR: Rep. Povich of Ellsworth

LR: 3110

TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws for Posting of Land

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit hunting on any property that is not posted.

SPONSOR: Rep. Povich of Ellsworth

LR: 3111

TITLE: An Act to Decrease the Voting Age

COMMENTS: This bill would decrease the age at which people are allowed to vote.

SPONSOR: Rep. Povich of Ellsworth

LR: 3112

- TITLE: An Act to Require Enhanced Identification for the Purchase of Alcohol
- COMMENTS: This bill would require anyone purchasing alcohol to provide photo and fingerprint identification.

SPONSOR: Rep. Povich of Ellsworth

LR: 3113

TITLE: An Act to Establish a Disaster Relief Fund for Pets

COMMENTS: This bill would establish a fund to provide for the care of pets needing care as the result of a disaster.

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SPONSOR: Rep. Povich of Ellsworth

LR: 3114

- TITLE: An Act to Increase the Minimum Age for Obtaining a Driver's License
- COMMENTS: This bill would require a person to be at least 17 years of age before being eligible to obtain a driver's license; a person less than 18 years of age would need to successfully complete a driver education course and be subject to a one-year probationary period.

SPONSOR: Rep. Povich of Ellsworth

LR: 3209

TITLE: An Act Concerning the Financial Liability of Lottery Agents

COMMENTS: This bill removes financial liability from lottery agents for stolen lottery tickets.

SPONSOR: Rep. Quint of Portland

LR: 3031

TITLE: An Act to Improve the Public Safety of Maine Citizens

COMMENTS: This bill appropriates \$21,315,000 to the Department of Corrections, county jails and the Department of Behavioral and Developmental Services for the purpose of providing mental health workers, psychologists and nurses to help law enforcement and correctional officers deal with persons with mental illnesses.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3115 - WESTON

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SPONSOR: Rep. Quint of Portland

LR: 3272

- TITLE: An Act to Enhance Consumer-directed Personal Assistance Services for Maine Citizens with Disabilities
- COMMENTS: This bill would designate the Bureau of Rehabilitation Services within the Department of Labor as the lead agency for providing consumer-directed personal assistance services to Maine citizens with disabilities, and reassign all functions of the state-funded and Medicaid-funded consumer-directed personal assistance services programs for people with disabilities to the Bureau of Rehabilitation in order to ensure that these services are delivered in the most comprehensive manner possible.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3184 - SCHNEIDER CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3226 - BUNKER

SPONSOR: Rep. Quint of Portland

LR: 3273

TITLE: An Act to Create an Easement at the Maine Youth Center

COMMENTS: This bill would establish a restrictive covenant on the real property used by the Maine Youth Center to prohibit its sale or any use for nonyouth related services. Any change to the convenant would require a 2/3 majority vote by the Legislature.

SPONSOR: Rep. Quint of Portland

LR: 3274

- TITLE: Resolve, to Make Public all Documents Regarding the Security of the State House and the Burton M. Cross Building
- COMMENTS: This resolve would required all documents for the security of the State House and the Burton M. Cross Building be made public.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3306 - DUPREY

SPONSOR: Rep. Quint of Portland

LR: 3275

TITLE: An Act to Create an Urban Land Grant Program

COMMENTS: This bill would create the Maine Urban Land Grant Board and establish the Maine Urban Land Grant Fund to acquire property to be used for affordable housing projects throughout the State.

SPONSOR: Sen. Rand of Cumberland

LR: 3195

TITLE: An Act to Facilitate Better Enforcement of Gun Laws

COMMENTS: This bill will increase the crime of obliterating the serial number on a firearm from a Class E crime to a Class C crime. The bill will also require all state and local police to trace every crime gun recovered in Maine. The bill also makes it a felony to purchase a gun from a licensed dealer with the intent of reselling the gun to someone who could not have purchased it from the dealer in the first place. The bill also requires the District Court to inform the Maine State Police when an individual is involuntarily committed.

SPONSOR: Rep. Richardson of Brunswick

LR: 3218

COMMENTS: The bill would allow merchants to provide consumers, who have already agreed over the telephone to be charged for a good or service after a trial period, with a written notice detailing the specific steps for cancellation of the purchase using a toll-free number.

TITLE: An Act Regarding Trial Offers

SPONSOR: Rep. Rines of Wiscasset

LR: 2756

TITLE: An Act to Improve Safety for Certain Intermittent Vendors

COMMENTS: This bill would improve the safety of intermittent vendors at roadside stands by: 1. Requiring adult supervision when any person under the age of 15 years is working at the stand; and 2. Requiring the stand to be at least 25 feet from the edge of a roadway with a speed limit of 40 miles per hour or more.

SPONSOR: Rep. Savage of Buxton

LR: 2789

- TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Build a New Bridge Over the Saco River between the Town of Hollis and the Town of Buxton
- COMMENTS: This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to build a new bridge over the Saco River between the Town of Hollis and the Town of Buxton.

SPONSOR: Rep. Savage of Buxton

- TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Build a Pedestrian Walkway on the Salmon Falls Bridge
- COMMENTS: This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to build a pedestrian walkway on the Salmon Falls Bridge over the Saco River between the Town of Hollis and the Town of Buxton.

SPONSOR: Rep. Savage of Buxton

LR: 2791

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Funding for Ancillary Services for the Adult Drug Courts
- COMMENTS: This bill provides funding for ancillary services for the adult drug courts.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2903 - SAVAGE W CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3157 - PEAVEY

SPONSOR: Rep. Savage of Buxton

LR: 2792

- TITLE: An Act to Clarify the Authority of the Secretary of State to Continue a Stay Pending an Administrative Hearing
- COMMENTS: This bill provides that the Secretary of State may continue a stay pending an administrative hearing if the Secretary of State fails to provide the petitioner with the copy of a report as provided by law.

SPONSOR: Rep. Savage of Buxton

LR: 2903

- TITLE: An Act to Clarify Procedures and to Facilitate Implementation of Adult and Juvenile Drug Courts
- COMMENTS: This bill appropriates funds for ancillary services for adult and juvenile drug courts, establishes the position of statewide juvenile drug court director and transfers responsibility for case management from the Department of Behavorial and Developmental Services, Office of Substance Abuse to the Judicial Department.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2791 - SAVAGE W CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3157 - PEAVEY

SPONSOR: Rep. Savage of Buxton

LR: 3246

TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to Water Districts

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to allow district trustees to set their own compensation and to clarify that towns within a water district hold separate referendum elections as opposed to a districtwide election.

SPONSOR: Sen. Sawyer, Jr. of Penobscot

LR: 3153

- TITLE: An Act to Facilitate the Closure of Privately Owned Solid Waste Landfills
- COMMENTS: This bill allows an owner or operator of a licensed solid waste disposal facility to use the financial assurance mechanisms allowed under federal law for closure and post-closure care and for corrective action for known releases.

SPONSOR: Rep. Saxl of Portland

LR: 2788

TITLE: An Act to Promote Safety of Families through the Workplace

COMMENTS: This bill would grant employment leave to the parent of a child who has been the victim of domestic violence so that parent may attend court hearings, medical caregiving or other services for the child.

SPONSOR: Rep. Saxl of Portland

LR: 3190

- TITLE: An Act to Allow the State to Maximize Funds for Meals for the Elderly in the State
- COMMENTS: This bill would allocate \$150,000 as matching funds for the federal program that provides money for meals for the elderly.

SPONSOR: Rep. Saxl of Portland

- TITLE: An Act to Define "Primary Aggressor" in Cases of Domestic Violence
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to allow a police officer to arrest the person the officer believes is the primary physical aggessor in a domestic abuse case if that person is believed to have committed domestic abuse before.

SPONSOR: Rep. Schneider of Durham

LR: 3184

- TITLE: An Act to Enhance Consumer-directed Personal Assistance Services for Maine Citizens with Disabilities
- COMMENTS: This bill designates the Department of Labor, Bureau of Rehabilitation Services as the lead agency for providing consumer-directed personal assistance services to Maine citizens with disabilities and reassigns all functions of the state-funded and Medicaid-funded consumer-directed personal assistance services programs for people with disabilities to the Bureau of Rehabilitation in order to ensure that these services are delivered in the most comprehensive manner possible. This bill further directs the Bureau of Rehabilitation to guarantee the full participation of people with disabilities in the development of rules that govern the delivery of these consolidated consumer-directed personal assistance services.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3226 - BUNKER CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3272 - QUINT

SPONSOR: Rep. Schneider of Durham LR: 3217 TITLE: An Act to Increase Confidence in Professional Registrations COMMENTS: The bill will create a Class E crime for lying in an application for professional registration.

SPONSOR: Rep. Schneider of Durham

- TITLE: An Act to Strengthen Protection from Abuse and Harassment Orders
- COMMENTS: The bill will make lying on an application for a Protection from Abuse or Harassment Order a Class E crime.

SPONSOR: Rep. Schneider of Durham

LR: 3223

TITLE: An Act to Clarify Municipal Reapportionment Authority

COMMENTS: This bill will amend the laws governing reapportionment of municipal voting districts following completion of each census.

SPONSOR: Rep. Schneider of Durham LR: 3224

TITLE: An Act to Improve Medicaid Reimbursement for Medical Supplies and Equipment

COMMENTS: This bill will require the Department of Human Services to amend its rules for Medicaid reimbursement for medical supplies and equipment.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1151

SPONSOR: Rep. Schneider of Durham

LR: 3225

TITLE: An Act to Provide Tax Conformity

COMMENTS: This bill will provide conformity in the Maine tax code with the changes recently enacted by the Federal Government.

SPONSOR: Rep. Sherman of Hodgdon

LR: 2898

- TITLE: An Act to Require the Land for Maine's Future Board to Notify State Representatives of Projects
- COMMENTS: This bill would require the Land for Maine's Future Board to notify a state representative if the board is considering a project in that representative's district.

SPONSOR: Rep. Sherman of Hodgdon

LR: 2899

- TITLE: An Act to Require the Membership of the Land for Maine's Future Board to Include a State Representative
- COMMENTS: This bill would expand the membership of the Land for Maine's Future Board to include a state representative from the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

SPONSOR: Rep. Sherman of Hodgdon

- TITLE: An Act to Require Driver Education Courses to Include Motorcycle Identification
- COMMENTS: This bill would require driver education courses to include instruction on how to identify and react to motorcyclists.

SPONSOR: Rep. Sherman of Hodgdon

LR: 2901

TITLE: Resolve, to Rename the Highland Avenue Bridge the Major General Henry Merriam Bridge

COMMENTS: This resolve would rename the Highland Avenue Bridge in Houlton the Major General Henry Merriam Bridge.

SPONSOR: Rep. Sherman of Hodgdon

LR: 3047

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Pertaining to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to amend the laws pertaining to the Maine Municipal Bond Bank to allow a quasi-municipal corporation to become an eligible borrower for electric, water and sewer projects.

SPONSOR: Rep. Shields of Auburn

- TITLE: An Act Allowing Committees Having Oversight of Health and Human Services Issues to Obtain Confidential Information
- COMMENTS: This bill permits members of committees having oversight of health and human services to obtain the same level of confidential information that regular staff of the Department of Human Services can obtain.

SPONSOR: Rep. Shields of Auburn

LR: 2945

- TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Department of Human Services to Apply for a Federal Waiver to Provide Medicaid Benefits to Uninsured Residents with a Diagnosis of Cancer
- COMMENTS: This resolve would direct the Department of Human Services to apply for a waiver from the Federal Government to authorize the provision of Medicaid benefits to uninsured citizens of the State who receive a diagnosis of cancer.

SPONSOR: Sen. Shorey of Washington

LR: 3120

- TITLE: Resolve, to Provide for the Location of a New Bridge in Calais
- COMMENTS: This resolve would require the Department of Transportation to place the planned international bridge within the city limits of the Town of Calais.

SPONSOR: Sen. Shorey of Washington

LR: 3121

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Licensing and Inspection Requirements for Eating Establishments
- COMMENTS: This bill would require all licensed eating establishments to employ a person certified in sanitation planning. This bill would increase inspection fees and give the Department of Health inspectors discretion in issuing conditional licenses to establishments that have failed inspections.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2909 - MORRISON

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SPONSOR: Rep. Simpson of Auburn

LR: 2979

TITLE: An Act to Ensure the Fair Collection of Overpayments

COMMENTS: This bill prevents the Department of Human Services from collecting overpayments accrued in public benefit programs from people who were minors in the household at the time that their parent or other caretaker received the overpayment.

SPONSOR: Rep. Simpson of Auburn

LR: 3277

- TITLE: An Act Providing Equity Under the Maine Clean Election Act
- COMMENTS: Under this bill, any candidate who elects to participate under the Maine Clean Elections Act as a publicly financed candidate has the same qualifying period as any other candidate, regardless of whether or not the candidate is enrolled in a political party.

SPONSOR: Rep. Simpson of Auburn

- TITLE: An Act to Support Businesses Engaged in Both Off-premise and On-premise Retail Sales of Malt Liquor and Wine
- COMMENTS: Under this bill, an off-premise licensee of malt liquor and wine could use a common kitchen if the licensee also operates a wine bar on the premises.

SPONSOR: Rep. Skoglund of St. George

LR: 2739

TITLE: An Act to Allow Clear Title to Tax-acquired Property

COMMENTS: This bill would make title to tax-acquired property free and clear after 5 years.

SPONSOR: Rep. Skoglund of St. George

LR: 2845

- TITLE: An Act to Allow a Disabled Person to Use a Crossbow during Archery Hunting Season
- COMMENTS: This bill allows a disabled person to use a crossbow during archery hunting season.

SPONSOR: Rep. Skoglund of St. George

- TITLE: An Act to Prohibit the Collection of Certain Information by Medical Services Providers
- COMMENTS: This bill prohibits the collection by medical services providers of information from patients that does not directly relate to the services being provided.

SPONSOR: Rep. Skoglund of St. George

LR: 2972

TITLE: An Act to Limit the Amount by Which a Municipality May Raise the Assessed Value of Property

COMMENTS: This bill prohibits a municipality from raising the assessed value of a property more than 5% per year unless that property is sold.

SPONSOR: Sen. Small of Sagadahoc

LR: 2851

TITLE: An Act to Clarify the Law Governing Unlawful Solicitation to Benefit Law Enforcement Agencies

COMMENTS: This bill clarifies that the unlawful solicitation law does not prohibit charitable efforts by nonprofit corporations or individuals unaffiliated with a law enforcement officer, agency or association in this State.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2862 - CARR CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3085 - MUSE C

SPONSOR: Sen. Small of Sagadahoc

LR: 2858

- TITLE: An Act to Ensure Accountability of State Expenditures to Private Scholarship Organizations
- COMMENTS: This bill requires the Senator George J. Mitchell Scholarship Research Institute or any other private organization that provides scholarships and receives state funding to have on its board of directors 3 members appointed by the Governor. The board would be required annually to report to the Legislature on the selection criteria used in determining the recipients of any scholarships granted from the organization as well as how all state appropriations are used by the organization. Any state appropriations to the organization must be used for scholarships and not for salaries and other administrative expenses.

SPONSOR: Sen. Small of Sagadahoc

- TITLE: An Act to Assist Municipalities of Sagadahoc County With the Change in the County Budget Year
- COMMENTS: This bill authorizes county officers in Sagadahoc County to borrow money for purposes of the transitional county budgets by issuing bonds or notes in anticipation of taxes from those budgets as long as the total face amount does not exceed 80% of the taxes anticipated from those budgets and the term does not exceed 5 years.

SPONSOR: Sen. Small of Sagadahoc

LR: 3092

TITLE: An Act to Amend the Prepared Foods Tax

COMMENTS: This bill would amend the sales tax on prepared foods that was enacted during the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature. If a business that sells prepared food does not meet the 75% rule, then that business must collect 5%, not 7%, on the sales of food prepared by the retailer. All other taxable items would continue at the 5% rate.

SPONSOR: Sen. Small of Sagadahoc

LR: 3093

- TITLE: An Act to Provide Loan Assistance for Maine's Retail Businesses
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow Maine's retail businesses to qualify for no-interest loans through the Finance Authority of Maine if those businesses had to purchase new registers to comply with the new multi-tax system that went into effect on October 1, 2001.

SPONSOR: Sen. Small of Sagadahoc

- TITLE: An Act to Permit Underground Storage Tanks in Low-risk Areas
- COMMENTS: This bill permits underground storage facilities within 75 feet of a private well when public water is available to replace the well and the facility installs monitoring devices around the facility, or when the facility owner agrees to pay for replacement or remediation of the well in the event of contamination by a release from the facility.

SPONSOR: Rep. Smith of Van Buren

LR: 3101

TITLE: An Act to Prevent Unreasonable Charges for Patient Records

COMMENTS: This bill limits the fee that may be charged for copies of medical records to \$1 per page.

SPONSOR: Rep. Smith of Van Buren

LR: 3102

- TITLE: An Act to Allow the Netting of Smelt in Long Lake, Aroostook County
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to allow the netting of smelts in Long Lake, Aroostook County and streams that flow into the lake during the spring season subject to a limit of 2 quarts per person.

SPONSOR: Rep. Smith of Van Buren

- TITLE: An Act to Provide for Labor Committee Review of the Workers' Compensation Board
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to have the appointment of new board members to the Workers' Compensation Board reviewed by the Labor Committee.

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2696

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Notification by State Agencies to Landowners Prior to Entering Onto Their Land
- COMMENTS: This bill requires state agencies to adopt written policies regarding the conditions under which they would authorize entry onto a person's private property, and attempts to make consistent notification practices prior to such entry. This bill also establishes a study commission to examine curtilage and the entry onto private property by state officials.

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2743

- TITLE: An Act to Reimburse Veterinarians for Services Performed on Stray and Wild Animals
- COMMENTS: This bill requires that veterinarians be reimbursed for work done on stray and wild animals brought to them.

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2761

- TITLE: An Act to Establish a Toll-free Number for a Person to Call to Apply for Unemployment Benefits
- COMMENTS: This bill establishes a toll-free number for a person to call to apply for unemployment benefits.

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2762

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Penalties for Violations of the Tobacco Laws by Minors
- COMMENTS: This bill requires that a minor who violates the laws governing tobacco must perform community service by collecting cigarette butts.

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SPONSOR: Rep.	Snowe-Mello	of Poland

LR: 2772

- TITLE: An Act to Require Parental Permission to Distribute Sports Enhancement Drinks to Students Who Participate in Sports
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to require parental permission before any sports enhancement drink may be given to a student participating in sports.

SPONSOR:	Rep.	Snowe-Mello	of Poland

- TITLE: Resolve, to Establish a Study Commission to Study Health Risks Associated with High School Sports
- COMMENTS: This resolve would establish a study commission to study possible health risks associated with high school sports, including but not limited to weight loss issues, use of nutritional supplements and physical overextension leading to injury.

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2804

TITLE: An Act to Amend the Cumberland County Budget Process

COMMENTS: Under current law, the Cumberland County Budget Advisory Committee forwards an approved county budget to the county commissioners, who may alter that budget. This bill replaces that process and establishes a budget committee whose budget may be revised by the county commissioners only by a unanimous vote of the commissioners. Changes by the county commissioners may be rejected by a 2/3 vote of the budget committee.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2773 - BLISS CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2976 - CUMMINGS

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2811

- TITLE: An Act to Create a Study Commission to Review Airport Security
- COMMENTS: This bill would create a study commission to determine what aspects of airport security are within the purview of the State and to propose recommendations to make improvements.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2838 - COLLINS CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3232 - NORBERT CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3298 - MATTHEWS

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2826

TITLE: An Act to Discourage Frivolous Lawsuits

COMMENTS: This bill requires a judge to order a plaintiff to pay a defendant's legal fees in any action that the judge determines to be frivolous. The judge may reprimand an attorney who brings such a frivolous action.

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2827

- TITLE: An Act to Require the State to Pay the Salaries of Teachers and Administrators in Local Schools
- COMMENTS: This bill requires the State to pay the salaries of teachers and administrators in local schools. It also requires the State to set standard, statewide salary schedules for teachers and administrators.

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2828

- TITLE: An Act to Revise Hunting and Fishing Fees and Restrictions for Nonresidents
- COMMENTS: This bill revises hunting and fishing fees and restrictions for nonresidents based upon the treatment of nonresidents by other jurisdictions.

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2829

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- TITLE: An Act Regarding the Purchase by the State of a Parcel of Land in the Town of Poland
- COMMENTS: This bill requires the State to reimburse the Town of Poland in connection with the purchase of a parcel of land formerly in the tree growth program by the State in the Town of Poland. It also requires the State to meet certain conditions before the land is developed as a boat launch.

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2951

TITLE: An Act to Create the Private Funding for Educational Assistance Act

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to provide a tax credit for certain contributions for educational purposes.

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2974

- TITLE: An Act to Repeal the Retroactive Effect of Changes Made to the Subdivision Laws
- COMMENTS: This bill would repeal the retroactive effective date of changes made to the subdivision laws as enacted in Public Law 2001, chapter 359 and make those changes effective as of September 21, 2001, the general effective date for legislation enacted during the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3188 - LAVERDIERE

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

- TITLE: Resolve, to Extend the Reporting Deadline for the Maine Millennium Commission on Hunger and Food Security
- COMMENTS: This resolve would extend the reporting deadline for the Maine Millennium Commission on Hunger and Food Security from December 5, 2001 to June 15, 2002.

SPONSOR: Rep. Soctomah of Passamaquoddy Tribe

LR: 2744

TITLE: Resolve, Establishing a Commission to Examine the Treatment of Native Americans in the Prison System

COMMENTS: This resolve establishes a commission to examine the treatment of Native Americans in the prison system.

SPONSOR: Rep. Soctomah of Passamaquoddy Tribe

LR: 2833

TITLE: An Act to Create the Maine Native American Human Remains Act

COMMENTS: This bill would require any entity possessing Native American human remains to return those remains to the nearest Native American tribe or other tribe designated by the tribes of Maine. Possession of such remains would be prohibited.

SPONSOR: Rep. Soctomah of Passamaquoddy Tribe

- TITLE: An Act Concerning Passamaquoddy Land in Grand Lake Stream Plantation
- COMMENTS: This bill establishes a process for including land in Grand Lake Stream Plantation in the Passamaquoddy Indian Reservation.

SPONSOR: Rep. Stanley of Medway

LR: 2968

- TITLE: An Act to Allow Beano Proceeds to be Used to Pay Administrative Costs
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow proceeds from beano to be used to pay administrative costs of overseeing the operation of beano or the administrative costs of overseeing an organization's charitable programs.

SPONSOR: Rep. Stanley of Medway

LR: 2969

TITLE: An Act to Reroute the Katahdin Trail

COMMENTS: This bill would reroute the Katahdin Trail, which was created in 1957 but superseded by Interstate 95.

SPONSOR: Rep. Stanley of Medway

LR: 2970

TITLE: An Act to Create the Office of Canadian Ombudsman

COMMENTS: This bill would create the Office of Canadian Ombudsman to oversee issues affecting business conducted between Maine and Canada.

SPONSOR: Rep. Stanley of Medway

LR: 2971

- TITLE: An Act to Allow a School Bus to Operate its Flashing Red Lights When not Engaged in the Transportation of School Children
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow the operation of the flashing lights on a school bus if the bus is being used for purposes other than school transportation.

SPONSOR: Rep. Stanley of Medway

LR: 3038

- TITLE: An Act to Extend the Date for Loan Repayment for Costs Associated with the Plymouth Waste Oil Site
- COMMENTS: This bill extends the date for loan repayment for costs associated with the Plymouth Waste Oil Site.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2785 - MARTIN

SPONSOR: Rep. Stanley of Medway

LR: 3163

TITLE: An Act to Promote Equity in Camp Lot Leases

COMMENTS: This bill would imply an easement of access to a camp lot in the unorganized territory if the lease for the lot does not contain an easement of access. The bill would also require that the lessor pay the fair market value of any improvements made by the lessee unless the lease specifies otherwise.

SPONSOR: Rep. Stedman of Hartland

LR: 2897

TITLE: An Act to Amend the Boundaries Between Ripley and St. Albans

COMMENTS: This bill restores the boundary between the towns of St. Albans and Ripley to its pre-1862 configuration by placing land set off in Private and Special Law 1862, chapter 181 back into the Town of Ripley.

SPONSOR: Rep. Sullivan of Biddeford

LR: 2910

- TITLE: Resolve, to Allow for Handicapped Fishing Accessibility at the Marblehead Boat Launch
- COMMENTS: This resolve would require the installation of handicapped accessible facilities at the Marblehead Boat Launch to allow persons who are physically disabled to fish there.

SPONSOR: Rep. Sullivan of Biddeford

LR: 3037

- TITLE: An Act to Exempt Affordable Housing from Moratoria, Growth Caps and Impact Fees
- COMMENTS: This bill exempts affordable housing from moratoria, growth caps and impact fees.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2911 - LAVERRIERE-BOUCHER

SPONSOR: Rep. Sullivan of Biddeford

LR: 3300

TITLE: An Act to Reduce the Economic Impact of Posted Spring Roads

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to prohibit municipalities from posting roads on a seasonal basis.

SPONSOR: Rep. Tarazewich of Waterboro

LR: 2943

TITLE: An Act to Prevent Theft and Ensure Safety at Gasoline Filling Stations

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to discourage theft of motor fuels by "drive-offs" by creating a crime for driving off without paying for the fuel and attaching a 6-point demerit against a person's driver's license.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1221

SPONSOR: Rep. Tessier of Fairfield

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Background Checks for Prospective Adoptive Parents
- COMMENTS: This bill would amend the laws governing background checks on prospective adoptive parents to accept as meeting the requirement a background check completed in the prior 2 years by a licensed child placement agency and to require that the background check occur prior to placement of the child with the family.

SPONSOR: Rep. Tessier of Fairfield

LR: 2928

TITLE: An Act to Designate the Thomas M. Teague Biotechnology Center of Maine as the Official State Biotechnology Center

COMMENTS: This bill designates the Thomas M. Teague Biotechnology Center of Maine as the official state biotechnology center.

SPONSOR: Rep. Tessier of Fairfield

LR: 2960

TITLE: An Act to Appropriate Funds to the EPSCOR Program

COMMENTS: This bill appropriates \$370,000 to Maine's experimental program to stimulate competitive research, or "EPSCOR," to continue participation in the NASA-sponsored matching grant program and to receive a Department of Defense matching grant.

SPONSOR: Rep. Thomas of Orono

- TITLE: Resolve, to Require the University of Maine System to Adopt Rules to Allow the Use of Meal Cards for Off-campus Meals
- COMMENTS: This resolve would direct the University of Maine System to adopt rules to allow the use of meal cards at off-campus establishments for food.

SPONSOR: Rep. Tracy of Rome

LR: 2754

TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Compensation for Abutters of Landfills

COMMENTS: This bill provides that the owner of a privately owned landfill must compensate an abutter for the decrease in value of the land caused by the landfill.

SPONSOR: Rep. Tracy of Rome

LR: 2755

- TITLE: An Act to Extend the Jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission to Include Sewer Districts
- COMMENTS: This bill extends the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission to include jurisdiction over sewer districts.

SPONSOR: Rep. Tracy of Rome

LR: 2816

TITLE: An Act to Include Certain Farm Tractors Under the Lemon Laws

COMMENTS: This bill would include farm tractors of 80 horsepower or more in the coverage provided under the lemon laws.

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SPONSOR: Rep. Tracy of Rome

LR: 2823

- TITLE: An Act to Create a Patriotic License Plate to Benefit Relief Organizations
- COMMENTS: This bill creates a license plate with a patriotic design, the proceeds of the sale of which will be donated to relief organizations. This plate would be decorative only, would not display the registration number and would be displayed on the front of a vehicle only.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3199 - MENDROS

SPONSOR: Rep. Tracy of Rome

LR: 3168

- TITLE: An Act to Require Persons Dealing with Hazardous Waste to be Licensed
- COMMENTS: This bill would require that any person dealing with hazardous waste be licensed by the Department of Environmental Protection.

SPONSOR: Rep. Trahan of Waldoboro

LR: 2700

- TITLE: An Act Regarding the Administration of Epinephrine by Emergency Medical Personnel
- COMMENTS: This bill provides authority for all emergency medical personnel to administer epinephrine.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 283

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SPONSOR: Rep. Trahan of Waldoboro

LR: 2701

- TITLE: An Act to Coordinate State Efforts to Secure Private Grants and Federal Funding for Activities Relating to State Government
- COMMENTS: This bill establishes an office in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to provide assistance to all state agencies in securing funding from private grants, for example, from private foundations, and from the Federal Government to support the activities of State Government. A portion of the funding that is secured would be used to fund the activities of the office. It also establishes a legislative committee to oversee the process of securing this funding.

SPONSOR: Rep. Trahan of Waldoboro

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the State Government Evaluation Act to Create the Office of Legislative Audit
- COMMENTS: This bill would amend the State Government Evaluation Act to create the Office of Legislative Audit. This office, which will be modeled on successful programs in other states, will oversee the process of developing performance measures, evaluate the use of those performance measures and conduct program reviews.

SPONSOR: Rep. Trahan of Waldoboro

LR: 2808

- TITLE: An Act to Create a Committee to Communicate with Business and Research Development Entities
- COMMENTS: This bill would create a committee to communicate with business and research development entities.

SPONSOR: Rep. Trahan of Waldoboro

LR: 2822

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Distribution of Alcohol
- COMMENTS: This bill allows a liquor licensee to transfer liquor between establishments owned by the licensee.

SPONSOR: Rep. Trahan of Waldoboro

LR: 3086

- TITLE: An Act to Authorize a Bond Anticipation Note Extension for the Town of Waldoboro
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to allow the Town of Waldoboro an extension on a bond anticipation note.

SPONSOR: Rep. Trahan of Waldoboro

- TITLE: An Act Concerning Education Technician Authorization
- COMMENTS: This bill would require the Department of Education to adopt rules that recognize work experience credits for education technicians hired before 1991.

SPONSOR: Sen. Treat of Kennebec

LR: 2939

TITLE: An Act to Provide Adult Education and Other Support Services

COMMENTS: This bill requires the Department of Education, in consultation with the Division of Deafness, to provide remedial adult education classes for former students of the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf and the Maine School for the Deaf.

SPONSOR: Rep. Tuttle, Jr. of Sanford

LR: 2779

- TITLE: An Act to Require that Firefighters Be Paid Time and a Half for Hours Worked after 40 Hours of Work in a Week
- COMMENTS: This bill requires that firefighters be paid time and a half for hours worked after 40 hours of work in a week.

SPONSOR: Rep. Tuttle, Jr. of Sanford

- TITLE: An Act to Permit Certain Nonresidents to Hunt on the Opening Day of Deer Season
- COMMENTS: This bill allows a nonresident who owns property in this State and who does not post that property against hunting to hunt on the opening day of deer season.

SPONSOR: Rep. Tuttle, Jr. of Sanford

LR: 2781

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Statute of Limitations for Medical Malpractice Actions
- COMMENTS: This bill amends the statute of limitations relating to health care providers and health care practitioners. The bill requires an action for professional negligence to be commenced within 3 years after a plaintiff discovers, or in the exercise of reasonable diligence should have discovered, the injury but not more than 10 years after the cause of action accrues.

SPONSOR: Rep. Tuttle, Jr. of Sanford

LR: 2954

- TITLE: An Act to Establish Regional Wholesale and Retail Distribution Centers for Alcoholic Beverages
- COMMENTS: This bill maintains 10 state liquor stores to be operated by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations as regional wholesale and retail distribution centers.

SPONSOR: Rep. Usher of Westbrook

LR: 2768

- TITLE: Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Protect the Elderly from Rising Property Tax Rates
- COMMENTS: This bill would propose an amendment to the Constitution of Maine to allow communities to enact property tax freezes for elderly residents who own property in the community.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 980 LD 657

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SPONSOR: Rep. Usher of Westbrook

LR: 2793

TITLE: An Act to Allow Bird Hunting on Sunday in the Unorganized Territory

COMMENTS: This bill allows bird hunting on Sunday in the unorganized territory.

SPONSOR: Rep. Volenik of Brooklin

LR: 2947

TITLE: An Act to Protect the Scallop Industry

COMMENTS: This bill will change the minimum scallop size to 4 inches. The bill will also direct the Department of Marine Resources to work with the scallop industry to develop new gear that would cull scallops by size.

SPONSOR: Rep. Waterhouse of Bridgton

- TITLE: An Act to Provide a Municipality Greater Flexibility in Making Investments
- COMMENTS: This bill would amend the current law to provide a municipality with greater flexibility when making investments.

SPONSOR: Rep. Weston of Montville

LR: 2830

TITLE: An Act to Enhance Employment Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities Under the Work Center Law

COMMENTS: This bill would give a preference under the work center product and services set aside law to businesses that pay at least minimum wage and provide employee health insurance benefits.

SPONSOR: Rep. Weston of Montville

LR: 3032

- TITLE: An Act to Designate Department of Education Chapter 180 Rules as Major Substantive Rules
- COMMENTS: This bill requires rules establishing the Department of Education's comprehensive childfind system and early intervention system to be major substantive rules.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2902 - CLOUGH CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3048 - DAIGLE

SPONSOR: Rep. Weston of Montville

LR: 3115

- TITLE: An Act to Improve the Public Safety of Maine Citizens By Providing Increased Mental Health Services to Inmates
- COMMENTS: This bill would provide increased funding to the Department of Corrections, county jails and the Department of Behavorial and Developmental Services for more mental health personnel for inmates and former prisoners.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3031 - QUINT

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SPONSOR: Rep. Wheeler of Bridgewater

LR: 2941

- TITLE: An Act to Amend the Definition of "Income" and "Lump Sum Payment" in the General Assistance Statutes
- COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to amend the definitions of "income" and "lump sum payment" as they pertain to general assistance.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2880 - DUNCAN

SPONSOR: Rep. Wheeler of Eliot

LR: 2740

TITLE: An Act Regarding Payment of School Tuition

COMMENTS: This bill would allow families who move from one school district to another to keep sending their children to the same school and not have to pay tuition.

SPONSOR: Sen. Woodcock of Franklin

- TITLE: An Act to Recognize Composting Facilities as Agricultural Facilities for Purposes of the Laws Governing Unemployment Compensation
- COMMENTS: This bill provides that composting facilities are agricultural facilities for purposes of the laws governing unemployment compensation.

SPONSOR: Sen. Youngblood of Penobscot

LR: 2835

TITLE: An Act to Facilitate the Prompt Transfer of State Funds Following a Declared Disaster

COMMENTS: This bill would amend the law to authorize the transfer from the Maine Rainy Day Fund to the Maine Emergency Management Agency to provide the state share of matching assistance grants following declaration of a disaster.

SPONSOR: Sen. Youngblood of Penobscot

LR: 2836

- TITLE: An Act to Authorize Certain Former Members of the Maine State Retirement System to Rejoin the Maine State Retirement System
- COMMENTS: This bill would allow former members of the Maine State Retirement System who switched out of that program into TIAA-CREF in 1999 and 2001 following representations of incorrect information by TIAA-CREF to switch back to the Maine State Retirement System within the 6-month period following the effective date of this Act.

SPONSOR: Sen. Youngblood of Penobscot

- TITLE: An Act to simplify the Process by Which a Financial Institution Transfers Title to a Motor Vehicle to a Lessee
- COMMENTS: This bill expands the ability of a financial institution to sell a motor vehicle in circumstances when the financial institution transfers title to a vehicle that it leases the lessee of a vehicle.