

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Council Meeting
October 22, 2003

Review of Legislative Bill Requests

Requirements relevant to bills in the Second Regular Session

1. Under the terms of the Maine Constitution, Section 1 of Article IV, Part Third, Legislative Power, the business of the second regular session must be limited to budgetary matters; legislation in the Governor's call; legislation of an emergency nature admitted by the Legislature; legislation referred to committees to study and report by the Legislature in the first regular session; and legislation presented to the Legislature by written petition of the electors (direct citizen initiative).
2. Under the 121st Legislative Council's Rules of Procedure, any action of the Council requires the affirmative vote of at least 6 members.
3. Under Rule 203 of the Joint Rules of the 121st Legislature, any vote of the Legislative Council to accept or reject a bill or resolve for introduction under the procedures established under the Joint Rules must be taken by the yeas and nays, and that vote must be recorded and made available for public inspection.
4. Under Rule 217 of the Joint Rules, a bill that has been introduced and finally rejected in a regular or special session may not be introduced in a subsequent session of the same Legislature except by a vote of 2/3 of both chambers. Therefore, determinations as to the relevancy of Rule 217 are within the purview of the presiding officers, not the Legislative Council.

Suggested Protocol for deciding legislative bill requests

- A. The Legislative Council will review bill requests alphabetically by sponsor. An exception to this order of review will be made for bill requests for which an ASL Interpreter is required for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing. Those bills will be taken out of order at a time during the meeting when an interpreter is available.
- B. For procedural consistency, when voting on a bill request, the initial motion on a bill will be presumed to be a motion to accept the bill request for introduction into the second regular session along with a second to that motion. (Yea is to let in a bill; nay is to reject the bill for introduction).
- C. In order to review all legislative requests in a timely manner, voting will be by a show of hands, with each Council Member's vote on each bill being recorded. The record of each vote will be made available for public inspection following the meeting.
- D. If a bill request has been identified by the Revisor as requiring a ruling under Joint Rule 217, the Legislative Council may vote to accept that bill for introduction, conditional upon a subsequent ruling by the presiding officers. Absent a vote to accept the bill, the bill is presumed to have been turned down by a unanimous vote of the Legislative Council.

Review of Legislative Bill Requests

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- E. Legislative sponsors and others are welcome to observe the Council's deliberations on the bill requests, but discussion of the requests will be confined to Council Members. Discussion of a bill request among Council Members will be limited to whether it is appropriate for introduction under Constitutional provisions for second regular session bills, and will not speak to the merits of the bill itself.
- F. If the Legislative Council turns down a bill request, a Legislator may appeal that decision, and at a subsequent meeting of the Legislative Council, the Legislator may speak briefly to the bill request under appeal.
- G. A legislative request that has been identified by the Revisor's Office as being closely related to another legislative request that was earlier filed (i.e., having been assigned a lower LR number) or to a carryover bill is presumed to have been turned down by a unanimous vote of the Legislative Council.

**Potential Motion to establish protocol for
reviewing and deciding legislative bill requests at the
October 22, 2003 meeting of the Legislative Council**

Motion: That the Legislative Council adopt the suggested protocol, A-G, for deciding legislative bill requests as set forth in the "Review of Legislative Bill Requests document dated October 22, 2003.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Annis of Dover-Foxcroft

LR: 2224

TITLE: An Act To Authorize the Deorganization of the Town of
Atkinson

COMMENTS: This bill would authorize the deorganization of the Town of
Atkinson

SPONSOR: Rep. Annis of Dover-Foxcroft

LR: 2411

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Charter of the Dover and Foxcroft Water
District

COMMENTS: This bill would increase the number of trustees on the
Board of Trustees of the Dover and Foxcroft Water District
from 3 trustees to 5 trustees.

SPONSOR: Rep. Ash, Jr. of Belfast

LR: 2515

TITLE: An Act To Exempt Dealers of Antique and Classic
Automobiles from Minimum Sales Requirements

COMMENTS: This bill would exempt dealers engaged in the sale of
antique and classic automobiles from the minimum sales
requirement of 12 vehicles per year in order to obtain a
dealers license.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2319 - WESTON

SPONSOR: Rep. Barstow of Gorham

LR: 2284

TITLE: Resolve, To Reduce the Opportunities for Fraud and Identity
Theft

COMMENTS: This resolve would require the Secretary of State and the
Attorney General to study issues surrounding access to
documents such as birth certificates and prepare
recommendations for a systematic statewide policy regarding
such documents. The purpose of this resolve is to reduce
the opportunity for identity theft and fraud.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2459 - BRENNAN

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Barstow of Gorham

LR: 2285

TITLE: An Act To Repeal the Taxation of Personal Property Valued
Over \$1,000

COMMENTS: Current law provides that personal property valued over
\$1,000 be taxed locally at the municipality's tax rate.
This bill would repeal that provision.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2291 - BRUNO

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2576 - STANLEY

SPONSOR: Rep. Barstow of Gorham

LR: 2286

TITLE: An Act To Authorize Certain School Children To Carry
Asthma Inhalers on Their Persons

COMMENTS: Currently, children in schools cannot personally carry
their medications with them throughout the day. This bill
would enact an exception to allow children to carry with
them prescription asthma inhalers if a doctor has
authorized in writing that the child is capable of
administering the dose.

SPONSOR: Rep. Barstow of Gorham

LR: 2287

TITLE: Resolve, To Encourage Parents To Choose To Dedicate a
Portion of Child Support Payments to College Investment
Accounts

COMMENTS: This bill would direct the Treasurer of State, in
consultation with other appropriate state entities, to
explore methods to encourage parents to choose to dedicate
a portion of child support payments to college investment
accounts.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Barstow of Gorham

LR: 2288

TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Department of Public Safety To
Examine Issues Surrounding Motorcycle Noise

COMMENTS: This bill would require the Department of Public Safety to review existing laws and ordinances governing noise emitted by motorcycles, and directs the department to report back to the Legislature its recommendations for a comprehensive statewide policy.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 458

SPONSOR: Rep. Barstow of Gorham

LR: 2289

TITLE: An Act To Ensure Funding for After-school Programs

COMMENTS: This bill would dedicate 1% of general education revenue to the facilitation of after-school programs, subject to the approval of the voters of the State of Maine.

SPONSOR: Rep. Berry, Sr. of Belmont

LR: 2248

TITLE: An Act To Require Computerization of the Chambers of the
Maine Legislature

COMMENTS: This bill would require the House and Senate chambers to be computerized by placing a computer on each Legislator's desk that could access bills, amendments, the calendar and other legislative papers.

SPONSOR: Sen. Blais of Kennebec

LR: 2435

TITLE: An Act To Improve the Workers' Compensation Benefit Payment
Process

COMMENTS: This bill prevents the duplicate receipt of workers' compensation benefits and wages earned working for an employer that is not paying benefits to the employee under certain circumstances.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Bliss of South Portland

LR: 2292

TITLE: An Act To Provide Tax-exempt Status to Nonprofit Businesses
that Train Assistance Animals

COMMENTS: This bill would provide Maine tax exempt status to
nonprofit organizations that train service animals and that
are exempt from federal taxation under the United States
Internal Revenue Code, Section 501(c)(3).

SPONSOR: Rep. Bowen of Rockport

LR: 2527 TITLE: Resolve, To Create a Board of Review To Determine
the Cause of the Deterioration of the Waldo-Hancock
Bridge

COMMENTS: This resolve would create an independent board of
investigation to review the actions taken by the Department
of Transportation regarding the Waldo-Hancock Bridge,
including care and maintenance and any reports performed by
the Department of Transportation over the past 40 years.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 936

SPONSOR: Rep. Bowen of Rockport

LR: 2535

TITLE: An Act To Simplify the Application Process for the Maine
Residents Property Tax Program

COMMENTS: This bill would require the form for the Maine Residents
Property Tax Program to be included in the individual
income tax return package.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 1394

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Bowles of Sanford

LR: 2303

TITLE: An Act To Clarify Property Eligible for Reimbursement
of Property Taxes under the Business Equipment Tax
Reimbursement Program

COMMENTS: This bill would exclude from eligibility in the Business
Equipment Tax Reimbursement Program all gaming equipment,
machines or devices specifically designed or manufactured
for use in the operation of any gaming or wagering
activity, including but not limited to, video facsimiles
and video lottery terminals.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2561 - DUDLEY

SPONSOR: Rep. Bowles of Sanford

LR: 2327

TITLE: An Act Requiring Blood Alcohol Testing of all Drivers
Involved in Accidents Resulting in Fatalities

COMMENTS: This bill requires chemical testing of all drivers involved
in traffic accidents resulting in fatalities.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bowles of Sanford

LR: 2392

TITLE: An Act Regarding Photo Identification

COMMENTS: This bill would amend Maine law so that taking a photograph
of a state driver's license for the purpose of consummating
certain financial transactions, such as the closing of a
sale of real property or a durable financial power of
attorney, is exempted from the state law that prohibits
photographing a driver's license.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Bowles of Sanford

LR: 2393

TITLE: An Act To Clarify the Ability To Originate Federal Student Loans

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit the Finance Authority of Maine from directly or indirectly originating or otherwise funding federal student loans except for federal consolidation loans if FAME owns all of the borrower's loans that are to be consolidated.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bowles of Sanford

LR: 2550

TITLE: An Act To Establish a Casino Regional Impact Mitigation Fund

COMMENTS: This bill would establish the Casino Regional Impact Mitigation Fund for the purpose of addressing the regional and local impacts of a resort casino in Maine.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 1201 LD 1242
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2290 - PERCY
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2301 - O'NEIL
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2418 - GAGNON
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2635 - BOWLES

SPONSOR: Rep. Bowles of Sanford

LR: 2635

TITLE: An Act To Establish the Maine Gaming and Wagering Control Commission

COMMENTS: This bill would establish the Maine Gaming and Wagering Control Commission, which through 3 separate boards would oversee casino gambling and games of chance, oversee pari-mutuel wagering and assume the functions of the Maine Harness Racing Commission and the Maine State Lottery

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 1201 LD 1242
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2290 - PERCY
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2301 - O'NEIL
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2418 - GAGNON
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2550 - BOWLES

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Brannigan of Portland

LR: 2334

TITLE: An Act To Provide an Exemption to the Laws Governing
Patient Confidentiality Regarding Certain Former Patients
of the Augusta Mental Health Institute

COMMENTS: This bill provides an exemption to the laws governing
patient confidentiality so that the names of former
patients of the Augusta Mental Health Institute who died at
the Augusta Mental Health Institute may be made available
to the public.

SPONSOR: Sen. Brennan of Cumberland

LR: 2443

TITLE: An Act To Allow Psychologists to Prescribe Psychotropic
Drugs

COMMENTS: This bill would allow psychologists to prescribe
psychotropic drugs, subject to certification by the State
Board of Examiners of Psychologists and the State Board of
Pharmacy that they have met the requirements set up by
those boards in rule.

SPONSOR: Sen. Brennan of Cumberland

LR: 2451

TITLE: An Act Regarding Learning Results

COMMENTS: This bill would clarify that the 50% state share of funding
for essential programs and services is not tied to the
implementation of the system of learning results.

SPONSOR: Sen. Brennan of Cumberland

LR: 2452

TITLE: An Act To Exempt Public or Private Nonprofit Entities
from Vehicle Dealer Licensing Requirements

COMMENTS: This bill would exempt public or private nonprofit
organizations that provide transportation to persons of at
least 65 years of age who decrease or stop driving or to
persons with a visual impairment that prevents them from
driving from vehicle dealer licensing requirements when
those organizations accept donated vehicles.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Brennan of Cumberland

LR: 2453

TITLE: Resolve, Regarding the Financing of the Federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

COMMENTS: This resolve would direct the Department of Education to investigate the costs and benefits of withdrawing from the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

SPONSOR: Sen. Brennan of Cumberland

LR: 2459

TITLE: An Act To Protect Personal Identity and Access to Birth Certificates

COMMENTS: This bill would clarify the law that birth certificates are not public records subject to the Freedom of Access Law, thus restricting access to birth certificates to those persons with a direct and legitimate interest.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2284 - BARSTOW

SPONSOR: Sen. Brennan of Cumberland

LR: 2538

TITLE: An Act To Transfer a Parcel of Land on Peaks Island to the Peaks Island Land Preserve

COMMENTS: This bill would transfer a parcel of state-owned land of approximately 25 to 35 acres on Peaks Island to the Peaks Island Land Preserve with the condition that the land be burdened with a permanent conservation easement.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bromley of Cumberland

LR: 2440

TITLE: An Act To Encourage the Proper Disposal of Expired Pharmaceuticals

COMMENTS: This bill would establish procedures for the effective and safe disposal of unused or expired pharmaceuticals.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Bromley of Cumberland

LR: 2444

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Financial Management Procedures of the
Maine Developmental Disabilities Council

COMMENTS: This bill would authorize the Maine Developmental
Disabilities Council to borrow funds in anticipation of
revenues as long as the funds are used to pay current
operating expenses of the council and the term of the loan
does not exceed 13 months.

SPONSOR: Rep. Browne of Vassalboro

LR: 2342

TITLE: An Act To Allow Animal Control Officers and Individuals
Who Collect Trash To Use a Flashing Yellow Light on Their
Vehicles

COMMENTS: This bill allows animal control officers and individuals
who collect trash to use a flashing yellow light on their
vehicles.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bruno of Raymond

LR: 2291

TITLE: An Act To Exempt All Personal Property from Taxation

COMMENTS: This bill would repeal the current exemptions from the
property tax and instead provide for the exemption of all
personal property.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2285 - BARSTOW

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2576 - STANLEY

SPONSOR: Rep. Bruno of Raymond

LR: 2439

TITLE: An Act To Promote Strong Economies and Smart Communities
by Supporting the New Century Program

COMMENTS: This bill proposes a new collaboration between Maine's
cultural agencies and provides some new funding.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
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SPONSOR: Sen. Bryant of Oxford

LR: 2220

TITLE: An Act To Improve Awareness of Meningococcal Meningitis
Vaccination

COMMENTS: This bill requires the distribution of information
concerning meningococcal meningitis and meningococcal
meningitis immunization to students.

SPONSOR: Sen. Bryant of Oxford

LR: 2584

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Fees Paid to Attorneys for Lump-sum
Settlements in Workers' Compensation Cases

COMMENTS: This bill would amend the fees paid to attorneys for
lump-sum settlements in workers' compensation cases.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bunker Jr. of Kossuth Township

LR: 2539

TITLE: An Act To Make Public Records in the Court System
Readily Accessible to the Public

COMMENTS: This bill would require that the fee charged to the public
for a record search be used to make the information more
readily available by obtaining computers for the public's
use.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bunker Jr. of Kossuth Township

LR: 2541

TITLE: An Act To Establish a Dedicated Insurance Fraud
Investigation Unit

COMMENTS: This bill would require insurance companies to establish a
special investigative unit to investigate insurance fraud.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
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SPONSOR: Rep. Campbell, Sr. of Newfield

LR: 2333

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Cost-sharing Method Used in School
Administrative District Number 57

COMMENTS: The formation of MSAD 57 was authorized by Private and Special Law 1995, chapter 93. The cost-sharing formula established for MSAD 57 is based on two factors: the pupil count of each member municipality; and the property valuation of each member municipality. Recent trends in pupil counts and property valuation among the member municipalities have resulted in an inequitable allocation of the shared costs of the district. This bill proposes to change the existing cost-sharing formula to a more equitable formula.

SPONSOR: Rep. Canavan of Waterville

LR: 2210

TITLE: An Act To Restrict the Use of Credit Scoring by Insurance
Companies

COMMENTS: This bill restricts the use of credit scoring by an insurance company in determining a person's eligibility for automobile or homeowners' insurance or a person's premium for these kinds of insurance.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2212 - CANAVAN

SPONSOR: Rep. Canavan of Waterville

LR: 2212

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit the Use of Credit Scoring by Insurance
Companies

COMMENTS: This bill prohibits an insurance company from using credit scoring in determining a person's eligibility for automobile or homeowners' insurance or a person's premium for these kinds of insurance.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2210 - CANAVAN

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Carr of Lincoln

LR: 2335

TITLE: An Act To Permit the Exclusion by an Insurance Company of Certain Conditions on a Property Relating to the Insurability of that Property

COMMENTS: This bill permits the exclusion by an insurance company of a condition on a property that otherwise would result in a refusal by the company to provide coverage on that property.

SPONSOR: Sen. Cathcart of Penobscot

LR: 2305

TITLE: An Act To Correct the Maine Biomedical Research Program Definition of "Academic Medical Center"

COMMENTS: This bill would correct the definition of "Academic Medical Center" within the Maine Biomedical Research Program. The correction is required to meet the legislative intent for competitive applications for biomedical research grant awards.

SPONSOR: Rep. Clark of Millinocket

LR: 2243

TITLE: An Act To Obtain Severance Pay for the Employees of Great Northern Paper Company

COMMENTS: This bill would require Inexcon of Maine to pay severance pay to the former employees of Great Northern Paper Company.

SPONSOR: Rep. Clark of Millinocket

LR: 2244

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit Remote Control Train Crews

COMMENTS: This bill would require all railroad trains in the State to operate with a minimum of 5 employees per train.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Clark of Millinocket

LR: 2252

TITLE: An Act To Exempt Unemployment Benefits from State Income Tax

COMMENTS: This bill would exempt unemployment benefits from state taxation.

SPONSOR: Rep. Clark of Millinocket

LR: 2304

TITLE: An Act To Require the Department of Labor, Workplace Safety and Health Division to Announce Inspections

COMMENTS: This bill would require the Workplace Safety and Health Division in the Department of Labor to announce an inspection at least 7 days before the inspection.

SPONSOR: Rep. Clough of Scarborough

LR: 2230

TITLE: An Act Regarding Smoking in Stores That Primarily Sell Tobacco or Tobacco-related Products

COMMENTS: This bill clarifies that smoking is not prohibited in a retail store under 2,000 square feet that primarily sells tobacco or tobacco-related products and also sells food and beverages to be consumed on the premises, including, but not limited to, spirits, wine and malt liquor, as long as its sales of tobacco and tobacco-related products account for at least 55% of its total sales.

SPONSOR: Rep. Clough of Scarborough

LR: 2294

TITLE: An Act To Provide for Fair Treatment of Taxpayers

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to maintain the 6-year statute of limitations on assessments under the tax laws by reinstating the requirement that any additional tax liability be attributable to information that was required to be reported but was not reported in the return and to maintain the standard for determining the 50% threshold of the tax liability.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
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SPONSOR: Rep. Clough of Scarborough

LR: 2433

TITLE: An Act To Waive Fees for Background Checks for Certain
Emergency Medical Services Personnel

COMMENTS: This bill would waive fees for background checks for
emergency medical services personnel, municipal employees
and volunteers applying for licensure.

SPONSOR: Rep. Clough of Scarborough

LR: 2582

TITLE: An Act To Broaden the Definition of "Creditor" under the
Maine Consumer Credit Code

COMMENTS: This bill would broaden the definition of "creditor" under
the Maine Consumer Credit Code to include those persons who
extend credit on 10 or more auto loans and 2 or more loans
on residential dwellings.

SPONSOR: Rep. Collins of Wells

LR: 2320

TITLE: An Act To Streamline the Collection Process for Sanitary
Districts

COMMENTS: This bill allows sanitary districts to use the same process
used by municipalities to collect real estate taxes from
time-share estates when the districts collect charges
levied against time-share estates.

SPONSOR: Rep. Collins of Wells

LR: 2321

TITLE: An Act Regarding Increases in Fees, Charges or Assessments
in a Mobile Home Park

COMMENTS: This bill requires the owner or operator of a mobile home
park to disclose in writing all expenses supporting an
increase in a fee, charge or assessment occurring at any
time after a mobile home dweller assumes occupancy and to
provide to a mobile home owner upon request documentation
supporting such an increase.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
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SPONSOR: Rep. Collins of Wells

LR: 2322

TITLE: An Act To Reimburse Municipalities for Costs Relating to
Comprehensive Planning

COMMENTS: This bill requires the State to reimburse municipalities
for the cost to develop and update comprehensive plans.

SPONSOR: Rep. Collins of Wells

LR: 2323

TITLE: An Act To Require Owners and Operators of Snowmobiles and
All-terrain Vehicles To Carry Liability Insurance

COMMENTS: This bill requires an owner or operator of a snowmobile or
an all-terrain vehicle to carry liability insurance in an
amount equal to at least the amount required for an owner
or operator of a motor vehicle.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 2194

TITLE: An Act To Provide Property Tax Relief to Maine Homeowners

COMMENTS: This bill would establish the Maine Homestead Property Tax
Relief Program which incorporates the current Maine
Residents Property Tax Program, the "circuit breaker"
program, and a revised and beefed-up Homestead Property Tax
Reimbursement Program. This new program provides direct
state tax relief payments to all Maine resident property
tax payers and doubles the amount of tax relief to
homeowners. The bill would also authorize a local option
property tax referendum to benefit long-time residents of a
municipality.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2280 - RICHARDSON J

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 2206

TITLE: An Act To Promote Responsible Pet Ownership

COMMENTS: This bill establishes an income tax checkoff and a fund administered by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources in conjunction with veterinarians' offices, humane societies and animal shelters to provide subsidies to low-income persons for the animal spaying and neutering of domestic animals.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 2209

TITLE: An Act To Honor Maine's First Peoples

COMMENTS: This bill creates a specialty registration plate for a member of a federally recognized tribe in this State. The plate must contain the term "Wabanaki," and the tribes will pay the deposit required before the production of specialty plates to the Secretary of State.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 2344

TITLE: An Act To Create the Maine Education Loan Forgiveness Program

COMMENTS: This bill would create the Maine Education Loan Forgiveness Program, which would reimburse students for college loans when they take a job in Maine following graduation.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1384 735
CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 993

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 2345

TITLE: An Act To Revise the Frequency of Home Health Licensing Surveys

COMMENTS: This bill would direct the Department of Human Services to adopt rules to revise the frequency of licensing surveys for home health agencies to provide for annual and biannual visits. Annual surveys must be conducted on a 12-month cycle and biannual surveys would be conducted on a 24-month cycle.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 2346

TITLE: An Act To Promote Transparency in Budgeting

COMMENTS: This bill would require a town to submit a copy of the town's budget with the State Planning Office. If a town does not submit the budget, the town would forego revenue sharing. The State Planning Office has the responsibility of compiling the information submitted together and making it easily accessible, including posting it on the Internet.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 2347

TITLE: An Act Regarding Driver Education

COMMENTS: This bill would require the State to recognize the American Automobile Association's driver education program as an acceptable program to fulfill the requirement of taking driver education prior to obtaining a driver's license.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 2348

TITLE: An Act To Coordinate Employment Opportunities

COMMENTS: This bill would create a team to project employment opportunities in the future, develop employment trends that include the best opportunities in Maine, provide the workforce with information about job shortages in Maine and educate high school and college students with respect to job opportunities available in Maine.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 2349

TITLE: Resolve, Creating the Maine Youth Internship Program

COMMENTS: This bill would create a youth internship program that would provide internships to students in the private sector, particularly in those industries in which the best employment opportunities exist.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 2352

TITLE: An Act To Foster Regional Cooperation in Southern Kennebec County

COMMENTS: This bill would authorize and facilitate a joint emergency medical service dispatch center in Southern Kennebec County.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2241 - DAGGETT

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 2454

TITLE: An Act To Restore the Violence Intervention and Prevention Program

COMMENTS: This bill restores funding to the Violence Intervention and Prevention Program.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 2551

TITLE: An Act To Create the Maine Trade Jobs and Economy Commission

COMMENTS: This bill would establish an ongoing commission to monitor various trade agreements and their impact on state laws, municipal ordinances and economic conditions. The commission would serve as a forum for concerns raised by State Government and Maine workers and businesses, and as a mechanism to provide recommendations.

SPONSOR: Rep. Colwell of Gardiner

LR: 2601

TITLE: An Act To Facilitate the Recycling of Cathode Ray Tubes

COMMENTS: This bill would facilitate the recycling of cathode ray tubes by establishing an end of-life-fee when the computer is dropped off at the town for recycling.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Courtney of Sanford

LR: 2208

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Definition of Authorized Emergency Vehicle

COMMENTS: This bill would amend the definition of "authorized emergency vehicle" to include a vehicle operated by a municipal rescue chief, deputy or assistant chief.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 111 493

SPONSOR: Rep. Courtney of Sanford

LR: 2216

TITLE: An Act To Provide Fair and Equitable Local Calling Service for the People of the State

COMMENTS: New rules adopted by the Public Utilities Commission require the addition of adjacent telephone exchanges to all local calling areas. This bill would expand local calling areas to also include all adjacent municipalities.

SPONSOR: Rep. Courtney of Sanford

LR: 2246

TITLE: Resolution, Amending the Constitution of Maine to Change the Method for Calculating the Way Real Property is Valued in the State.

COMMENTS: This resolution would amend the Constitution of Maine to change the method for calculating the way real property is valued.

SPONSOR: Rep. Cowger of Hallowell

LR: 2228

TITLE: An Act To Ban the Sale of Novelties Using Mercury-containing Batteries

COMMENTS: This bill would ban the sale of novelty items that use mercury-containing batteries.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Craven of Lewiston

LR: 2213

TITLE: An Act To Create the Task Force on Early Childhood

COMMENTS: This bill would create a task force to study ways to secure needed resources for young children, to make greater commitments to assist parents of young children and to assist providers and families to balance the cognitive development with the emotional and physical needs of young children to improve collaboration between families, programs and systems.

SPONSOR: Rep. Craven of Lewiston

LR: 2214

TITLE: An Act To Require That Rules Pertaining to Reimbursement for Services for Child Development Services Be Major Substantive Rules

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to require that rules pertaining to reimbursement services for child development services be major substantive rules.

SPONSOR: Rep. Crosthwaite of Ellsworth

LR: 2554

TITLE: An Act To Impose a Horsepower Restriction on Boat Motors on Hopkins Pond

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit the operation of a motorboat equipped with a motor greater than 10 horsepower on Hopkins Pond in the towns of Mariaville and Clifton.

SPONSOR: Rep. Cummings of Portland

LR: 2261

TITLE: An Act To Extend Child Support until the Age of 23 If the Child Is Enrolled in an Accredited Higher Education Institution

COMMENTS: This bill extends child support until the age of 23 if the child is enrolled in an accredited higher education institution.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Curley of Scarborough

LR: 2357

TITLE: An Act To Encourage and Assist Maine Retirees To Remain
Maine Residents

COMMENTS: This bill would bring Maine's estate tax laws into full
conformity with the federal estate tax laws.

SPONSOR: Rep. Curley of Scarborough

LR: 2379

TITLE: Resolve, To Restore the People's Confidence in the State's
Financial and Accounting Practices

COMMENTS: This resolve requires that an independent audit of each
department of State Government be conducted by a
nongovernmental entity no later than October 1, 2004.

SPONSOR: Rep. Curley of Scarborough

LR: 2380

TITLE: An Act To Provide for the Safe Disposal of Household
Hazardous Waste

COMMENTS: This bill seeks to provide for the safe disposal of
household hazardous waste by having the municipal officials
in each county work together and designate an existing
transfer center or recycling center in each county that
would accept household hazardous waste for disposal on a
year-round basis.

SPONSOR: Rep. Curley of Scarborough

LR: 2529

TITLE: An Act To Include Wholesale Sales in the Calculation To
Determine the Issuance of Motor Vehicle Dealer Plates

COMMENTS: This bill would include wholesale sales, in addition to
retail sales, in the calculation to determine the number of
motor vehicle dealer plates that may be allowed a motor
vehicle dealer.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2265 - MILLS P
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2276 - LEDWIN

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Curley of Scarborough

LR: 2530

TITLE: An Act To Increase Timely Communication with Constituents

COMMENTS: This bill would provide wireless Internet access to Legislators within the State House.

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 2215

TITLE: An Act To Strengthen the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act of 1999

COMMENTS: In response to a recent court case in which it was ruled that the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act of 1999 requires a sex offender with multiple domiciles to list only one address, this bill would require that all addresses be included.

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 2218

TITLE: An Act To Encourage Cost Savings by State Employees

COMMENTS: This bill proposes to establish a system whereby state employees in classified service are eligible for cash or honorary awards for suggestions that would result in substantial savings or improvements or efficiencies in state operations. A cash award would be limited to 10% of the first year's estimated saving, up to a cap of \$2000.

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 2241

TITLE: An Act Creating the Central Maine Regional Public Safety Communications Center

COMMENTS: This bill would create the Central Maine Regional Public Safety Communications Center.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2352 - COLWELL

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 2256

TITLE: An Act To Encourage Efficient Facilities for Persons with Mental Retardation

COMMENTS: In July 2003, the Department of Human Services amended the principles of reimbursement for intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded to eliminate the provisions that permitted operators of ICF-MRs to retain 75% of the savings achieved by an economically and efficiently run facility. This bill reinstates that provision.

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 2314

TITLE: Resolve, To Commission a Portrait of the Honorable George J. Mitchell to Hang in the State House

COMMENTS: This resolve commissions a portrait of George J. Mitchell to hang in the State House.

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 2315

TITLE: An Act To Create the Maine Military Family Relief Fund

COMMENTS: This bill provides a mechanism to provide monetary relief to Maine families facing economic hardship because a family member has been called to active military duty.

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 2316

TITLE: An Act to Provide Increased and Equitable Access to Education Opportunities for State Employees

COMMENTS: This bill would establish a mechanism to provide increased and equitable access to education opportunities for state employees.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 2318

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Charter of the Augusta Water District

COMMENTS: This bill amends the Augusta Water District Charter by changing the name and expanding representation on the board of the district to more accurately reflect the service area, which also encompasses Manchester and Winthrop.

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 2330

TITLE: An Act Concerning Statewide Medical Services Needs

COMMENTS: This bill reviews and addresses the needs of emergency medical services providers and their clients on a statewide basis.

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 2510

TITLE: An Act To Enhance Home-based Supportive Services To Promote Independence for Maine Citizens

COMMENTS: This bill improves the quality and availability of home-based supportive services for Maine seniors and citizens with disabilities in order to promote greater independence. This is accomplished by modifying program access criteria to simplify participation in the most cost-effective home-based alternatives. The bill increases the availability of consumer-directed home-based supportive services in cases in which those services are appropriate.

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 2575

TITLE: An Act Providing Property Tax Relief to Homeowners in the State

COMMENTS: This bill would provide a coordinated and comprehensive approach to reducing property taxes for Maine homeowners.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 2578

TITLE: An Act To Enhance Security in the Capitol Complex

COMMENTS: This bill would enhance training opportunities for officers in the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Capital Security.

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 2579

TITLE: An Act To Enhance Statewide EMS Trauma System Coordination

COMMENTS: This bill would create a position in the Department of Public Safety, Emergency Medical Services Office to coordinate trauma systems.

SPONSOR: Sen. Daggett of Kennebec

LR: 2583

TITLE: An Act To Enhance Emergency Services Provider Communications

COMMENTS: This bill would seek to develop mechanisms to enhance radio communications between firefighters and emergency medical services providers.

SPONSOR: Rep. Daigle of Arundel

LR: 2307

TITLE: An Act To Increase the Allowable Suppression Costs That May Be Paid to a Governmental Entity That Responds to a Fire That is in Violation of the Out-of-door Burning Laws

COMMENTS: This bill would increase the suppression costs allowed a governmental entity that responds to a fire in violation of the out-of-door burning laws from \$2,000 for a municipality and \$10,000 for the State to \$25,000 for each.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2306 - DUPLESSIE

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Daigle of Arundel

LR: 2326

TITLE: An Act To Change Certain Requirements in the Wastewater Treatment Laws

COMMENTS: This bill would allow someone other than a master electrician to perform electrical work at wastewater treatment facilities.

SPONSOR: Sen. Damon of Hancock

LR: 2442

TITLE: An Act To Streamline the Sales Tax Credit for Worthless Accounts To Eliminate Unnecessary Burdens on Maine Businesses and Consumers

COMMENTS: This bill would allow a motor vehicle dealer to recoup the sales tax paid by a purchaser under a loan agreement following default by the purchaser on the loan.

SPONSOR: Sen. Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis

LR: 2238

TITLE: An Act To Strengthen State Retirement

COMMENTS: This bill would strengthen the laws governing state retirement by providing an offset for Congressional pensions.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2577 - STANLEY

SPONSOR: Sen. Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis

LR: 2355

TITLE: An Act Regarding Real Estate Valuation

COMMENTS: This bill amends the laws governing real estate valuation.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis

LR: 2417

TITLE: Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Reform the Tax Code, Provide Tax Relief and Control Government Spending

COMMENTS: This resolution would propose amending the Constitution of Maine to phase out the state income tax and the personal property tax, eliminate certain sales tax exemptions on services, limit growth in state, county and municipal spending to 75% of growth in personal income, require a 2/3 vote of the entire Legislature to raise or enact a tax, fund education to 59% and phase in a change to the disposition of the real estate transfer tax.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2460 - VAUGHAN

SPONSOR: Sen. Douglass of Androscoggin

LR: 2272

TITLE: An Act To Provide Supervised Visitation for Children in Maine

COMMENTS: This bill would require supervised visits between a child and a noncustodial parent if certain criminal history existed in the parent's record.

SPONSOR: Sen. Douglass of Androscoggin

LR: 2273

TITLE: An Act To Establish the Maine College Coaches Program

COMMENTS: This bill would require there be an internet site for a sign-up program to mentor students and coach them on how to apply for college and financial aid.

SPONSOR: Sen. Douglass of Androscoggin

LR: 2274

TITLE: An Act To Establish a Central Registry for College Scholarships and Financial Aid

COMMENTS: This bill would help provide a central registry where college scholarships and grants could be posted so that Maine students would have a central location for financial assistance.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Douglass of Androscoggin

LR: 2312

TITLE: An Act To Ensure Appropriate Care and Custody of Children Orphaned by Domestic Violence

COMMENTS: Under this bill, the State would assert and maintain jurisdiction over any child orphaned in the State by domestic violence. Additionally, the bill requires the Department of Human Services to develop procedures either through rulemaking or proposed legislation that would ensure a timely investigation similar to that required in adoptions, with a guardian ad litem for a child before permanent placement or visitation rights are ordered for a child orphaned by domestic violence.

SPONSOR: Sen. Douglass of Androscoggin

LR: 2313

TITLE: An Act To Require Criminal History Checks Prior to Placement of Children by the Department of Human Services

COMMENTS: This bill requires a criminal history check of an adult before the Department of Human Services may place a child with that adult to ensure that children are not placed with persons with a history of abuse.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dudley of Portland

LR: 2537

TITLE: An Act To Require Health Insurance Policies To Provide Coverage for Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy

COMMENTS: This bill would require individual and group health insurance policies and health maintenance organization contracts to provide coverage for medically necessary physical, occupational and speech therapy.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 936

SPONSOR: Rep. Dudley of Portland

LR: 2556

TITLE: An Act To Ensure Access to Life-sustaining Pharmaceuticals

COMMENTS: This bill would exempt certain psychotropic and AIDS medications from the preferred drug "fail first" procedure under the MaineCare Program.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Dudley of Portland

LR: 2560

TITLE: An Act To Modernize Birth Certificates

COMMENTS: This bill would allow the biological mother to name the biological father on a child's birth certificate regardless of the mother's marital status if the biological father agrees.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dudley of Portland

LR: 2561

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit State Property Tax Relief for Casinos

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit casinos from any reimbursement under the business equipment tax reimbursement program.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2303 - BOWLES

SPONSOR: Rep. Dudley of Portland

LR: 2564

TITLE: An Act Concerning Disability Retirement Benefits under the Maine State Retirement System

COMMENTS: This bill would amend the laws regarding disability retirement benefits under the Maine State Retirement System to clarify substantially gainful activity as being demonstrated by the performance of work resulting in annual earnings that exceed the greater of \$20,000 or 80% of the disability benefit recipient's average final compensation at retirement.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2569 - MAYO

SPONSOR: Rep. Dudley of Portland

LR: 2570

TITLE: An Act To Permit the Refilling of a Prescription prior to the Exhaustion of the Original Prescription

COMMENTS: This bill would allow a prescription to be refilled up to one week prior to the end of the original dosage when the refill is requested by a professional nursing service and is for a nonnarcotic drug.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Dugay of Cherryfield

LR: 2360

TITLE: An Act Regarding the Qualifications of Guardians ad Litem

COMMENTS: This bill amends the laws governing the qualifications of guardians ad litem.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dugay of Cherryfield

LR: 2449

TITLE: Resolve, Establishing a Commission To Review the Long-term Sustainability of the Marine Worm Industry

COMMENTS: This resolve establishes a commission to review the long-term sustainability of the marine worm industry.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dugay of Cherryfield

LR: 2532

TITLE: An Act To Stock Spring River Lake in Township 10

COMMENTS: This bill would require the stocking of Spring River Lake in Township 10.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dunlap of Old Town

LR: 2400

TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Provide a Mechanism for Displaying Valid Waterfowl Stamps

COMMENTS: This resolve directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to provide a mechanism for displaying valid waterfowl stamps.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dunlap of Old Town

LR: 2401

TITLE: An Act To Publish Legal Shooting Times

COMMENTS: This bill would require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to publish legal shooting times.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Dunlap of Old Town

LR: 2402

TITLE: An Act To Reestablish the Great Ponds Act

COMMENTS: This bill would establish a process for the review of recommendations submitted by a municipality or the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission to restrict the use of watercraft on great ponds within the jurisdiction of that municipality or the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dunlap of Old Town

LR: 2450

TITLE: An Act To Assist the Bait Industry

COMMENTS: This bill repeals the ban on polystyrene foam plastic bait containers, since there are yet no workable alternatives available.

SPONSOR: Rep. Dunlap of Old Town

LR: 2600

TITLE: An Act To Strengthen the Prohibition Against Night Hunting

COMMENTS: This bill would make possession of night vision equipment an aggravating factor in the act of illegal night hunting, doubling the current penalty and mandating forfeiture of all equipment associated with the violation.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Duplessie of Westbrook

LR: 2306

TITLE: An Act To Increase the Amount of Restitution Allowed for
State and Municipal Fire Service

COMMENTS: Current law provides that any person who engages in
out-of-door burning in violation of the law or who fails to
comply with any stated permit condition or restriction
commits a class E crime. If the State proves that while in
violation that person's out-of-door fire resulted in fire
suppression costs to a municipality or to State Government,
the court may order restitution to a municipality not
exceeding \$2,000 and total restitution to municipalities
and the State not exceeding \$10,000. This bill increases
the limit on restitution to \$25,000 for a municipality and
\$25,000 for the State.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2307 - DAIGLE

SPONSOR: Rep. Duplessie of Westbrook

LR: 2397

TITLE: An Act To Dedicate 25% of Future Bond Funds
Issued for the Land for Maine's Future Board to a
Permanent Stewardship Trust Account

COMMENTS: This bill establishes a permanent stewardship trust fund
for the maintenance and upkeep of land purchased through
the Land for Maine's Future Board and or administered
through the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and
Lands.

SPONSOR: Rep. Duplessie of Westbrook

LR: 2398

TITLE: An Act To Clarify Law Enforcement Procedures when Fatal
Motor Vehicle Accidents Involve More than One Vehicle

COMMENTS: This bill designates the Maine State Police as the lead
agency when more than one motor vehicle is involved in a
fatal accident and evidence at the scene suggests that one
of the survivors violated at least one motor vehicle law.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Duplessie of Westbrook

LR: 2441

TITLE: An Act To Improve Rehabilitation within the Correctional System

COMMENTS: This bill would allow persons who have been convicted of a felony and then are released from prison to be eligible to participate in rehabilitation programs offered for inmates within prison.

SPONSOR: Rep. Duplessie of Westbrook

LR: 2456

TITLE: An Act to Revise the Minimum Firefighter Safety Standards

COMMENTS: This bill would update the firefighter safety standards to meet the latest national Fire Protection Association standards. The bill would also add a requirement for a hearing protection program.

SPONSOR: Rep. Duplessie of Westbrook

LR: 2587

TITLE: An Act To Clarify the Prevailing Wage Law

COMMENTS: This bill would clarify that, in publicly funded construction projects that involve both federal and state funding, the determination of the prevailing wage rate would be the higher of the federal and state prevailing wage rates and to adjust the timing of the wage and benefit survey issued by the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards to more accurately reflect typical wage and benefits paid in construction.

SPONSOR: Rep. Duprey, Jr. of Medway

LR: 2552

TITLE: An Act To Authorize a Bond Issue for the Renovation of Millinocket Municipal Airport

COMMENTS: This bill would authorize a bond issue for the renovation of Millinocket Municipal Airport to bring the airport into compliance with Federal Aviation Administration requirements.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Duprey, Jr. of Medway

LR: 2553

TITLE: An Act Regarding the Sale of Certain Printed Materials

COMMENTS: This bill would specify where certain materials of an adult nature may be displayed for sale.

SPONSOR: Sen. Edmonds of Cumberland

LR: 2242

TITLE: An Act To Ensure the State's Commitment to Former Students Who Were Physically or Sexually Abused at the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf or the Maine School for the Deaf

COMMENTS: This bill appropriates \$6 million to the Baxter Compensation Authority to disburse cash awards to those former students who are found to have suffered physical or sexual abuse while they were students and under the care of the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf or the Maine School for the Deaf.

SPONSOR: Rep. Faircloth of Bangor

LR: 2508

TITLE: An Act To Maintain Level Funding for Children's Mental Health Grant Services

COMMENTS: This bill would keep the funding for children's mental health grant services at the same level for the 2nd year of the biennium as it is for the first year.

SPONSOR: Rep. Fischer of Presque Isle

LR: 2259

TITLE: An Act To Allow Fire Department Vehicles To Be Equipped with Alternating Rear Lights and Rear Brake Lenses

COMMENTS: Under current law, only police vehicles may be equipped to provide for alternate flashing of the vehicle's brake or rear directional lights and back-up lights or strobe lights. This bill allows fire department vehicles to be similarly equipped.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Gagne-Friel of Buckfield

LR: 2225

TITLE: An Act To Enhance Worker Safety

COMMENTS: This bill would require the presence of at least 2 employees at all times in small convenience stores.

SPONSOR: Rep. Gagne-Friel of Buckfield

LR: 2226

TITLE: An Act To Assist Adopted Children with Higher Education Cost

COMMENTS: This bill would authorize a discount for adopted children when they attend college in the publicly funded Maine college system.

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec

LR: 2336

TITLE: An Act To Repeal the Smoking Ban in Beano Halls

COMMENTS: This bill repeals the smoking ban in beano halls.

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec

LR: 2337

TITLE: An Act To Clarify Certain Aspects of the Tax Laws

COMMENTS: This bill clarifies certain aspects of the tax laws.

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec

LR: 2338

TITLE: An Act To Modify the Responsibility for Liquor Enforcement in the Department of Public Safety

COMMENTS: This bill modifies the responsibility for liquor enforcement in the Department of Public Safety.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec

LR: 2339

TITLE: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$1,000,000 to Fund Downtown Revitalization in Order To Preserve the Heritage of a Municipality

COMMENTS: This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$1,000,000 to fund downtown revitalization in order to preserve the heritage of a municipality.

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec

LR: 2340

TITLE: An Act To Clarify Certain Ethics Laws

COMMENTS: This bill clarifies certain ethics laws.

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec

LR: 2341

TITLE: An Act Regarding the Operation of All-terrain Vehicles on Private Roads

COMMENTS: This bill allows a landowner to require that an operator of an all-terrain vehicle have a license to operate a motor vehicle and obey the rules of the road, such as speed limits and yielding the right of way. It provides that if a landowner bans all-terrain vehicles, that landowner must also ban similar recreation vehicles, such as dirt bikes. The bill also allows a landowner to place restrictions on all-terrain vehicles that travel together in large groups.

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec

LR: 2353

TITLE: An Act To Delay the Implementation of the Commingling Provisions of the Laws Governing Returnable Beverage Containers

COMMENTS: This bill delays from March 1, 2004 to July 1, 2004 the implementation of the commingling provisions of the laws governing returnable beverage containers.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec

LR: 2418

TITLE: An Act To Further Regulate the Operation and Licensing of
Video Lottery Terminals and Expanded Gaming

COMMENTS: This bill provides consistency in the laws governing gaming in the event that either the citizen initiative permitting slot machines at certain commercial horse racing tracks or the citizen initiative permitting a casino passes or Legislative Document 1361, An Act to Support Harness Horse Racing in Maine, Equine Agriculture in Maine, Maine Agricultural Fairs and the General Fund of the State, which is being held by the Governor, becomes law.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 1201 LD 1242
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2290 - PERCY
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2301 - O'NEIL
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2550 - BOWLES
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2635 - BOWLES

SPONSOR: Sen. Gagnon of Kennebec

LR: 2420

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Penalty Provisions of the Campaign
Reports and Finance Laws

COMMENTS: This bill would provide greater flexibility to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to reduce the statutory penalties for the late filing of campaign finance reports. In addition, the bill would authorize the commission to assess civil penalties for certain violations for which current law prescribes only criminal sanctions or no sanction at all. Finally, this bill would shorten the deadline for the reporting of large campaign contributions and expenditures from within 48 hours of the contribution or expenditure to within 24 hours.

SPONSOR: Rep. Glynn of South Portland

LR: 2254

TITLE: An Act To Recognize Veterans Who Served in Beirut, Lebanon
during a Federally Recognized Period of Conflict

COMMENTS: This bill would extend to veterans who served in Beirut, Lebanon during the federally recognized period of conflict certain entitlements extended to veterans of other wars.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 992

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Goodwin of Pembroke

LR: 2476

TITLE: An Act To Require That Any Changes to the Maine State Lottery Be Approved by the Legislature

COMMENTS: This bill would require that any changes made to the State lottery be approved by the Legislature.

SPONSOR: Rep. Goodwin of Pembroke

LR: 2534

TITLE: An Act To Abrogate the Hearsay Rule in Cases Involving Custody or Protection of Children

COMMENTS: This bill would abrogate the hearsay rule in certain civil cases involving custody or protection of children. The trial court would admit the evidence of out-of-court statements made to the testifying witness by a child at issue in the proceeding even though this evidence would otherwise be inadmissible as hearsay. The trial court would then determine what weight to place on this evidence based on the totality of the circumstances.

SPONSOR: Rep. Grose of Woolwich

LR: 2458

TITLE: An Act To Allow Persons To Continue To Solicit To Benefit Law Enforcement Officers

COMMENTS: Public Law 2001, chapter 582 repeals, effective February 1, 2004, the existing law governing solicitation to benefit law enforcement officers and enacts in its stead a law prohibiting persons from soliciting the public for the tangible benefit of law enforcement agencies. This bill would reverse those changes and continue to allow persons to solicit as long as the property solicited in no way tangibly benefits the solicitor.

SPONSOR: Sen. Hall of Lincoln

LR: 2374

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit Discriminatory Practices by Home Insurers

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit home insurers from refusing to insure homes in which certain breeds of dogs are kept.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Hall of Lincoln

LR: 2375

TITLE: An Act To Guarantee That Consumers Receive Notification of Insurance Policy Cancellation

COMMENTS: This bill would require that all insurance companies send cancellation notices by mail, return receipt requested.

SPONSOR: Sen. Hall of Lincoln

LR: 2533

TITLE: An Act To Promote Economic Development on the Reservation of the Passamaquoddy Tribe

COMMENTS: This bill would expand an existing provision for the payment to the Passamaquoddy Tribe of sales taxes collected on the Tribe's reservation.

SPONSOR: Sen. Hall of Lincoln

LR: 2542

TITLE: An Act To Reimburse School Districts for Children in Group Care Facilities

COMMENTS: This bill would amend the school funding formula to provide 100% reimbursement for school unit special education costs for the placement of state agency clients and state wards in a residential placement within the unit.

SPONSOR: Sen. Hatch of Somerset

LR: 2540

TITLE: An Act To Establish a Dedicated Transportation Fund and To Enhance Homeland Security Funding for Transportation

COMMENTS: This bill would require that transportation positions would be funded by transportation funds only and not partially by transportation funds and general funds.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Honey of Boothbay

LR: 2309

TITLE: An Act To Establish a Lobster License for Residents of this State Who Are 65 Years of Age or Older

COMMENTS: This bill establishes a lobster license for residents of this State who are 65 years of age or older. This license would allow a person to fish up to 200 lobster traps.

SPONSOR: Rep. Honey of Boothbay

LR: 2310

TITLE: An Act To Require Mandatory Boater Education for All Operators of Noncommercial Power Vessels Registered in this State

COMMENTS: This bill requires mandatory boater education for all operators of noncommercial power vessels registered in this State.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1366
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2236 - WATSON

SPONSOR: Rep. Hutton of Bowdoinham

LR: 2296

TITLE: Resolve, Authorizing the Department of Transportation to Erect Signs Identifying the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Capitol Park

COMMENTS: The purpose of this resolve is to authorize the Department of Transportation to erect signs identifying the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Capitol Park.

SPONSOR: Rep. Hutton of Bowdoinham

LR: 2297

TITLE: An Act To Protect Volunteer Firefighters' Employment

COMMENTS: This bill would protect a volunteer firefighter from being discharged or disciplined by an employer on the grounds that the volunteer arrives late or does not arrive at work because the volunteer firefighter is responding to an emergency such as a fire or a hazardous or toxic waste spill or another situation to which the fire department is called to respond.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Hutton of Bowdoinham

LR: 2298

TITLE: An Act To Eliminate MTBE from Gasoline

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to eliminate MTBE from gasoline.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2421 - RINES

SPONSOR: Rep. Jackson of Fort Kent

LR: 2383

TITLE: An Act To Help Disabled Hunters

COMMENTS: This bill would give the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife the authority to allow disabled hunters to hunt doe for one day in areas of the State where doe hunting is not otherwise allowed.

SPONSOR: Rep. Jackson of Fort Kent

LR: 2384

TITLE: An Act To Establish Licensing Requirements for Carpenters

COMMENTS: This bill would establish a license requirement for carpenters.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 1551

SPONSOR: Rep. Jackson of Fort Kent

LR: 2385

TITLE: An Act To Provide Residents of the United States with Timber Harvesting Jobs on Land Managed by the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands

COMMENTS: This bill requires that a person be a resident of the United States in order to harvest timber on land managed by the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 284

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Jackson of Fort Kent

LR: 2388

TITLE: An Act To Restrict Aerial Herbicide Spraying in Forestry

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit the spraying of herbicides because of the possibility of harm to citizens.

SPONSOR: Rep. Jackson of Fort Kent

LR: 2389

TITLE: An Act To Encourage the Awarding of State Contracts to Maine Businesses

COMMENTS: This bill would require the State to award all state contracts to Maine businesses if the Maine businesses bid within 5% of the lowest proposal.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 972
CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 608

SPONSOR: Rep. Jackson of Fort Kent

LR: 2390

TITLE: An Act To Allow All Legal Fishing on Fish River

COMMENTS: This bill would allow all types of legal fishing on the Fish River in Fort Kent.

SPONSOR: Rep. Jackson of Fort Kent

LR: 2627

TITLE: An Act To Increase the Fees That are Retained by State Agents for Tagging Animals

COMMENTS: This bill would propose to increase the fees that are retained by agents of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for tagging animals.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Jackson of Fort Kent

LR: 2628

TITLE: An Act To Ensure Access To Real Property by Owners

COMMENTS: This bill would ensure that property owners and their agents have appropriate access to their real estate, even when that access crosses over established railroad tracks.

SPONSOR: Rep. Jackson of Fort Kent

LR: 2629

TITLE: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Change Terms of Services for Legislators

COMMENTS: This constitutional resolution proposes to change the terms of members of the Maine House of Representatives and Senate to 4 years. It would be the intent, however, to retain the 8-year term limitations currently in place.

SPONSOR: Rep. Jacobsen of Waterboro

LR: 2221

TITLE: An Act To Encourage the Employment of Students

COMMENTS: This bill would authorize employers to pay employees who are less than 19 years of age and are enrolled in an educational institution a rate of not less than 75% of the applicable minimum wage rate required for other employees in the same job.

SPONSOR: Rep. Joy of Crystal

LR: 2328

TITLE: An Act To Adopt Eastern Daylight Savings Time Year-round

COMMENTS: This bill adopts eastern daylight savings time for year-round use in Maine.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Joy of Crystal

LR: 2329

TITLE: An Act To License All-terrain Vehicles for Certain Highway Use

COMMENTS: This bill would license all-terrain vehicles for certain highway use. Municipalities could designate certain streets for ATV accessibility. Access to interstate 95 and the Maine Turnpike would be denied. Money from an excise tax on ATVs would go to municipalities and money from a registration fee for ATVs would go to the State.

SPONSOR: Rep. Joy of Crystal

LR: 2350

TITLE: An Act To Create School Committees for Political Subdivisions of an Unorganized Area That Has a School

COMMENTS: This bill creates school committees in an unorganized area that has a school. All unorganized political subdivisions with students attending that school would be eligible to have representation on the committee.

SPONSOR: Rep. Joy of Crystal

LR: 2422

TITLE: An Act To Discourage Frivolous Lawsuits by Nonprofit Organizations

COMMENTS: This bill would require a nonprofit organization that fails to prevail in a lawsuit that it brings to reimburse business, individuals and municipal and state governments for loss of revenue incurred by those entities due to the lawsuit brought by the nonprofit organization.

SPONSOR: Rep. Joy of Crystal

LR: 2465

TITLE: An Act To Create a Five-year Plan To Establish Atlantic Salmon Sport Fishing in the Pleasant River

COMMENTS: This bill would establish a 5-year plan to implement atlantic salmon sport fishing in the Pleasant River.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Kaelin of Winterport

LR: 2457

TITLE: An Act To Provide Relief to Retailers Who Have Been Issued
a Bad Check

COMMENTS: This bill would impose a penalty on a person who issues a
bad check, which penalty must be paid to the retailer.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 413

SPONSOR: Rep. Kaelin of Winterport

LR: 2586

TITLE: An Act To Reduce the Duration of Nonpayment of Child Support
That Triggers License Suspension

COMMENTS: This bill would reduce from 60 days to 30 days the duration
of nonpayment of child support that will trigger suspension
of a person's license to operate a motor vehicle.

SPONSOR: Rep. Ketterer of Madison

LR: 2603

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit Computer Hackers from Causing Damage to
Maine Residents or Businesses

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit the unauthorized and improper use
of a computer by "hacking" in such a way as to cause damage
to Maine residents and businesses. This bill would provide
for civil forfeitures and criminal sanctions in the event
that an individual causes damage to Maine residents or
businesses. The bill would only apply when the perpetrator
committed the prohibited act while in the State.

SPONSOR: Sen. Kneeland of Aroostook

LR: 2240

TITLE: An Act To Expand Eligibility for the Veterans Property
Tax Exemption

COMMENTS: This bill would expand eligibility for the veterans
property tax exemption by removing the requirement that the
veteran have served in the Republic of Vietnam for
eligibility during the period between February 28, 1961 and
August 5, 1964 and by removing the requirement that a
Vietnam War veteran have served for a period of more than
180 days.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Kneeland of Aroostook

LR: 2391

TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Department of Human Services To Study Ways for Private Nonprofit Agencies and Community Action Project Agencies To Work Collaboratively with the Department of Human Services To Deliver Certain Services

COMMENTS: This resolve directs the Department of Human Services to study ways for private nonprofit agencies and community action project agencies to work collaboratively with the Department of Human Services to deliver certain services. The resolve also directs the Department of Human Services to report its findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services.

SPONSOR: Rep. Koffman of Bar Harbor

LR: 2278

TITLE: An Act To Protect Farmers from Nuisance Deer

COMMENTS: This bill requires the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to place the highest wildlife management priority on maintaining the coyote populations in areas at risk of crop destruction by deer.

SPONSOR: Rep. Koffman of Bar Harbor

LR: 2386

TITLE: An Act To Provide Property Tax Relief

COMMENTS: This bill amends the revenue sharing formula such that municipalities receive additional revenue sharing in an amount equivalent to the value of lands, but not buildings or equipment, owned by certain tax-exempt organizations located in the municipality.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Koffman of Bar Harbor

LR: 2387

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Growth Management

COMMENTS: This bill provides that, in granting or loaning state funds to municipalities, preference must be given to municipalities that have certified comprehensive development plans and land use ordinances and capital investment plans consistent with the comprehensive plans as determined by the Executive Department, State Planning Office.

SPONSOR: Sen. LaFountain III of York

LR: 2481

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Maine Consumer Credit Code

COMMENTS: This bill would clarify that a motor vehicle lease or loan is not subject to the minimum 48-month rule for balloon payments.

SPONSOR: Rep. Ledwin of Holden

LR: 2255

TITLE: An Act To Rename the Vocational Technical Education Schools
"Career and Technical Education Schools"

COMMENTS: This bill would change the name of the Vocational Technical Education Schools to Career and Technical Education Schools.

SPONSOR: Rep. Ledwin of Holden

LR: 2276

TITLE: An Act Concerning the Issuance of Motor Vehicle Dealer
Plates

COMMENTS: This bill amends the law restricting the issuance of dealer plates to include wholesale sales in the calculation of vehicles sold.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2265 - MILLS P

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2529 - CURLEY

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Lemoine of Old Orchard Beach

LR: 2434

TITLE: An Act To Modify State Investments in Pharmaceutical
Manufacturers

COMMENTS: This bill would expand the scope of duties for the
Treasurer of State to allow state funds to be managed in a
way that promotes fair drug prices in Maine.

SPONSOR: Sen. Lemont of York

LR: 2219

TITLE: An Act To Appropriate Funds To Make Renovations and Repairs
to the Ogunquit Village School

COMMENTS: This bill would appropriate funds to the Ogunquit Village
School to make safety-related renovations and repairs to
the physical plant.

SPONSOR: Sen. Lemont of York

LR: 2308

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Statute of
Limitations for Medical Malpractice

COMMENTS: This bill amends the laws governing the statute of
limitations relating to health care providers and health
care practitioners to provide that an action for
professional negligence must be commenced within 3 years
after the negligence is discovered.

SPONSOR: Rep. Lerman of Augusta

LR: 2394

TITLE: An Act To Remove the Sales Tax Exemption for Certain
Seasonal Rentals of Lodging

COMMENTS: This bill proposes to extend the sales tax to casual
rentals of lodging when the lodging is rented for more than
6 weeks during the calendar year.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Lerman of Augusta

LR: 2403

TITLE: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$15,000,000 for the HOME Fund and the Land Acquisition Loan Fund Administered by the Maine State Housing Authority

COMMENTS: This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$15,000,000 for the Housing Opportunities for Maine (HOME) Fund and the Land Acquisition Loan Fund administered by the Maine State Housing Authority.

SPONSOR: Rep. Lerman of Augusta

LR: 2404

TITLE: An Act To Provide Assistance to Municipalities Regarding Downtown Rehabilitation Building Codes

COMMENTS: This bill requires the State Planning Office to provide updated information, training and technical support to interested municipalities regarding the so-called New Jersey downtown code in order to support the revitalization and rehabilitation of city downtown areas.

SPONSOR: Rep. Lerman of Augusta

LR: 2469

TITLE: Resolve, To Require Cost Neutrality and Population Appropriateness for Assisted Living Medication Courses

COMMENTS: This resolve would require the Department of Human Services to revise the course curriculum required for persons administering medications in assisted living settings.

SPONSOR: Rep. Lessard of Topsham

LR: 2234

TITLE: An Act To Expand Property Tax Exemptions for Veterans to Cooperative Housing

COMMENTS: This bill would expand the property tax exemption that is currently available to veterans to also apply to veterans living in cooperative housing.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Lessard of Topsham

LR: 2311

TITLE: An Act To Require That an Increase in a Fine for a Traffic Infraction Be Approved by the Legislature

COMMENTS: This bill requires that an increase in a fine for a traffic infraction be approved by the Legislature.

SPONSOR: Rep. Marley of Portland

LR: 2239

TITLE: An Act Regarding Island Vehicles

COMMENTS: This bill removes the requirement that island low-speed vehicles, or golf carts, be registered.

SPONSOR: Rep. Marley of Portland

LR: 2253

TITLE: An Act To Extend the Payment Structure for Excise Taxes on Recreational Vehicles

COMMENTS: This bill would extend excise payments for recreational vehicles over a longer period of time. Instead of basing the decrease in excise payments on a 5-year period, this bill would extend the time period, spreading the total amount required over a longer period of time and decrease the amount of the annual payments.

SPONSOR: Rep. Marley of Portland

LR: 2257

TITLE: An Act Regarding School Readiness

COMMENTS: This bill would require that children entering public school kindergarten classes be 5 years of age by July 1st.

121ST LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Marrache of Waterville

LR: 2217

TITLE: An Act To Protect Local Communities

COMMENTS: This bill would prevent First Park in Oakland from recruiting businesses to relocate to its industrial park if those businesses are already within, or contributing money into, the area.

SPONSOR: Sen. Martin of Aroostook

LR: 2359

TITLE: An Act To Establish a Monitoring Program of Maine Lakes Identified as Having Invasive Aquatic Species

COMMENTS: This bill would establish an invasive aquatic species lake use monitoring program on all lakes identified by the State as possessing invasive aquatic species as identified by Maine's Invasive Species Task Force.

SPONSOR: Sen. Mayo, III of Sagadahoc

LR: 2245

TITLE: An Act To Ensure Sales Tax Exemption Reciprocity for School Groups Visiting Another Jurisdiction

COMMENTS: This bill amends the Maine sales tax law to ensure that Maine school groups traveling outside the State may take advantage of sales tax exemptions in the jurisdiction visited.

SPONSOR: Sen. Mayo, III of Sagadahoc

LR: 2473

TITLE: An Act To Clarify the Sales Tax Exemptions Regarding Assisted Housing Programs

COMMENTS: This bill would clarify that the sales tax exemption on residential care for the elderly applies to nonprofit assisted housing programs.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Mayo, III of Sagadahoc

LR: 2474

TITLE: An Act To Clarify Membership on Boards of Directors for
Maine Financial Institutions

COMMENTS: This bill would clarify that requirements for membership on
boards of directors of Maine financial institutions
authorized by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 9-B are
consistent with the Maine Business Corporation Act.

SPONSOR: Sen. Mayo, III of Sagadahoc

LR: 2483

TITLE: An Act To Extend the Deadline for Delivery of Title
Applications and Reduce the Penalty for Noncompliance for
Small Car Dealerships

COMMENTS: Under current law, if a title application or certificate of
title is not delivered to the Secretary of State, there is
a penalty of \$125. This bill would provide that, for a car
dealership with 3 or fewer employees, such documents must
be delivered within 30 days, and the penalty for
noncompliance is \$75.

SPONSOR: Sen. Mayo, III of Sagadahoc

LR: 2569

TITLE: An Act To Correct an Inequity in Calculating Maine State
Retirement Benefits

COMMENTS: Under current law, if a person gets disability benefits
while a Maine state employee, it has an impact on how that
person's retirement benefits will be calculated. This bill
would correct the inequity in calculating such a person's
Maine State Retirement System benefits.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2564 - DUDLEY

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 2207

TITLE: An Act To Ban the Sale of New 2-stroke Engine Recreational
Vehicles

COMMENTS: This bill would ban the sale of new 2-stroke engine
recreational vehicles.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 2395

TITLE: An Act Regarding Powers of Attorney

COMMENTS: This bill would protect persons who have signed durable powers of attorney from pressure to change the attorney-in-fact by providing notice and an opportunity to show information regarding competency.

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 2464

TITLE: An Act To Increase the Tax Exemption on Parsonages

COMMENTS: This bill would increase the tax exemption on parsonages from the present level to a value that represents the current housing values.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 559

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 2466

TITLE: An Act To Promote Maine Farmers' Markets

COMMENTS: This bill would set out the conditions and guidelines for establishment of farmers' markets.

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 2467

TITLE: An Act To Protect Maine Drinking Water Supplies

COMMENTS: This bill would restrict winter vehicular access on lakes and ponds that are used for drinking water supplies by municipalities.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 2468

TITLE: An Act To Require Mandatory Use of Helmets and Facemasks
in Women's Lacrosse

COMMENTS: This bill would require that all educational institutions
in the State that have women's lacrosse teams require the
use of helmets and facemasks.

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 2470

TITLE: An Act To Require Maine Banks to Notify by Certified Mail
Any Savings Account Holder of Abandoned Property Proceedings

COMMENTS: This bill would require a bank to notify by certified mail
a savings account holder whose account will be turned over
to the State Treasurer's Office as part of the abandoned
property program.

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 2471

TITLE: Resolve, To Study the Availability of Pharmaceutical
Resources in Rural Maine

COMMENTS: This resolve would direct the Bureau of Financial
Regulation or other state entity to conduct a study to
determine the needs of rural patients who have acute health
problems and need reliable access to pharmaceutical
assistance.

SPONSOR: Rep. McKee of Wayne

LR: 2472

TITLE: An Act To Require the Licensing of Masons

COMMENTS: This bill would require that all masons be licensed.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1551

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. McNeil of Rockland

LR: 2262

TITLE: An Act To Increase the Amount Received by a Municipality
for Clams Taken from an Area Closed for Depuration

COMMENTS: This bill increases the amount received by a municipality
for clams taken from an area closed for depuration from 50
cents per bushel to 5 dollars per bushel.

SPONSOR: Rep. McNeil of Rockland

LR: 2264

TITLE: An Act To Prevent Convicted Felons from Possessing Firearms

COMMENTS: The purpose of this bill is to prohibit convicted felons
from possessing firearms. Under this bill, the
Commissioner of Public Safety would no longer have
discretion to allow a convicted felon to possess firearms 5
years after the felon is released from prison.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mills of Farmington

LR: 2585

TITLE: An Act To Clarify the Standards for Granting a Name Change

COMMENTS: This bill would establish standards for permitting a name
change and allow the Probate Court in its discretion to
require the petitioner to pay a fee for a criminal record
check, motor vehicle record check or credit check in order
to ensure that the name change is not sought for fraudulent
or criminal purposes.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mills of Farmington

LR: 2602

TITLE: An Act Relating to 48-hour Accident Reports

COMMENTS: Public Law 2003, chapter 434, section 25 repealed the Maine
Revised Statutes, Title 29-A, section 2251, subsection 5,
which required the operator of a vehicle to file a written
report of an accident with the Secretary of State within 48
hours of the accident. This bill would reenact that
provision.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Mills of Farmington

LR: 2604

TITLE: An Act To Clarify the Setting of Court Fees

COMMENTS: This bill would establish a more just procedure for establishing court filing fees.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mills of Farmington

LR: 2605

TITLE: An Act To Monitor Out-of-state Parolees

COMMENTS: This bill would require persons on probation or parole from another state who are not supervised by the State of Maine to register with the Department of Corrections and the Maine State Police or local police department where the person resides when the parolee intends to remain in the State for more than 30 days.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mills of Cornville

LR: 2222

TITLE: An Act Regarding the Limitation on Parcels in Pine Tree Development Zones

COMMENTS: The laws governing Pine Tree Development Zones provide that a Pine Tree Development Zone may not consist of more than 20 noncontiguous parcels of property. This bill provides that 2 or more separate parcels within a municipality may be regarded as contiguous for purposes of satisfying this limitation.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mills of Cornville

LR: 2265

TITLE: An Act Regarding Automobile Dealer Registration Plates

COMMENTS: Public Law 2003, chapter 496 amended the laws governing the use of automobile dealer plates by linking the number of allowable dealer plates to the number of vehicles sold through retail sale. In recognition of the significant number of vehicles sold through wholesale sale, this bill would alter the criteria to include those sales.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2276 - LEDWIN

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2529 - CURLEY

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Mills of Cornville

LR: 2267

TITLE: An Act Regarding the Number of Jurors Required To Render
a Verdict in a Civil Trial

COMMENTS: Public Law 2003, chapter 299 revised the laws governing civil juries to allow jurors chosen as alternates who hear the entire case to participate in rendering a verdict. Current court rules require a verdict by at least 3/4 of the jurors, which translates into a minimum of 6 jurors. The new law includes the 3/4 requirement, but because the new law also increases the potential number of voting jurors, the 3/4 requirement may be interpreted to require agreement by a minimum of 7 jurors if 9 jurors participate in the verdict. This bill would amend the law to ensure that the participation of an additional juror does not change the existing requirement of the agreement of at least 6 jurors to render a verdict.

SPONSOR: Rep. Mills of Cornville

LR: 2463

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Free Care Provided by
Hospitals

COMMENTS: This bill amends the laws governing free care provided by hospitals.

SPONSOR: Sen. Mitchell of Penobscot

LR: 2636

TITLE: An Act to Promote Campground Recreation in Maine

COMMENTS: This bill promotes campground recreation by exempting campgrounds from site location of development laws.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Moody of Manchester

LR: 2211

TITLE: An Act To Allow Municipalities upon Withdrawal from the
Kennebec Regional Development Authority To Cease Debt
Payments

COMMENTS: This bill would allow a municipality that is a member of
the Kennebec Regional Development Authority, upon
withdrawal from the Kennebec Regional Development
Authority, to cease being obligated for any outstanding
indebtedness of the Kennebec Regional Development Authority.

SPONSOR: Rep. Moody of Manchester

LR: 2263

TITLE: An Act To Allow the Use of Crossbows for Hunting

COMMENTS: This bill would repeal the prohibition against the use of a
crossbow for hunting.

SPONSOR: Sen. Nass of York

LR: 2362

TITLE: An Act To Authorize Certain Flexibility in Zoning

COMMENTS: Under current law a structure located within a shoreland
overlay district can not expand that structure by more than
30% of the existing footprint. This bill would give zoning
boards discretion to deviate from that 30% limitation
depending on the size of the lot at issue.

SPONSOR: Sen. Nass of York

LR: 2412

TITLE: An Act To Regulate the Planning, Installation and Inspection
of Fire Alarm Systems

COMMENTS: This bill requires that any person who undertakes planning
or installation of a fire alarm system or any part of a
system be licensed as a fire alarm system contractor. It
also requires that any person who undertakes the review,
approval and signing required for fire alarm system plans
prior to submission to the Department of Public Safety be
licensed by the Commissioner of Public Safety. The bill
provides for regulation of commercial fire alarm system
inspectors.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Nutting of Oakland

LR: 2514

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit Convicted Sex Offenders from Living
near Schools

COMMENTS: This bill prohibits convicted sex offenders from living
within 1,000 feet of schools.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 635

SPONSOR: Rep. O'Neil of Saco

LR: 2299

TITLE: An Act to Reduce Property Taxes in Small Towns

COMMENTS: This bill would allow municipalities that do not have
school systems to contract with accredited religious
schools for tuition agreements.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 2299

SPONSOR: Rep. O'Neil of Saco

LR: 2301

TITLE: An Act To Define Jurisdictional Duties Relative to Gaming
Facilities

COMMENTS: This bill would specify enforcement powers and jurisdiction
relative to a casino in Maine. This bill would ensure that
transportation, infrastructure, public safety and social
services for gambling addiction are funded for the area
surrounding a casino.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 1201 LD 1242
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2290 - PERCY
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2418 - GAGNON
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2550 - BOWLES
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2635 - BOWLES

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. O'Neil of Saco

LR: 2302

TITLE: Resolve, To Reduce Traffic Congestion and Save
Transportation Dollars

COMMENTS: This resolve would require the Maine Turnpike Authority to complete its toll collection modernization by converting the Exit 2 through Exit 6A section to mainline toll collection, thereby opening access at more points and encouraging turnpike utilization away from city streets and the I-295. A mainline plaza must be constructed between Exits 5 and 6 with measures taken to minimize stoppage and backups. This would eliminate the need for toll gates at Exits 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 11 and 12. This resolve also instructs the Maine Turnpike Authority and the Department of Transportation to collaborate on strategies to diffuse congestion away from current turnpike access points, allowing more access points.

SPONSOR: Rep. O'Neil of Saco

LR: 2358

TITLE: An Act Making Amendments to the Uniform Commercial Code
Covering Provisions Dealing with Negotiable Instruments
and Bank Deposits and Collection

COMMENTS: This bill would amend Articles 3 and 4 of the Maine Uniform Commercial Code to include warranties that place the responsibility for unauthorized telephone-generated checks on depositary banks rather than on payor banks.

SPONSOR: Rep. O'Neil of Saco

LR: 2536

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Law Relating to Insurance Contracts

COMMENTS: This bill would include terrorism as a non-covered peril under Maine's standard fire policy laws.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Paradis, Jr. of Frenchville

LR: 2571

TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Expedite Completion of Interstate 95 in Aroostook County

COMMENTS: This resolve would direct the Department of Transportation to pursue all necessary avenues to expedite the completion of Interstate 95 in Aroostook County. The Department of Transportation would be required to work with all relevant and appropriate local, state and federal agencies to ensure that the necessary work is completed.

SPONSOR: Rep. Paradis, Jr. of Frenchville

LR: 2572

TITLE: An Act To Control Exclusively Pornographic Establishments

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit the operation of exclusively pornographic establishments within a certain radius of churches, schools and residential zones.

SPONSOR: Rep. Paradis, Jr. of Frenchville

LR: 2573

TITLE: An Act To Allow the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Increase the Number of Moose Permits in Critical Zones

COMMENTS: This bill would authorize the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to increase the number of moose permits in order to respond to increasing numbers of moose-related traffic fatalities.

SPONSOR: Rep. Paradis, Jr. of Frenchville

LR: 2574

TITLE: An Act To Coordinate Discount Cards from Pharmaceutical Companies and the Maine Low-cost Drug Program To Ensure the Lowest-priced Prescription Drugs for Maine Citizens

COMMENTS: This bill would coordinate discount cards from pharmaceutical companies and the Maine Low Cost Drug Program to ensure the lowest-priced prescription drugs for Maine citizens.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2548 - TREAT

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Pellon of Machias

LR: 2361

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Mechanics' Liens

COMMENTS: This bill amends the laws governing mechanics' liens regarding when such a lien dissolves and when such a lien may be preserved and enforced by action against the debtor and owner of the property affected.

SPONSOR: Rep. Percy of Phippsburg

LR: 2290

TITLE: An Act To Monitor the Public Health and Social Services Impact of a Casino in Maine

COMMENTS: This bill creates a position within the Department of Human Services to monitor and analyze public health and human service data, with the goal of assessing any changes in a community's need for both privately and publicly funded health and social services. An annual report on the analysis of public health and social service needs and the data collected is required.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 1201 LD 1242
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2301 - O'NEIL
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2418 - GAGNON
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2550 - BOWLES
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2635 - BOWLES

SPONSOR: Rep. Percy of Phippsburg

LR: 2396

TITLE: An Act To Make Polling Places More Convenient

COMMENTS: This bill provides that, if a town meeting is being conducted for the exclusive purpose of voting by secret ballot, the town may conduct the election at the town's usual polling locations instead of a single location. No change is proposed for secret ballot voting occurring in conjunction with a town meeting for other purposes.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Perry of Calais

LR: 2266

TITLE: An Act To Repeal the Exemption Provision for Certain Imported Lobster under the Laws Governing Lobster Measurement

COMMENTS: This bill repeals the provision that allows certain imported lobster to be exempt from the laws governing lobster measurement.

SPONSOR: Rep. Perry of Calais

LR: 2477

TITLE: An Act Relating to Witnesses in Workers' Compensation Cases

COMMENTS: This bill includes nurse practitioners who have been approved by the State Board of Nursing to practice advanced practice registered nursing without the supervision of a physician to the list to submit sworn testimony in writing for workers' compensation hearings.

SPONSOR: Rep. Perry of Calais

LR: 2528

TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor and the Executive Department, Office of Substance Abuse To Study the Prevalence of Drug and Substance Abuse in Maine's Workforce

COMMENTS: This resolve would require the Department of Labor and the Executive Department, Office of Substance Abuse to conduct a study to determine the extent of drug, alcohol and other substance abuse among Maine's adult population, with a focus on the workforce, and report back with recommendations for alleviating the problem.

SPONSOR: Rep. Pingree of North Haven

LR: 2247

TITLE: An Act To Ensure the Fair Counting of Votes

COMMENTS: This bill would enact standards for inspectors and inspections of automated vote-counting machines.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Pingree of North Haven

LR: 2382

TITLE: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$150,000,000 To Finance the Acquisition of Lands and Interests in Lands for Conservation, Water Access, Outdoor Recreation, Wildlife and Fish Habitat and Farmland Preservation and To Gain Access to \$50,000,000 in Matching Contributions from Public and Private Sources

COMMENTS: This bill will authorize a bond issue in the amount of \$150,000,000. The funds will be administered by the Land for Maine's Future Board and used to acquire land and conservation easements for conservation, water access, outdoor recreation, wildlife and fish habitat and farmland preservation. Authorization of the bond issue will enable access to \$50,000,000 in private or other public matching funds.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2281 - RICHARDSON J

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2354 - SAWYER

SPONSOR: Rep. Pingree of North Haven

LR: 2478

TITLE: An Act To Reduce Contamination of Breast Milk and the Environment from the Release of Brominated Chemicals in Consumer Products

COMMENTS: This bill would ban the sale of products containing brominated chemicals in favor of safer alternatives. The purpose of the ban would be to reduce contamination of breast milk and the environment from the release of those chemicals.

SPONSOR: Rep. Pingree of North Haven

LR: 2545

TITLE: An Act To Allow a Municipality To Charge Real Estate Transfer Tax

COMMENTS: This bill would allow a municipality to charge up to 5% of the purchase price of property as a real estate transfer tax.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Pingree of North Haven

LR: 2546

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit Discrimination in Homeowners' Insurance

COMMENTS: This bill would establish guidelines that would be used by insurance companies when they issue homeowners' insurance policies to ensure that all persons are treated equally.

SPONSOR: Rep. Piotti of Unity

LR: 2343

TITLE: An Act Concerning the Boundary Lines of the Town of Unity

COMMENTS: This bill reestablishes the boundary lines for the Town of Unity based on a recent survey.

SPONSOR: Rep. Rector of Thomaston

LR: 2351

TITLE: An Act To Allow a Municipality to Determine the Method of Property Valuation for Local Property Tax Purposes

COMMENTS: This bill would allow a municipality to determine by adopting an ordinance the method of setting property values in that municipality for local property tax purposes.

SPONSOR: Rep. Richardson of Brunswick

LR: 2280

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Maine Residents Property Tax Program

COMMENTS: This bill amends the Maine Residents Property Tax Program, commonly referred to as "the circuit breaker program," by changing the formula under which taxpayers are eligible.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 206 ,219, 266, 382, 588, 977, 997
CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 1394
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2194 - COLWELL

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Richardson of Brunswick

LR: 2281

TITLE: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$150,000,000 To Finance the Acquisition of Lands and Interests in Lands for Conservation, Water Access, Outdoor Recreation, Wildlife and Fish Habitat and Farmland Preservation and Access \$50,000,000 in Matching Contributions from Public and Private Sources

COMMENTS: This bill will authorize a bond issue in the amount of \$150,000,000. The funds will be administered by the Land For Maine's Future Board and used to acquire land and conservation easements for conservation, water access, outdoor recreation, wildlife and fish habitat and farmland preservation. Authorization of the bond issue will enable access to \$50,000,000 in private or other public matching funds.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2354 - SAWYER
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2382 - PINGREE

SPONSOR: Rep. Richardson of Brunswick

LR: 2419

TITLE: An Act To Restore Funding for Certain Nursing Facilities and Residential Care Facilities

COMMENTS: This bill would restore funding for nursing facilities and residential care facilities that was cut in Public Law 2003, chapter 20.

SPONSOR: Rep. Richardson of Brunswick

LR: 2544

TITLE: An Act To Ensure Adequate Home-based Care Services and Provide the Most Cost-effective Long-term Care for Maine Seniors

COMMENTS: This bill would appropriate adequate funding to the Department of Human Services, Bureau of Elder and Adult Services to fund the waiting list for home-based care services for the elderly.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Richardson of Brunswick

LR: 2555

TITLE: An Act To Suspend the Driver's License of an Adult Who Operates a Motor Vehicle while Transporting Illegal Drugs

COMMENTS: Currently, minors lose their driver's license if they transport illegal drugs. This bill would apply the same suspension period to adults who drive while transporting illegal drugs.

SPONSOR: Rep. Richardson of Brunswick

LR: 2557

TITLE: An Act Establishing Zero Tolerance for Minors Who Operate a Motor Vehicle while under the Influence of Illegal Drugs

COMMENTS: Currently, there is zero tolerance for minors who operate a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol. This bill would expand zero tolerance to include minors under the influence of illegal drugs.

SPONSOR: Rep. Richardson of Brunswick

LR: 2558

TITLE: An Act To Increase Higher Education Enrollment and Reduce Maine's Residential Property Taxes

COMMENTS: This bill would establish a municipal tax cap, expand the earned income tax credit, rename the circuit breaker program and provide free tuition for the first year at any public university or community college.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Richardson of Brunswick

LR: 2559

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Laws Concerning Optional Membership
for Participating Local Districts in the Maine State
Retirement System

COMMENTS: This bill would allow service credit to be purchased for
the period during which an individual opted not to be a
member of the Maine State Retirement System if that
individual rejoins the system. The bill would also provide
that when an employee who terminated membership in the
Maine State Retirement System subsequently rejoins, that
employee may repay those withdrawn contributions plus
interest immediately upon restoration of service.

SPONSOR: Rep. Richardson of Brunswick

LR: 2562

TITLE: An Act To Correct an Oversight in Maine's Homestead
Exemption for the Blind

COMMENTS: This bill would specifically provide that the existing
homestead exemption for the blind applies to real property
that is held in a revocable living trust for the benefit of
the applicant that serves as the applicant's permanent
residence.

SPONSOR: Rep. Rines of Wiscasset

LR: 2421

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit the Sale of Gasoline That Is
Reformulated with MTBE

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit the sale of gasoline that is
reformulated with MTBE.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2298 - HUTTON

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Rosen of Bucksport

LR: 2409

TITLE: An Act To Create the Economic Council of New England and
Eastern Canada

COMMENTS: This bill would create the Economic Council of New England
and Eastern Canada. The purpose of this council would be
to collect and share economic data from each of the member
states and provinces.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 539

SPONSOR: Sen. Rotundo of Androscoggin

LR: 2430

TITLE: An Act To Require Pawnbrokers To Hold Property for at
Least 10 Days

COMMENTS: This bill would require a pawnbroker to hold any tangible
personal property obtained in a pawn transaction for at
least 10 days.

SPONSOR: Sen. Rotundo of Androscoggin

LR: 2432

TITLE: An Act To Ensure Fairness in Student Loans

COMMENTS: This bill would repeal the Higher Education Loan Purchase
Program enacted by the First Regular Session of the 121st
Legislature.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2543 - VAUGHAN

SPONSOR: Sen. Savage of Knox

LR: 2381

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Charter of the Tenants Harbor Standard
Water District

COMMENTS: This legislation clarifies the obligations of the
Department of Environmental Protection regarding the
design, engineering and installation of a public water
system in Tenants Harbor.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Saviello of Wilton

LR: 2275

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Random Drug Testing Laws

COMMENTS: This bill would amend the random drug testing laws to include all levels of employees of a company.

SPONSOR: Rep. Saviello of Wilton

LR: 2277

TITLE: An Act To Require a School Board To Pay the Actual Cost of Tuition for a Student Attending School in Another School Administrative District

COMMENTS: This bill would require a school board to pay the actual cost of tuition for a student attending school in another school administrative district.

SPONSOR: Sen. Sawyer, Jr. of Penobscot

LR: 2250

TITLE: An Act To Allow Vanity Plates for Low-speed Vehicles

COMMENTS: This bill would allow owners of "low-speed vehicles," defined as 4-wheeled automobiles able to attain a speed of at least 20 miles per hour but no more than 25 miles per hour, to obtain vanity registration plates for those vehicles.

SPONSOR: Sen. Sawyer, Jr. of Penobscot

LR: 2251

TITLE: An Act To Reduce Aggressive Driving and Road Rage

COMMENTS: This bill would require the Secretary of State to make public the names and mailing addresses of all motor vehicle registrants, including those registering all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles and motorized watercraft.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Sawyer, Jr. of Penobscot

LR: 2354

TITLE: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$100,000,000 To Finance the Acquisition of Lands and Interests in Lands for Conservation, Water Access, Outdoor Recreation, Wildlife and Fish Habitat and Farmland Preservation and To Access \$50,000,000 in Matching Contributions from Public and Private Sources

COMMENTS: This bill would authorize a bond issue in the amount of \$100,000,000. The funds will be administered by the Land for Maine's Future Board and used to acquire land and conservation easements for conservation, water access, outdoor recreation, wildlife and fish habitat and farmland preservation. Authorization of the bond issue will enable access to \$50,000,000 in private or other public matching funds.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2281 - RICHARDSON J
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2382 - PINGREE

SPONSOR: Rep. Sherman of Hodgdon

LR: 2331

TITLE: An Act To Require the State To Allow Businesses an Income Tax Deduction for the Empowerment Zone Credit in the Same Way It Allows a Deduction for the Work Opportunity Credit

COMMENTS: This bill would require the State to allow Maine businesses a deduction on their income taxes for the empowerment zone credit in the same way that it allows a deduction for the work opportunity credit.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2372 - STANLEY

SPONSOR: Rep. Sherman of Hodgdon

LR: 2475

TITLE: An Act To Exempt Consumer-owned Utilities from Energy Conservation Programs

COMMENTS: This bill would exempt consumer-owned utilities from energy conservation programs and the assessment placed on utilities for funding of conservation programs.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2513 - SHERMAN
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2549 - SHERMAN

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Sherman of Hodgdon

LR: 2511

TITLE: An Act To Decrease Taxes Paid by Residential Consumers on Electricity

COMMENTS: This bill would increase the current exemption from sales tax paid on electricity sold and delivered to residential consumers from the first 750 kilowatt hours to the first 1000 kilowatt hours.

SPONSOR: Rep. Sherman of Hodgdon

LR: 2512

TITLE: Resolve, Requiring a Cost-benefit Analysis of Energy Conservation Programs

COMMENTS: This bill would require the Office of Program Evaluation and Governmental Accountability to perform a cost-benefit analysis of the energy conservation programs developed and implemented by the Public Utilities Commission.

SPONSOR: Rep. Sherman of Hodgdon

LR: 2513

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Funding Basis for Energy Conservation Programs

COMMENTS: This bill would replace the current assessment placed on transmission and distribution utility companies for the funding of energy conservation programs with a flat rate on the retail sale of electricity. The funding would be capped at \$11,000,000.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2475 - SHERMAN

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2549 - SHERMAN

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Sherman of Hodgdon

LR: 2549

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Assessments Paid by Transmission and
Distribution Utilities for Conservation Programs

COMMENTS: This bill would change the assessments paid by transmission
and distribution utilities for funding energy conservation
programs implemented by the Public Utilities Commission.
This bill would establish an assessment for industrial
electric consumers based on peak demand, exempt island
electric utilities and vary the assessment rate depending
on the utility's production.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2475 - SHERMAN

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2513 - SHERMAN

SPONSOR: Rep. Shields of Auburn

LR: 2237

TITLE: An Act To Repeal Changes to the Certificate of Need Program

COMMENTS: This bill would repeal the expansion of the certificate of
need program that was enacted as part of Dirigo Health.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 584

SPONSOR: Sen. Shorey of Washington

LR: 2509

TITLE: An Act To Allow the State To Enter into Reciprocal
Agreements with Certain Foreign Jurisdictions Regarding
Concealed Firearms

COMMENTS: This bill allows the State to enter into reciprocal
agreements with foreign jurisdictions having requirements
equivalent to or more stringent than this State's regarding
concealed firearms.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1111

SPONSOR: Rep. Simpson of Auburn

LR: 2324

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit Female Genital Mutilation

COMMENTS: This bill prohibits female genital mutilation.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Simpson of Auburn

LR: 2325

TITLE: An Act Regarding Child Support Collection Practices

COMMENTS: This bill prohibits a company or other entity that enters into an agreement with a person to collect child support payments from taking a portion of future child support payments. The bill also makes such a company or entity subject to the laws governing fair collection practices.

SPONSOR: Rep. Simpson of Auburn

LR: 2356

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Electricians

COMMENTS: This bill updates the laws governing electricians to include emerging or alternative energy power generation sources.

SPONSOR: Rep. Simpson of Auburn

LR: 2447

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit Health Care Facilities from Discriminating against Physicians Based on Group Practice Affiliation

COMMENTS: This bill prohibits health care facilities from discriminating against physicians based on group practice affiliation when determining whether to grant health care facility privileges.

SPONSOR: Rep. Simpson of Auburn

LR: 2448

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Maine Clean Election Act Regarding the Amount of Funds to be Distributed to Participating Candidates

COMMENTS: This bill amends the Maine Clean Election Act to provide that the amount of funds distributed to participating candidates is the greater of the average amount spent in previous election cycles, as provided in current law, and the amount distributed in the last election cycle, adjusted for inflation.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Smith of Monmouth

LR: 2406

TITLE: An Act To Provide Parity between Law Enforcement Officers
and Firefighters with Regard to Workers' Compensation

COMMENTS: This bill would ensure that parity exists between
firefighters and law enforcement officers with respect to
the types of illnesses and conditions that are considered
"work-related".

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1352

SPONSOR: Rep. Smith of Monmouth

LR: 2407

TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Attorney General To Review the Laws
Designed To Protect Children from Sexual Predators and
Abusers

COMMENTS: This resolve would direct the Attorney General to conduct a
review of the laws designed to protect children from sexual
abuse and sexual predators to determine whether the ages of
the victims specified in the crimes are both appropriate
and just. The Attorney General is directed to report back
to the Legislature with recommendations.

SPONSOR: Rep. Smith of Monmouth

LR: 2408

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Penalty for Unauthorized Use of
a Motor Vehicle

COMMENTS: This bill would amend the penalty for unauthorized use of a
motor vehicle to make it equivalent to the penalty for
theft of a motor vehicle.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Smith of Van Buren

LR: 2526

TITLE: An Act To Discourage Misuse of Protection-from-abuse
Proceedings

COMMENTS: This bill would remove the requirement that evidence of a parent's prior willful misuse of the protection-from-abuse process may only be considered if the willful misuse tends to show that the acting parent will in the future have a lessened ability and willingness to cooperate with the other parent in their shared responsibility for their child.

SPONSOR: Rep. Smith of Van Buren

LR: 2547

TITLE: An Act To Enhance Audit and Enforcement of the Workers'
Compensation Act

COMMENTS: This bill would enhance audit and enforcement of the
Workers' Compensation Act.

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2227

TITLE: An Act To Require That the State Abide by Certain Local
Ordinances

COMMENTS: This bill would require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Environmental Protection to abide by and be subject to local ordinances governing building in or obtaining property from or in a town including the building of a boat launch.

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2269

TITLE: An Act To Lower the Cigarette Tax

COMMENTS: The bill would lower the cigarette tax.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2270

TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety To Review the Background Check Process

COMMENTS: This resolve would require the joint standing committee on criminal justice and public safety to review the background check process. The committees would make recommendations on how to expedite the process.

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2271

TITLE: An Act To Allow a Fitness Center To Use the Word "Women," "Men" or "Unisex" in the Name of the Fitness Center

COMMENTS: This bill would allow a fitness center to use the word "women," "men" or "unisex" in the name of the fitness center.

SPONSOR: Rep. Snowe-Mello of Poland

LR: 2606

TITLE: An Act To Change the Day Reserved for Juvenile Deer Hunters

COMMENTS: This bill would change the day reserved for juvenile deer hunters to a Sunday.

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2363

TITLE: An Act To Allow Towns To Consolidate for the Purpose of Establishing a Voting Place

COMMENTS: This bill would allow several small towns or townships to have one common voting place.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2364

TITLE: An Act To Require Mandatory Hearing Screening for Infants

COMMENTS: This bill would require that mandatory hearing screenings be done on infants within 30 days after they are born.

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2365

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit the Introduction in Maine of Mercury Intended for Use in a Dental Filling

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit the introduction in Maine of mercury intended for use in a dental filling.

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2366

TITLE: An Act To Strengthen the Laws Governing Operating a Motor Vehicle while under the Influence of Drugs or Alcohol

COMMENTS: This bill would double the penalty if a person refuses to take a breath test to determine blood alcohol level.

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2367

TITLE: An Act To Protect a Landlord's Property Rights

COMMENTS: This bill would authorize a landlord whose tenant continues to occupy the landlord's premises but refuses to pay rent to use whatever means necessary to make the premises inaccessible to the tenant and, after a certain period of time, transfer to the landlord all right to the personal property left in the premises by the tenant.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2368

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Denturists

COMMENTS: This bill would allow denturists to make partial dentures.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1092

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2369 - STANLEY

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2369

TITLE: An Act To Require Insurance Companies To Cover the Cost of
Dentures Made by Denturists

COMMENTS: This bill would require insurance companies to cover the
cost of dentures made by denturists.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2368 - STANLEY

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2370

TITLE: An Act To Require That Toll-free Telephone Numbers Listed
in a Telephone Book Have an Address Listed

COMMENTS: This bill would require an out-of-state company that has a
toll-free telephone listing in a telephone book to also
have an address listed beside the telephone number.

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2371

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Bingo Laws

COMMENTS: This bill would allow an organization to use profits from a
bingo game to benefit members of the organization as well
as nonmembers.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 140

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2372

TITLE: An Act To Require That State Law Governing Empowerment Zone Credits Conform to Federal Law

COMMENTS: This bill would require the State to treat empowerment zone credits in the same way as the Federal Government does for income tax purposes.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2331 - SHERMAN

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2373

TITLE: An Act To Require That Medicare Payments Be Equal in Rural and Urban Areas of the State

COMMENTS: This bill would require Medicare to establish a fair distribution of reimbursement of benefits between urban and rural areas of the State.

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2376

TITLE: An Act To Promote Equity in Property Ownership

COMMENTS: This bill would require an owner of a piece of land that has a building on it that is owned by another person to negotiate with the person that owns the building as to the terms and conditions of the lease.

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2377

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Guidelines for Determining Eligibility of a Person Receiving State Aid

COMMENTS: This bill would establish a sliding scale to determine the eligibility of a person who would be entitled to receive state aid.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2576

TITLE: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine To Repeal the Personal Property Tax on Residential
Property

COMMENTS: This Constitutional Resolution would repeal the personal
property tax on property that is routinely located on
residential property while continuing the tax for personal
property on located on business property.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2285 - BARSTOW

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2291 - BRUNO

SPONSOR: Sen. Stanley of Penobscot

LR: 2577

TITLE: An Act To Create a State Income Tax Surcharge on
Congressional Pensions

COMMENTS: This bill would establish a surcharge on congressional
pensions equal to the Social Security offset calculated by
the Federal Government for retired teachers and state
workers.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2238 - DAVIS P

SPONSOR: Sen. Strimling of Cumberland

LR: 2423

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit Discrimination in Eviction Procedures

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit discrimination in evictions based
on race, color, sex, physical or mental disability,
religion, ancestry, national origin or familial status of
the tenant. Although currently prohibited under the Maine
Human Rights Act, this bill would prohibit a court from
issuing a writ of possession to the landlord in an action
of forcible entry and detainer upon unlawful discrimination.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Strimling of Cumberland

LR: 2424

TITLE: An Act To Allow Inmates To Donate Organs to Relatives Who
Reside outside the State

COMMENTS: This bill would allow the Department of Corrections to
assist inmates who wish to donate organs to relatives who
reside outside of Maine.

SPONSOR: Sen. Strimling of Cumberland

LR: 2425

TITLE: An Act To Continue the Ban on Assault Weapons

COMMENTS: For the past 10 years it has been a violation of federal
law to sell an assault weapon in Maine. In order for the
federal ban to continue in effect, Congress must
reauthorize the ban in 2004. If Congress fails to
reauthorize the federal ban, this bill will continue the
existing prohibition on the sale of assault weapons in
Maine.

SPONSOR: Sen. Strimling of Cumberland

LR: 2426

TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and
Community Development To Create a Program to Assist
Minority Business Owners

COMMENTS: This bill would require the Department of Economic and
Community Development to establish a program to assist
minority business owners.

SPONSOR: Sen. Strimling of Cumberland

LR: 2428

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Freedom of Access Law To Exclude
Public Employees' Home Addresses

COMMENTS: This bill would exclude from public records subject to
freedom of access laws the home addresses of employees of a
public entity.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Strimling of Cumberland

LR: 2429

TITLE: An Act To Recognize Foreign Same-sex Marriages

COMMENTS: This bill would require the State to recognize all marriages, including same-sex marriages, solemnized in another country.

SPONSOR: Sen. Strimling of Cumberland

LR: 2597

TITLE: An Act To Increase Access of Domestic Violence Victim Support Agencies to Certain Information

COMMENTS: This bill would designate domestic violence projects as nonpublic agencies for the purpose of receiving information about victims of domestic violence. Information received by the project would remain confidential.

SPONSOR: Rep. Sullivan of Biddeford

LR: 2516

TITLE: An Act To Standardize the Laws Regarding the Use and Operation of All-terrain Vehicles, Snowmobiles and Watercraft by Minors

COMMENTS: This bill standardizes the requirements for the use and operation of all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles and watercraft by minors.

SPONSOR: Rep. Sullivan of Biddeford

LR: 2524

TITLE: An Act To Include Boat Building in the Training and Apprenticeship Program

COMMENTS: This bill would allow students learning to build boats to be a part of the training and apprenticeship programs established by the Department of Labor.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Suslovic of Portland

LR: 2531

TITLE: An Act To Create the Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Enforcement

COMMENTS: This bill would create the Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Enforcement. This bill would increase the taxes on tobacco products and alcohol and use a portion of the revenue to fund the new office. The primary purpose of the office would be to decrease or eliminate illegal sales of alcohol or tobacco to minors. This bill also would make the licensing fees for the sale of tobacco products equivalent to those for alcohol sales.

SPONSOR: Rep. Sykes of Harrison

LR: 2413

TITLE: An Act To Allow for the Consideration of Foster Children and Stepchildren under the Maine Probate Code

COMMENTS: This bill would amend the Maine Probate Code to allow a judge to consider the claim of a stepchild or foster child on the estate of that person's stepparent or foster parent.

SPONSOR: Rep. Tardy of Newport

LR: 2445

TITLE: An Act To Exempt a Religious Nonpublic Vocational Postsecondary Institution from Licensure

COMMENTS: This bill would provide an exemption to religious postsecondary institutions from requirements of licensure.

SPONSOR: Rep. Tardy of Newport

LR: 2446

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit a Contractor Performing Work on a Public Improvement Project from Inducing a Person To Relinquish Wages for the Benefit of an Employer

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit a contractor performing work on a public improvement project from inducing a person employed in the construction of the building to give up some of the person's compensation to fund payments to the employer.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Thomas of Orono

LR: 2232

TITLE: An Act Regarding Regional Child Development Services
Boards

COMMENTS: This bill would amend the law regarding regional child
development services boards.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2233 - THOMAS

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2480 - THOMAS

SPONSOR: Rep. Thomas of Orono

LR: 2233

TITLE: An Act Regarding Contracts Issued by Child Development
Services

COMMENTS: This bill would amend the law governing contracts issued by
child development services.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2232 - THOMAS

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2480 - THOMAS

SPONSOR: Rep. Thomas of Orono

LR: 2480

TITLE: Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Amend
Its Rules Regarding Child Development Services for
Children of Kindergarten Age

COMMENTS: This resolve would direct the Department of Education to
amend its rules regarding child development services for
children of kindergarten age.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2232 - THOMAS

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2233 - THOMAS

SPONSOR: Rep. Thompson of China

LR: 2282

TITLE: An Act To Provide Equity in Veterans Exemptions

COMMENTS: This bill extends to widowers of veterans the same property
tax exemptions that are currently provided to widows of
veterans.

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Trahan of Waldoboro

LR: 2223

TITLE: An Act To Impose Liability for the Illegal or Improper
Transfer of State Funds

COMMENTS: This bill will hold accountable any employee who knowingly
participates in the sheltering or hiding of departmental
money. The employee would be liable both criminally and
financially.

SPONSOR: Rep. Trahan of Waldoboro

LR: 2405

TITLE: An Act To Enhance Highway Safety

COMMENTS: This bill would create the new crime of causing serious
bodily injury while operating a motor vehicle.

SPONSOR: Rep. Trahan of Waldoboro

LR: 2455

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Law Pertaining to the Discharge of a
Firearm near a Dwelling

COMMENTS: This bill would clarify the law that prohibits discharging
a firearm within 100 yards near a dwelling to specify that
"dwellings" includes livestock barns.

SPONSOR: Sen. Treat of Kennebec

LR: 2548

TITLE: An Act To Ensure the Lowest-priced Prescription Drugs for
Maine Seniors

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit drug companies doing business in
Maine from counting the low-cost drugs for the elderly or
disabled program a "drug benefit" when calculating their
drug discounts when the prescribed drug is not covered by
the low-cost drugs for the elderly or disabled program.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2574 - PARADIS

121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Sen. Treat of Kennebec

LR: 2580

TITLE: An Act To Provide Consumer Representation in Health Insurance Coverage Matters

COMMENTS: This bill would establish a Consumer Health Advocate in the Governor's Office of Health Care Policy and Finance within the Executive Department to represent the interests of consumers in private health insurance coverage matters, including, but not limited to, rate filing hearings, rate setting, relevant insurance rulemaking proceedings and other activities that affect the ability of Maine people to access appropriate, quality and affordable health insurance coverage.

SPONSOR: Sen. Treat of Kennebec

LR: 2581

TITLE: An Act To Clarify Health Care Cost-sharing Limits

COMMENTS: This bill would clarify that in no instance will policyholders be responsible for more than 50% of the usual and customary rate allowed for a service covered by a health maintenance organization.

SPONSOR: Sen. Turner of Cumberland

LR: 2279

TITLE: An Act To Establish Harbormaster Standards and Course Requirements

COMMENTS: This bill establishes statewide minimum standards for harbormasters by requiring them to complete a harbormaster basic course established by the Maine harbormasters professional association.

SPONSOR: Rep. Twomey of Biddeford

LR: 2436

TITLE: An Act To Establish a Commercial License Plate with a Lobster on the Plate

COMMENTS: This bill would establish a commercial license plate with a lobster on the plate.

121st LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Twomey of Biddeford

LR: 2437

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit Tracking by Credit Bureaus through
Telecommunications

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit a credit bureau from obtaining
information on a person by contacting a neighbor to see if
that person still resides in the neighborhood.

SPONSOR: Rep. Twomey of Biddeford

LR: 2438

TITLE: An Act To Require that the Euthanasia of a Stray Animal Be
a Last Resort

COMMENTS: This bill would require that all avenues to save a stray
animal be exhausted before the decision to euthanize the
animal is made.

SPONSOR: Rep. Usher of Westbrook

LR: 2399

TITLE: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount
of \$3,000,000 To Stimulate and Support Maine's
Manufacturing, Transportation and Harbor Industries

COMMENTS: This bill proposes a \$3,000,000 general obligation bond to
stimulate and support Maine's manufacturing, transportation
and harbor industries by funding the construction of a
warehouse facility at Merrill Marine Terminal in the Port
of Portland.

SPONSOR: Rep. Usher of Westbrook

LR: 2525

TITLE: An Act To Introduce the Grass Carp to Inland Waters on a
Trial Basis

COMMENTS: This bill would allow grass carp to be introduced to a test
site chosen by the Department of Inland Fisheries and
Wildlife on a trial basis in order to study their effects
on milfoil in Maine's inland waters.

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BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Vaughan of Durham

LR: 2460

TITLE: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine To Lower the Income Tax Incrementally to 4%

COMMENTS: This constitutional resolution proposes an amendment to the
Constitution of Maine to lower the income tax incrementally
to 4%.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2417 - DAVIS P

SPONSOR: Rep. Vaughan of Durham

LR: 2461

TITLE: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine To Protect Dedicated Funds

COMMENTS: This constitutional resolution provides protection in the
Constitution of Maine for dedicated funds such as the
proceeds from the Maine State Lottery, which would be
constitutionally dedicated to provide funding for education.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS LD(S) 1612

SPONSOR: Rep. Vaughan of Durham

LR: 2462

TITLE: An Act To Change the Date of the Turkey Hunting
Season

COMMENTS: This bill changes the fall turkey hunting season so that it
is held one week earlier.

SPONSOR: Rep. Vaughan of Durham

LR: 2543

TITLE: An Act To Ensure Fair Competition in the Student Loan
Market

COMMENTS: This bill would repeal the Higher Education Loan Purchase
Program in order to prevent unfair competition and
disruption of the market for student loans for higher
education.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2432 - ROTUNDO

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SPONSOR: Rep. Watson of Bath

LR: 2235

TITLE: An Act To Include Disability Pension Income in the
Definition of Eligible Pension Income

COMMENTS: This bill would clarify that disability pension income
should be included in the definition of eligible pension
income in determining the \$6,000 deduction from a pension
on state tax returns.

SPONSOR: Rep. Watson of Bath

LR: 2236

TITLE: An Act To Establish a Mandatory Boater Education Law

COMMENTS: This bill would establish a mandatory boater education law.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD(S) 1366
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2310 - HONEY

SPONSOR: Sen. Weston of Waldo

LR: 2319

TITLE: An Act to Exempt Antique Auto Dealers from Dealer Plate
Restrictions

COMMENTS: Because antique auto dealers often have a low volume of
annual sales, this bill exempts antique auto dealers from
plate restrictions enacted during the First Regular Session
of the 121st Legislature.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2515 - ASH

SPONSOR: Sen. Weston of Waldo

LR: 2378

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of
1992 Regarding Payments Pending Appeal

COMMENTS: This bill would amend the Maine Workers' Compensation Act
of 1992 to provide that, pending appeal of a decision of a
hearing officer to the Workers' Compensation Board,
compensation payments may be deferred until a final
decision of the board has been reached.

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BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Woodbury of Yarmouth

LR: 2598

TITLE: An Act Requiring Long-range Budget Planning

COMMENTS: This bill would require that the Governor submit a long-range 6-year budget plan as part of the State's biennium budget process.

SPONSOR: Rep. Woodbury of Yarmouth

LR: 2599

TITLE: An Act To Create a Medical Savings Account Product in Maine

COMMENTS: This bill would provide a \$50,000 grant for the development of a medical savings account product that can be offered to small businesses in the State.

SPONSOR: Sen. Youngblood of Penobscot

LR: 2414

TITLE: An Act To Increase the Penalties for Operating a Motor Vehicle with an Obstructed Window or Windshield

COMMENTS: This bill would increase the penalty for operating a motor vehicle with an obstructed window or windshield.

SPONSOR: Sen. Youngblood of Penobscot

LR: 2415

TITLE: An Act To Require a Legal Notice Be Served on a Pet Owner before a Pet May Be Taken from the Owner

COMMENTS: This bill requires that a legal notice be served on a pet owner before a pet may be taken from the owner.

SPONSOR: Sen. Youngblood of Penobscot

LR: 2416

TITLE: An Act To Authorize the Town of Verona To Change Its Name

COMMENTS: This bill would authorize the Town of Verona to change its name to Verona Island.

ADDENDUM
121st LEGISLATURE – SECOND REGULAR SESSION
BILL REQUESTS FOR SCREENING

SPONSOR: Rep. Bruno

LR: 2653

TITLE: An Act To Provide Vital Records for Adults in Maine

COMMENTS: This bill would establish a legal process whereby adults could amend their birth certificates to reflect the identity of their biological parents, with DNA proof and consent of the biological parents.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2560 – DUDLEY

SPONSOR: Rep. Bruno

LR: 2654

TITLE: An Act To Clarify the Boundary Line of Third Beach in Naples

COMMENTS: This bill would clarify the boundary line of Third Beach in Naples.

SPONSOR: Rep. Bruno

LR: 2655

TITLE: An Act To Promote Fairness for Small Businesses That Serve Alcoholic Beverages

COMMENTS: This bill would allow a business that serves beer and wine in its dining area also to sell beer and wine out of a cooler for take-out.
