

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Senator Andrews of York**

LR: 2611 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Make the Taxing of Lobster Traps Optional

COMMENTS: This bill would make the taxing of lobster traps optional.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Babbidge of Kennebunk**

LR: 2928 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act Regarding Establishment of a Minimum Financial Standard Regarding Educational Cost Sharing

COMMENTS: This bill would establish the local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 for each member municipality in MSAD #71.

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LR: 2984 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act Regarding the Sharing of Educational Costs

COMMENTS: This bill would provide an exception to the cost-sharing mechanism to limit the adverse fiscal impact of the required contribution that would be assigned to member municipalities of a school administrative district or community school district under the essential programs and services funding law as compared to the required contributions that the member municipalities have agreed to in the cost-sharing formula.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2577 Miller

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2657 Mayo

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SPONSOR: **Representative Barstow of Gorham**

LR: 2514 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Increase the Number of Cumberland County Commissioners from 3 to 7

COMMENTS: This bill increases the number of Cumberland County Commissioners from 3 to 7. A task force established by Cumberland County will establish new county commissioner districts to be in place until the next general redistricting.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Barstow of Gorham**

LR: 2734 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Ensure Eligibility for Citizens 65 Years of Age and Older to Purchase Dirigo Choice Insurance

COMMENTS: This bill would clarify language in the laws governing Dirigo Health to specifically authorize citizens 65 years of age and older to purchase Dirigo Choice Insurance.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Bishop of Boothbay**

LR: 2702 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Extend the Veterans' Property Tax Exemption to All Veterans

COMMENTS: This bill extends the veterans' property tax exemption to all veterans. Current law limits the exemption to veterans who served during a federally recognized war period.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS: LD 74

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD 365

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LR: 2703 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Charter of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District

COMMENTS: This bill would extend the territory of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District to include all of the territory of the Town of Boothbay to provide for regional sewer service. The bill also increases the debt limit of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District from \$5,500,000 to \$8,500,000 to assist the Town of Boothbay in extending sewer service north along the State Route 27 corridor to allow for economic development and the additional protection of the region's drinking water resources in the Adams Pond watershed.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD 499

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Bishop of Boothbay**

LR: 2855 COU/APP

TITLE: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Limit Increases in Property Valuation for Residents 62 Years of Age and Older

COMMENTS: This constitutional resolution would limit increases in property valuation to 3% per year for residents 62 years of age and older. When property is transferred, its valuation returns to its fair market value.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD 1199

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2643 Marley

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2747 Curley

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LR: 2856 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Provide Additional Home Heating Assistance to Low-income Residents

COMMENTS: This bill would designate revenue from one of the instant lotteries to be used to provide additional home heating assistance to low-income residents.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2536 Lerman

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2575 Cummings

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2724 Fletcher

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2868 Brennan

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2933 Fletcher

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SPONSOR: **Senator Bromley of Cumberland**

LR: 2567 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Modify the Gross Weight Limits for Certain 2 and 3 Axle Vehicles

COMMENTS: This bill would modify the gross weight limits for vehicles having 2 or 3 axles that carry permanently mounted snow removal equipment to take into consideration the weight of that equipment.

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LR: 2762 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act Regarding Preferences in Bidding on Maine State Housing Authority Contracts

COMMENTS: This bill would eliminate preferences in bidding on contracts, adopted by rule by the Maine State Housing Authority, for companies that provide health insurance to their employees.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2673 Weston

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Browne of Vassalboro**

LR: 2874 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Allow Farm Trucks That Weigh over 9,000 Pounds To Be Eligible for Farm Specialty Plates

COMMENTS: This bill would allow farm trucks that weigh over 9,000 pounds to be eligible for farm specialty plates.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Burns of Berwick**

LR: 2613 COU/APP

TITLE: Resolve, To Study the Efficient Delivery of Contracted Services by Social Workers to MaineCare Recipients

COMMENTS: This resolve will create a task force to study the efficient delivery of contracted services by social workers to MaineCare recipients.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Cain of Orono**

LR: 2516 COU/APP

TITLE: RESOLUTION, Amending the Constitution of Maine To Lower the Age of Eligibility for Election to the House of Representatives

COMMENTS: This resolution would amend the Constitution of Maine to decrease from 21 years of age to 18 years of age the minimum age for election to the Maine House of Representatives.

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LR: 2867 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Promote Youth Involvement in County and Local Government

COMMENTS: This bill would create an internship program that pairs college-aged students with county and local governments. Students must have completed at least 2 years of college or just graduated from college, and must be Maine residents or out-of-state students attending college in Maine. This internship program would be administered by the Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy at the University of Maine.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Canavan of Waterville**

LR: 2715 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Require Lobbyists To Wear Identification Badges

COMMENTS: This bill would require lobbyists to wear identification badges in order to enhance security in the capitol complex.

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LR: 2716 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Promote Transitional Employment for People with Mental Illness

COMMENTS: This bill would promote cooperation between the State and mental health services agencies in providing short-term transitional employment to people with long-term mental illness. This transitional employment would allow people with mental illness to use recently acquired work skills and develop confidence in the workplace.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Cebra of Naples**

LR: 2529 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Establish a Back-to-school Tax-free Shopping Weekend

COMMENTS: This bill establishes a back-to-school sales-tax-free weekend during the 2nd full weekend in August.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LDS 81, 452, 747

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2822 Lerman

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2837 Lindell

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SPONSOR: **Senator Courtney of York**

LR: 2490 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Provide State Funding for the Fingerprinting of School Personnel

COMMENTS: This bill would require that the State pay for the fingerprinting of school personnel.

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LR: 2523 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Reduce Heating Fuel Taxes Paid by Businesses

COMMENTS: Under this bill, the 5% current tax paid by businesses would be reduced to 2 1/2%.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Senator Cowger of Kennebec**

LR: 2635 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Ensure Long-term Capacity of Municipal Landfills

COMMENTS: This bill prohibits municipally owned landfills from accepting out-of-state waste.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 3034 Twomey

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LR: 2698 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Protect the Health and Welfare of Children and Spouses in Need of Enhanced Child Support Enforcement Services

COMMENTS: This bill would ensure timely payments from noncustodial parents and provide stricter measures for delinquent payments. It would also hold noncustodial parents responsible for debt incurred by custodial parents due to late payment or nonpayment.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Crosby of Topsham**

LR: 2700 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Allow Businesses To Place a Sign at the Topsham Mall Exit on Interstate 95

COMMENTS: This bill would allow businesses to pay the \$12,000 cost to put a sign at the Topsham exit on Interstate 95.

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LR: 2937 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Allow All Races Approved by the Maine Harness Racing Commission for an Agricultural Fair To Be Simulcast

COMMENTS: This bill would allow all races approved by the Maine Harness Racing Commission for an agricultural fair to be simulcast, including those that occur before or after the scheduled fair dates.

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SPONSOR: **Senator Diamond of Cumberland**

LR: 2626 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Clarify the Responsibilities of the State Tax Assessor Regarding Local Assessors

COMMENTS: This bill would require a full-time professional assessor used by a municipality to be certified by the Bureau of Revenue Services and would require supervision of local assessors by the State Tax Assessor.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Dunn of Bangor**

LR: 2889 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Provide Redemption Centers with Handling Supplies

COMMENTS: This bill would require distributors to provide redemption centers with handling supplies.

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LR: 2920 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act Regarding Child Custody Evaluations

COMMENTS: This bill provides good-faith protection for psychologists conducting child custody evaluations similar to protections existing in Florida and West Virginia.

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LR: 2921 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act Regarding Criminal Record Checks

COMMENTS: The bill would direct the Department of Public Safety to adopt rules that ensure that incorrect information is not provided in response to a criminal record check request.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Fischer of Presque Isle**

LR: 2540 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Improve Workplace Safety

COMMENTS: This bill would require businesses to post policies on safety for all employees. If there are more than 15 employees, the business must have training for new hires and annual training for managers. This bill would also create a task force to help improve workplace safety.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Fletcher of Winslow**

LR: 2723 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Clarify the Eminent Domain Statutes

COMMENTS: This bill would clarify eminent domain provisions of Maine law for economic development through public use and prevent the use of eminent domain for commercial private use.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS: LDS 1203, 1297

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2459 Pelletier-Simpson  
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2460 Lindell  
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2461 Strimling  
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2462 Makas  
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2467 Turner  
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2498 Joy  
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2504 Merrill  
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2642 Merrill

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LR: 2724 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Conserve Energy in Maine Homes

COMMENTS: This bill would restore funding to the Maine State Housing Authority from the real estate transfer tax to be used to weatherize the homes of Maine residents to reduce energy consumption.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2536 Lerman  
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2575 Cummings  
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2868 Brennan  
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2933 Fletcher  
CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2856 Bishop

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LR: 2932 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Encourage Energy Efficiency

COMMENTS: This bill creates an integrated electric energy policy for Maine that seeks to lower the cost of electric service and the market price of power and that includes conservation and renewable energy development as important ways to achieve these goals.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS' APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Fletcher of Winslow**

LR: 2934 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Lower the Cost of Electricity

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit utilities operating under an alternate rate plan from belonging to a regional transmission organization or independent system operation that requires Maine electricity consumers to pay more for electricity than the Public Utilities Commission determines necessary.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Flood of Winthrop**

LR: 2754 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Allow Public Notification of Minors 16 Years of Age and 17 Years of Age Arrested for Violent Felonies

COMMENTS: This bill would allow law enforcement officials to place in arrest logs the names and addresses of minors 16 years of age and 17 years of age arrested for violent crimes. It would also allow the release of this information to local neighborhoods and the media.

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LR: 2755 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Prohibit Registered Sex Offenders from Establishing Residence within 1,000 Feet of a Public or Private School

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit registered sex offenders from establishing residence within 1,000 feet of a school.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD 282

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SPONSOR: **Representative Glynn of South Portland**

LR: 2669 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Increase Accessibility to Health Insurance

COMMENTS: This bill would allow an insurance company to issue a health insurance policy to a person who is not a citizen of the United States.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Glynn of South Portland**

LR: 2737 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Protect Services for MaineCare Clients Designated as Noncategorical

COMMENTS: This bill would protect the services offered by MaineCare to clients that are designated as noncategorical.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2896 Brannigan

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LR: 2918 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Lower Property Taxes by Exempting State and Municipal Employees from the Savings Offset Payment under Dirigo

COMMENTS: This bill would exempt municipal and school employees from the new 4% savings offset payment, or "SOP," under Dirigo.

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SPONSOR: **Senator Hobbins of York**

LR: 2960 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Implement Model Timeshare Foreclosure Procedures

COMMENTS: This bill would create a nonjudicial timeshare foreclosure procedure based on model national legislation.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Lerman of Augusta**

LR: 2824 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Protect a National Historic Landmark

COMMENTS: This bill would appropriate \$1,000,000 to redevelop the arsenal in Augusta.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2528 Mitchell

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2547 Mitchell

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2823 Lerman

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LR: 2832 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Protect Children from the Onset of Autism

COMMENTS: This bill would protect children from the onset of autism by banning the use of thimerosal.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2792 Edmonds

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Lerman of Augusta**

LR: 2833 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Ensure Adequate Capacity at Riverview Psychiatric Center

COMMENTS: This bill would ensure adequate capacity at Riverview Psychiatric Center by extending the agreement to keep the Stone Building open and also to begin construction on a new wing.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Lindell of Frankfort**

LR: 2838 COU/APP

TITLE: Resolve, To Establish a Commission To Study and Recommend Ethical Standards for State Agencies

COMMENTS: This resolve would establish a commission to study and recommend ethical standards for all state agencies including: measures to require agencies to follow their own rules; defining "clean" in the Maine Clean Elections Act; and reviewing safeguards to ensure that laws to protect the disabled are enforced.

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SPONSOR: **Senator Mayo of Sagadahoc**

LR: 2657 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act Regarding the Sharing of Costs in Certain School Districts

COMMENTS: This bill would extend the transition adjustment for member municipalities within certain school administrative districts and community school districts that are eligible under the provisions of P&SL 2005, chapter 23, section 1. That transition adjustment provision was created to shift the contribution levels of certain member municipalities that were adversely impacted by changes to the school funding formula.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2577 Miller

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2984 Babbidge

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LR: 2789 COU/APP

TITLE: Resolve, To Ensure Proper Accounting for Funds at the Department of Health and Human Services

COMMENTS: This resolve would require that the Department of Health and Human Services establish program accounts in a more detailed fashion to ensure that funding and spending are accurately assigned to the appropriate account and program.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD 1555

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative McKane of Newcastle**

LR: 2483 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Enhance Free Market Health Insurance Reform

COMMENTS: This bill would enhance free market health insurance reform, by creating a high-risk pool for the individual health insurance market and by broadening community rating laws to allow carriers to vary premiums on the basis of age, health status and tobacco use within specified maximum rate differentials. This bill would fund the high-risk pool by transferring the savings offset from the Dirigo program. In addition, this bill would create a medical management system for individuals in the individual health insurance market with chronic conditions.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LDS 394, 1168, 1494

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SPONSOR: **Representative Merrill of Appleton**

LR: 2857 COU/APP

TITLE: Resolve, To Examine the Sufficiency of Representation for Students in Special Education Cases

COMMENTS: This resolve would establish a committee to examine whether students in special education cases receive adequate legal representation.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Miller of Somerville**

LR: 2577 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Restore the Cost-sharing Agreement Established by the Voters of School Administrative District No. 40

COMMENTS: This bill reestablishes the cost-sharing agreement established in 1992 at a referendum election by the voters of School Administrative District No. 40. That cost-sharing formula apportions all the local share contributions to the school district on the basis of 50% of each town's valuation and 50% of each town's student population. The bill also preserves the right of the voters of a school administrative district to maintain cost-sharing arrangements that are available under current law.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2984 Babbidge

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2657 Mayo

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Millett of Waterford**

LR: 2742 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Improve Substance Abuse Rehabilitation Services

COMMENTS: This bill would improve substance abuse rehabilitation services by creating a process to involve local communities in the licensing process.

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LR: 2907 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Enact the Maine Recovery Act

COMMENTS: This bill would place Maine on an immediate path to long-term economic recovery and stability by implementing changes to the State's tax and budgeting laws. It does so by establishing appropriate maximum levels for overall taxation based on the Maine economy's ability to fund the cost of State Government, a limit on the rate of tax increases and a timetable for bringing tax policies and spending levels into compliance.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Mills, J of Farmington**

LR: 2847 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Emery Center at the University of Maine at Farmington

COMMENTS: This bill would propose a general fund bond issue in the amount of \$15 million to match a \$5 million donation to build the Emery Center at the University of Maine in Farmington.

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LR: 2891 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Require Legislative Review of Department of Environmental Protection Shoreland Zoning Rules

COMMENTS: This bill would require that the proposed amendments to chapter 1000 of the guidelines for municipal shoreland ordinances currently being promulgated for comment by the Department of Environmental Protection be reviewed by the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources and the Legislature before the rules go into effect.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Mills, J of Farmington**

LR: 2986 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Clarify the Unemployment Laws Relating To Subcontractors

COMMENTS: This bill would clarify that the services performed by a subcontractor are not considered employment for purposes of the unemployment compensation laws if the work performed is generally done by a subcontractor who performs such work for multiple contractors in the course of the subcontractor's annual employment and is the type of work that is generally done by an independent contractor.

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SPONSOR: **Senator Mitchell of Kennebec**

LR: 2863 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Increase College Attainment of Maine Students by Expanding the Maine Tuition Waiver Program

COMMENTS: This bill would expand the Maine Tuition-Waiver Program, which enables the Department of Education to join the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System and Maine Maritime Academy to provide one course per semester tuition free to qualified students. Adding 500 courses per year fully paid by the State will quadruple the program. The existing program would continue as it is currently structured for cost sharing between the State and the institutions. This bill would appropriate money to expand the program at state expense.

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LR: 2910 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Establish a Child Advocate Position in the Disability Rights Center

COMMENTS: This bill would create a position of child advocate in the Disability Rights Center.

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LR: 2912 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Provide for Accountability in Maine's Educational Systems by Creating a Higher Education Council

COMMENTS: This bill would create a council that would report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs regarding all capital building and improvement projects, program curricula, budgeting and any other issues identified by the education committee.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Moody of Manchester**

LR: 2661 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Enhance the Integrity of the Moose Lottery

COMMENTS: This bill would require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to have the moose hunting lottery process reviewed annually to ensure that it is applied fairly.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2585 Jackson

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SPONSOR: **Representative Moore, G of Standish**

LR: 2482 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Repeal the Requirement That Employees Who Are Minors Be Overseen by a Superior in Order To Sell Tobacco

COMMENTS: This bill would repeal the requirement that employees who are younger than 17 years of age must be in the presence of an adult supervisor to sell tobacco products.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Muse of Fryeburg**

LR: 2663 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Maine Education Law

COMMENTS: This bill would amend the Maine education law as it pertains to the teaching of virtue and morality in public and private institutions.

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SPONSOR: **Senator Nutting, J of Androscoggin**

LR: 2935 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Deter Environmental Terrorism in the State

COMMENTS: This bill would enact measures designed to discourage environmental terrorism.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Paradis of Frenchville**

LR: 2904 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Law Governing DNA Testing

COMMENTS: This bill would shift the burden of proof to the State in cases where DNA samples prove that the convicted person is not the perpetrator of the crime.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Pelletier-Simpson of Auburn**

LR: 2744 COU/APP

TITLE: Resolve, To Protect Drinking Water

COMMENTS: This resolve would require that aquifers in Maine be studied to ascertain their long-term sustainability.

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LR: 2883 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act Regarding Child Welfare Services Contracting

COMMENTS: This bill would protect against the appearance of conflicts of interest by separating child welfare contracts for assessment services from contracts for the provision of services to families in the child welfare system.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Perry, A of Calais**

LR: 2745 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Address the Problems Created by Substance Abuse in Maine

COMMENTS: This bill would provide greater funding for public and private substance abuse programs by increasing the premiums collected on the sales of distilled spirits, wine and sparkling wine and malt beverages.

CLOSELY RELATED CARRYOVERS: LD 1595

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LDS 841, 705

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2720 Faircloth

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SPONSOR: **Senator Plowman of Penobscot**

LR: 2573 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Place a Moratorium on the Imposition of the Sales Tax on Wood Stoves and Furnaces

COMMENTS: This bill places a moratorium for 10 months on the imposition of the sales tax on wood stoves and furnaces.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Robinson of Raymond**

LR: 2520 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Allow for Access to Digital Phone Service for  
Customers in Rural Areas

COMMENTS: This bill would allow customers in rural areas access to digital phone service  
provided through cable companies.

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LR: 2704 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Protect Small Payroll Processors

COMMENTS: This bill would provide for bonding through a state agency to small payroll  
processors who have not been able to access bonding through the marketplace.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LDS 58, 208

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SPONSOR: **Senator Rosen, R of Hancock**

LR: 2677 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Conform the Certificate of Need Law To Industry Standards

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit the State from disallowing reasonable construction  
contingency budgeting that is consistent with industry standards in a certificate of  
need application.

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LR: 2717 COU/APP

TITLE: Resolve, To Improve Quality and Access to Care through the Development of a  
Joint Strategic Plan

COMMENTS: This resolve would require Maine's 4 mental disease hospitals to jointly develop a  
comprehensive strategic plan for the provision of hospital-based mental health  
services. The plan must create a coordinated safety net of programs and services  
and must be submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human  
Services for approval and implementation.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Schatz of Blue Hill**

LR: 2968 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Improve the Public Hearing Process

COMMENTS: This bill would improve the public hearing process.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Senator Schneider of Penobscot**

LR: 2899 COU/APP

TITLE: Resolve, To Direct the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs To Review and Amend Warrants

COMMENTS: This resolve would have the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs review and amend the language concerning warrant funding to municipalities for education.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Sherman of Hodgdon**

LR: 2735 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Appropriate Funds To Fund the Office of the Maine-Canada Trade Ombudsman

COMMENTS: This bill would provide funds to fund the Office of the Maine-Canada Trade Ombudsman.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Smith, N of Monmouth**

LR: 2648 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Inform and Protect the Public Regarding State Employees with Certain Criminal Records

COMMENTS: This bill requires that any employee of the State of Maine who is in direct contact with the public and has been convicted of a sex offense or violent crime be required to have that record revealed to the public. The public will have the option of requesting a different employee.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2649 Smith, N

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2650 Smith, N

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SPONSOR: **Representative Smith, W of Van Buren**

LR: 2756 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act to Protect Retirement Funds

COMMENTS: This bill would exempt from creditors all retirement funds, including IRAs.

JOINT RULE 217 RULING NEEDED: LD 948

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Smith, W of Van Buren**

LR: 2764 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Preserve Patient Records

COMMENTS: This bill would prohibit hospitals or other medical providers from destroying x-ray, CT or MRI films without patient permission.

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LR: 2834 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Preserve Citizens' Access to the Courts

COMMENTS: This bill would require a provision of a contract requiring binding arbitration or denying access to Maine courts to be specifically agreed to in writing in order to be enforceable.

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LR: 2840 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Limit Double-dipping of Retirement Funds

COMMENTS: This bill would repeal the law passed by the 120th Legislature that allowed retirees in the Maine State Retirement System to return to employment without a reduction in benefits.

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LR: 2987 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Revise the Unemployment Law

COMMENTS: This bill would require employers whose employees draw more benefits than are paid in by the employer to pay increased unemployment contributions.

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SPONSOR: **Senator Strimling of Cumberland**

LR: 2471 COU/APP

TITLE: Resolve, To Direct the Maine State Retirement System To Divest Certain Holdings

COMMENTS: This resolve directs the Maine State Retirement System to divest any holdings it has in the countries of Sudan and Uganda due to their human rights violations.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Senator Strimling of Cumberland**

LR: 2571 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Provide Notification to a Person Who Holds a Protection from Abuse Order When the Person against Whom the Order Is Held Attempts To Purchase a Firearm

COMMENTS: This bill provides notification to a person who holds a protection from abuse order when the person against whom the order is held attempts to purchase a firearm.

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SPONSOR: **Senator Sullivan of York**

LR: 2655 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Amend the Maine Consumer Credit Code as It Relates to Finance Charges for Loans on Open-end Credit

COMMENTS: This bill exempts home equity lines of credit accessed by a credit card from the provision of law that prohibits the imposition of a finance charge on purchases made during a billing cycle if they are paid for not later than 25 days after the closing date of that billing cycle.

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LR: 2670 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Include Dental Screening with Other Preschool Testing for Maine's Children

COMMENTS: This bill would add dental screenings to the hearing and vision screenings given to children before they start school.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2993 Dudley

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SPONSOR: **Representative Tardy of Newport**

LR: 2814 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Access Federal Money for Health Insurance Reform

COMMENTS: This bill would require the State to apply for federal money that is being made available to states by Congress.

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LR: 2815 COU/APP

TITLE: Resolve, To Investigate Causes of State Computer Malfunctions

COMMENTS: This resolve would require that an investigation be done to find out the cause of the state computer malfunctions.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Tardy of Newport**

LR: 2816 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Restore Fairness in Funding Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education

COMMENTS: This bill would adjust the essential programs and funding formula to take into account shifting labor markets and issues surrounding transportation of students.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2765 Goldman

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SPONSOR: **Representative Thomas of Ripley**

LR: 2758 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Increase the Penalties for Bomb Scares

COMMENTS: This bill would increase the penalties for calling in a bomb threat at a school.

CLOSELY RELATED LEGISLATOR REQ: LR 2909 Dow

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SPONSOR: **Representative Thompson of China**

LR: 2475 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Clarify Prescription Drug Labels

COMMENTS: This bill would require that pharmacies include on prescription bottle labels the name of the medication that was written on the doctor's prescription. In this way, if the pharmacy fills the prescription with a generic drug, the patient will be able to identify the medication and take the medication in accordance with the doctor's instructions.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Trahan of Waldoboro**

LR: 2660 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Clarify the Status of the Seaweed Harvesting Industry as a Public Resource

COMMENTS: This bill would clarify that the seaweed industry is a public resource.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Tuttle of Sanford**

LR: 2508 COU/APP

TITLE: Resolve, To Create a Joint Select Committee To Study Agent Purple

COMMENTS: This resolve establishes a joint select committee to study the effects of Agent Purple.

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122ND LEGISLATURE - SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
BILL REQUESTS APPEALED

SPONSOR: **Representative Tuttle of Sanford**

LR: 2608 COU/APP

TITLE: Resolve, To Expedite a Workers' Compensation Case

COMMENTS: This resolve directs the Joint Standing Committee on Labor to review the case of Joseph Greenier (Workers Compensation Board Case #89021459E) and make recommendations to the board for resolution of the case.

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LR: 2609 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Increase Wheelchair Reimbursement Rates

COMMENTS: This bill increases the wheelchair reimbursement rate under MaineCare.

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SPONSOR: **Representative Valentino of Saco**

LR: 2865 COU/APP

TITLE: An Act To Require Approval of the Gambling Control Board for the Transfer of Any Ownership in an Off-track Betting Facility

COMMENTS: This bill would require the approval of the Gambling Control Board for the transfer of any ownership in an off-track betting facility.

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LR: 2866 COU/APP

TITLE: Resolve, To Consolidate the Jurisdiction over Any Entity Involved in Gambling

COMMENTS: This resolve would give control over any entity involved in gambling, gaming, wagering, lottery or games of chance to the Gambling Control Board.

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Number of appealed requests: 93