

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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123RD LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



**Bill Requests Received before Cloture
on October 3, 2007 and Submitted for
Consideration by the Legislative Council
on October 25, 2007.**

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

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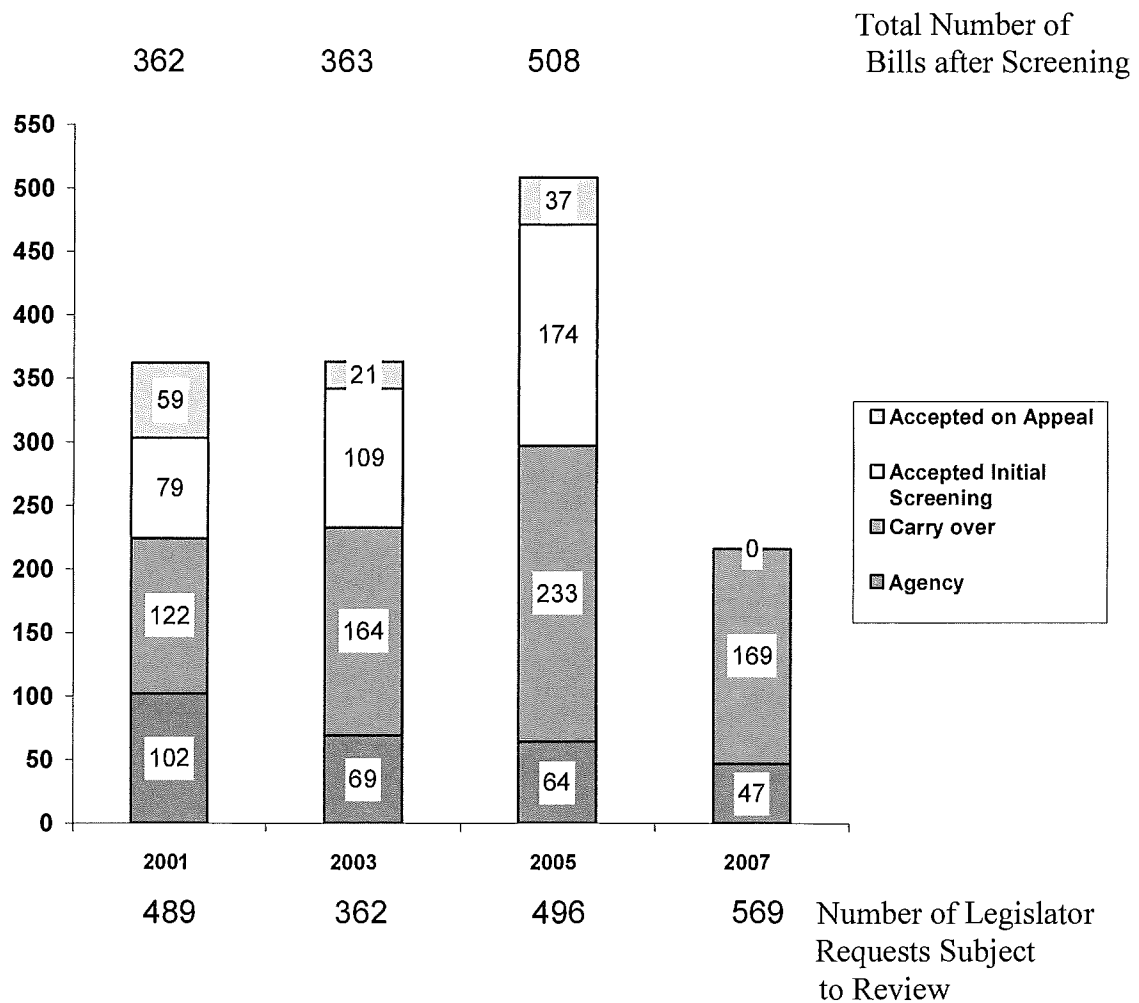
PART

1. Introduction and Reference Material
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PART 1

INTRODUCTION

This volume contains the bill requests submitted by Legislators before cloture on October 3, 2007 that are proposed for introduction in the Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature. The requests are listed in Part 2 and are arranged by subject matter. Each request is indicated by a title, followed by a short summary of the bill request and, where applicable, cross-references to other requests that appear to be related. We have also identified requests that may be precluded by Joint Rule 217 with cross-references to the possible conflicting LDs from last session.



The graph above shows categories of bill requests for this session and the past three second regular sessions.

Two years ago, in 2005, out of a total of 496 precloture legislator requests to review, 174 were admitted at the initial screening and 37 at the appeal screening for a total of 211 legislator bills accepted.

Four years ago, in 2003, out of a total of 362 precloture legislator requests to review, 109 were admitted at the initial screening and 21 at the appeal screening for a total of 130 legislator bills accepted.

Six years ago, in 2001, out of a total of 489 precloture legislator requests to review, 79 were admitted at the initial screening and 59 at the appeal screening for a total of 138 legislator bills accepted.

This year a total of 47 agency and independent bills were filed, as compared to 64 in 2005, 69 in 2003 and 102 in 2001.

Additionally, the workload of the Legislature includes 169 carryovers for the upcoming session, as compared to 233 in 2005, 164 in 2003 and 122 in 2001.

Included as separate parts at the rear of this volume are:

- Part 3. A list of bills arranged alphabetically by sponsor;
- Part 4. A list of bills that are being carried over into the Second Regular Session;
- Part 5. A list of approved studies; and
- Part 6. A list of agency bills already submitted arranged by subject matter.

Constitution of Maine

Article IV

Part Third

Legislative Power.

Section 1. To meet annually; power of Legislature to convene itself at other times; extent of legislative power. The Legislature shall convene on the first Wednesday of December following the general election in what shall be designated the first regular session of the Legislature; and shall further convene on the first Wednesday after the first Tuesday of January in the subsequent even-numbered year in what shall be designated the second regular session of the Legislature; provided, however, that the business of the second regular session of the Legislature shall be limited to *budgetary matters*; legislation in the Governor's call; *legislation of an emergency nature admitted by the Legislature*; legislation referred to committees for study and report by the Legislature in the first regular session; and legislation presented to the Legislature by written petition of the electors under the provisions of Article IV, Part Third, Section 18. The Legislature shall enact appropriate statutory limits on the length of the first regular session and of the second regular session. The Legislature may convene at such other times on the call of the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House, with the consent of a majority of the Members of the Legislature of each political party, all Members of the Legislature having been first polled. The Legislature, with the exceptions hereinafter stated, shall have full power to make and establish all reasonable laws and regulations for the defense and benefit of the people of this State, not repugnant to this Constitution, nor to that of the United States.

122nd LEGISLATURE

JOINT RULES

Joint Rule 217. Measures Rejected at a Prior Session.

A bill, resolve, constitutional resolution, resolution, memorial or order that has been *introduced and finally rejected* in a regular or special session may not be introduced in a subsequent regular or special session of the same Legislature except by vote of 2/3 of both chambers.

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

**AGRICULTURE DEPT
POWERS**

LR: 3021

Sponsor: Representative Jacobsen of Waterboro

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources To Determine whether Ethanol Production in this State Would Benefit Maine Agriculture

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to determine whether ethanol production in this State would benefit Maine agriculture and, if it determines that it would, to make recommendations regarding ethanol production.

**ANIMALS
ADOPTION**

LR: 3186

Sponsor: Representative Sutherland of Chapman

Title: An Act Regarding Deposits for Spaying and Neutering Animals Rescued from Shelters

Comments: This bill would require a person adopting an unaltered animal from an animal shelter to pay the deposit directly to the veterinary hospital performing the spaying or neutering.

Closely Related CO: LD 680

**ANIMALS
BREEDERS**

LR: 3230

Sponsor: Senator Damon of Hancock

Title: An Act To Amend the Animal Welfare Laws Pertaining to Breeding Kennels

Comments: This bill would distinguish between the various types of animal breeders, such as volume, backyard and hobby or show, and regulate each differently based on the type of breeding being done. Certain volume breeding would be prohibited. This bill would also redefine "kennel" as used for breeding purposes.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2754 Representative Pratt

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3026 Representative Pieh

**ANIMALS
DOGS**

LR: 2754

Sponsor: Representative Pratt of Eddington

Title: An Act To Ensure Ethical and Humane Dog Breeding in the State

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to address the inhumane breeding standards of so-called "puppy mills" in the State. This bill would outlaw the most egregious dog breeding practices and would establish a Maine humane dog breeding standard.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3026 Representative Pieh

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3230 Senator Damon

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

ANIMALS PETS

LR: 3026

Sponsor: Representative Pieh of Bremen

Title: An Act Concerning Animal Welfare

Comments: This bill would amend the animal welfare laws to change the requirement concerning vendors' licenses for selling cats and dogs for sales of one litter or part of a litter. This bill would also direct the Attorney General and the Bureau of Public Safety to implement a reporting program when a motor vehicle hits or injures a pet animal, patterned after the program concerning motor vehicles striking a moose or deer.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2754 Representative Pratt

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3230 Senator Damon

FARMS PROMOTION

LR: 2835

Sponsor: Representative Percy of Phippsburg

Title: Resolve, Establishing the Local and Organic Food, Fish and Farm Task Force

Comments: This resolve would establish the Local and Organic Food, Fish and Farm Task Force to develop a plan containing policy and funding recommendations for expanding and supporting a statewide local and organic food system and for assessing and overcoming obstacles to an increase in locally grown food and local organic food production.

ORGANIZATIONS BARGAINING COUNCILS

LR: 2832

Sponsor: Senator Martin of Aroostook

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing agricultural marketing and bargaining.

PRODUCTS BLUEBERRIES

LR: 3197

Sponsor: Senator Weston of Waldo

Title: An Act To Reduce Wild Blueberry Theft

Comments: This bill would increase the penalties for violation of the laws regarding transportation and receipt of wild blueberries. The bill would also clarify the law regarding issuance of permits for transportation of wild blueberries.

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

**PUBLIC LANDS
ACCESS**

LR: 3236

Sponsor: Representative Pratt of Eddington

Title: An Act To Secure Access to Publicly Owned Lands

Comments: This bill would require that Maine residents be able to access public reserve lands for day use without having to pay gate or road fees. It would require the Department of Conservation to ensure that access to public reserve lands located inside larger tracks of land such as the North Maine Woods gate system would be accessible to residents for day use free of charge.

**PUBLIC LANDS
SUBMERGED LANDS**

LR: 2980

Sponsor: Representative Flood of Winthrop

Title: An Act To Repeal the Cap on Rental Rates for State Submerged Lands

Comments: This bill would repeal the current cap of \$1,200 per year on rental rates for submerged lands leased from the State.

LR: 3313

Sponsor: Senator Brannigan of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Authorize the City of Portland To Lease Submerged Lands for Longer than 30 Years

Comments: This bill would require the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation to lease submerged lands under and adjacent to certain port facilities in the City of Portland to the city for not less than 75 years nor more than 99 years. It also would provide that the submerged lands may not be sold by the city but may only be leased and that the city shall manage the submerged lands in trust for the benefit of the public.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3332 Speaker Cummings

LR: 3332

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

Title: An Act To Authorize the City of Portland To Lease Submerged Lands for Longer than 30 Years

Comments: The bill would allow the City of Portland to lease submerged lands for longer than 30 years.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3313 Senator Brannigan

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SVC DEPT POWERS

LR: 2938

Sponsor: Representative Lansley of Sabattus

Title: An Act To Implement State Funding Accountability and Transparency

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to establish a publicly accessible website that includes budget and expenditure information such as the department making the expenditure, the amount, the recipient and the source of the funds as well as copies of contracts or agreements entered into by the State.

SPENDING CRIMINAL JUSTICE

LR: 2763

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

Title: An Act To Create a Catastrophic Illness Fund To Help Firefighters, Police Officers, Emergency Medical Technicians, Paramedics and Their Families

Comments: This bill would create a catastrophic illness fund to help firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians, paramedics and their families.

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

SPENDING

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR: 2825

Sponsor: Representative Priest of Brunswick

Title: An Act To Appropriate Funds to the Dirigo Health Program

Comments: This bill would appropriate sufficient funds to the Dirigo Health Program in order to enable it to self-administer.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3143 Representative Pingree

LR: 2981

Sponsor: Senator Gooley of Franklin

Title: Resolve, To Reimburse Edgewood Rehabilitation and Living Center for Services Rendered

Comments: This resolve would appropriate \$16,500 to be used to reimburse Edgewood Rehabilitation and Living Center in Farmington for the care rendered to a resident of the center.

LR: 2991

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

Title: An Act To Appropriate Funds to the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention for Lyme Disease Prevention and Outreach

Comments: This bill would appropriate \$200,000 to the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention for Lyme disease prevention and outreach.

LR: 3139

Sponsor: Representative Perry, A. of Calais

Title: An Act To Implement a Consent Judgment Regarding Oxycontin Abuse

Comments: This bill would require the Treasurer of State to transfer funds received from a consent judgment in the amount of \$719,000 to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Substance Abuse for the purpose of funding prescription drug abuse prevention programs which the funds are intended for in the consent judgment.

LR: 3154

Sponsor: Representative Connor of Kennebunk

Title: An Act To Fund the Children's Immunization Program

Comments: This bill would provide funding for the children's immunization program so that the program can provide vaccines to children according to guidelines established by the federal Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

SPENDING

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR: 3262

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Ensure Continued Operation of the Poison Hotline

Comments: This bill would appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services for a grant to the Northern New England Poison Center to continue operation of the poison hotline. The amount of the appropriation would be \$170,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$680,000 in fiscal year 2009.

SPENDING

TRANSPORTATION

LR: 3205

Sponsor: Senator Raye of Washington

Title: An Act To Provide for the Construction of a Warehouse in Eastport

Comments: This bill would provide \$1,200,000 to the Department of Transportation for the construction of a warehouse at the port of Eastport.

STATE FINANCES

BUDGET PROCEDURES

LR: 2753

Sponsor: Senator Strimling of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Require the State To Divest Itself of Funds from Companies Doing Business with Iran

Comments: This bill would require the State to divest itself of funds from companies that do business with Iran.

STATE FINANCES

DEDICATED FUNDS

LR: 2751

Sponsor: Representative Makas of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Return a Percentage of Speeding Ticket Money to the Municipality

Comments: This bill would dedicate a percentage of money paid for a speeding ticket to the municipality where the moving violation occurred. The money would be strictly for municipal law enforcement costs for salaries and overtime payments.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3126 Representative Grose

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

STATE FINANCES

REVENUE SHARING

LR: 3126

Sponsor: Representative Grose of Woolwich

Title: An Act To Provide Relief to the Counties of the State

Comments: This bill would require the State to return percentages of funds collected for traffic violations to the counties to enable the counties to hire more part-time staff in the sheriffs' offices.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2751 Representative Makas

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BUSINESS PRACTICES

DAMAGE REIMBURSEMENTS

LR: 3296

Sponsor: Senator Perry, J. of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Hold Private Snowplow Contractors Liable for Failure To Perform Their Duties

Comments: This bill would hold private snowplow contractors liable for damages resulting from failure to perform the duties outlined in their contracts.

BUSINESS PRACTICES

GASOLINE STATIONS

LR: 3350

Sponsor: Senator Gooley of Franklin

Title: An Act To Require a Seller of a Gas Station To Provide an Update Inspection Prior to Sale of the Property

Comments: This bill would require the seller of a gas station to provide the prospective buyer with an updated inspection of the condition of the storage tanks.

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BUSINESS PRACTICES

SALES

LR: 2746

Sponsor: Representative Conover of Oakland

Title: An Act To Ensure That Children's Toys and Products Are Free of Lead

Comments: This bill would direct the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention to use a portion of the funds in the lead poisoning prevention fund to test products that are customarily used by children for lead.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2830 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2877 Representative Pingree

LR: 2830

Sponsor: Representative Pingree of North Haven

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Sale of Toys That Have Been Recalled by the Federal Consumer Product Safety Commission

Comments: This bill would prohibit the sale of toys that have been recalled by the federal Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2746 Representative Conover

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2877 Representative Pingree

LR: 2874

Sponsor: Representative Jackson of Allagash

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Sale of Energy Drinks to Minors

Comments: This bill would prohibit the sale of energy drinks to minors.

LR: 2875

Sponsor: Representative McFadden of Dennysville

Title: An Act To Require That Sellers of Scrap Metal Provide Identification

Comments: This bill would require that sellers of scrap metal provide identification in an effort to prevent the rising theft of copper and other increasingly expensive metals.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2955 Representative Thibodeau

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3141 Representative Koffman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3240 Representative Berry

LR: 2877

Sponsor: Representative Pingree of North Haven

Title: An Act To Protect Children's Health and the Environment from Toxic Chemicals in Toys and Children's Products

Comments: This bill would create a system for identifying, testing and listing known dangerous chemicals in products sold in the State that are intended for children.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2746 Representative Conover

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2830 Representative Pingree

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**BUSINESS PRACTICES
SALES**

LR: 2972

Sponsor: Representative Sykes of Harrison

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Retail Sale or Distribution of Novelty Lighters

Comments: This bill would prohibit the retail sale or distribution of novelty lighters.

LR: 3328

Sponsor: Representative Eaton of Sullivan

Title: An Act To Require Large Retailers To Disclose the State's Implied Warranty Law to Customers

Comments: This bill would require large retailers to disclose the State's implied warranty law to customers.

**BUSINESS PRACTICES
TELEPHONE SOLICITATION**

LR: 3109

Sponsor: Senator Bartlett of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Clarify Maine's "Do Not Call" Law

Comments: This bill would expand exemptions under the state "Do Not Call" law to parallel federal law concerning existing business relationships.

**BUSINESS PRACTICES
VIDEO RENTALS**

LR: 2818

Sponsor: Senator Marrache of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Prevent Minors from Accessing Mature Videos

Comments: This bill would require minors to show valid identification in order to rent videos and movies with an R rating or higher.

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**CONTAINERS - RETURNABLE
BOTTLES**

LR: 2820

Sponsor: Senator Sullivan of York

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Bottle Redemption and Establish the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources as the Agent in the State for Purposes of Bottle Redemption

Comments: This bill would increase by one cent the amount that may be retained by redemption centers that are licensed and authorized through the State, and it would establish the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources as the agent in the State for purposes of bottle redemption.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD'S 748, 749, 1657 and 1696

LR: 2821

Sponsor: Senator Sullivan of York

Title: An Act To Establish a Statewide Bank System for Returnable Bottles

Comments: This bill would establish a "statewide bank" system for returnable bottles within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. Under this system, distributors would no longer be directly responsible for the empty containers or for reimbursement of applicable fees.

LR: 2920

Sponsor: Representative Fletcher of Winslow

Title: An Act To Provide Returnable Container Flexibility for Small Commercial Establishments

Comments: This bill would change the "initiator of deposit" fee to \$50 per year for small business retail sales that place a deposit requirement on specialty containers subject to the returnable criteria if the annual total volume of containers labeled for deposit is less than 50,000 containers. The initiator of deposit in this category would be able to affix self-stick labels as is currently permitted for low-volume wine producers and distributors in the State.

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
BUSINESS ASSISTANCE**

LR: 3181

Sponsor: Representative Smith, N. of Monmouth

Title: An Act Regarding the Maine Regulatory Fairness Board

Comments: This bill would allow the members of the Maine Regulatory Fairness Board to be reimbursed for their expenses.

LR: 3320

Sponsor: Senator Mitchell of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Advance the Maine Economy

Comments: This bill would implement specific programs to attract, retain and expand business opportunities in the State through the creation of a Maine expansion fund; development of an advanced entrepreneurial training program; streamlining environmental permitting at the state and local levels; development of the Maine Green Energy Investment Fund, to be similar to the Massachusetts Green Energy Fund; better alignment of Maine's business development network with the State's potential economic growth areas; and enhancing connections between Maine's industry needs and workforce development programs, including the community college system and university system.

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING**

LR: 2987

Sponsor: Representative Pendleton of Scarborough

Title: Resolve, To Determine Methods of Securing a Trained Laboratory Workforce for Maine

Comments: This resolve would require the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Innovation to convene a working group to study and report back to the Legislature with methods of overcoming a shortfall of trained laboratory workers.

LR: 3003

Sponsor: Senator Mitchell of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Create the York County Regional Development Authority

Comments: This bill would create a regional development authority that would have as its eligible members any municipalities located within York County that vote, pursuant to procedures specified in the laws creating the authority, to become members of that authority. The regional development authority would have broad authority to engage in activities to promote, facilitate and conduct economic development through the creating of jobs, educational programs, workforce housing and other related activities that would all take place through a coordinated, cooperative regional effort among members of the regional development authority.

LR: 3090

Sponsor: Senator Hastings of Oxford

Title: An Act To Authorize Acreage in the Town of Baldwin To Be Designated as a Pine Tree Development Zone

Comments: This bill would authorize acreage in the Town of Baldwin to be designated as a Pine Tree Development Zone. The bill would change the classification of the labor market of the Town of Baldwin from the Portland market to a more appropriate market.

LR: 3167

Sponsor: Representative Eaton of Sullivan

Title: An Act To Promote Revitalization and Redevelopment

Comments: This bill would create a program to make strategic investments for downtowns and main streets. The program would be modeled on the Land for Maine's Future program.
JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 918

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING**

LR: 3233

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Expand Economic Development Opportunities

Comments: This bill would add the Town of Freeport to the list of communities that are eligible for designation as military redevelopment zones, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 5250-I, subsection 11-A.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP COMM**

LR: 3149

Sponsor: Senator Bromley of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Strengthen the Maine Small Business and Entrepreneurship Commission

Comments: This bill would improve the functioning of the Maine Small Business and Entrepreneurship Commission by enhancing members' terms and appointments and increasing the duties of the commission.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPT
PLANNING**

LR: 2895

Sponsor: Senator Marrache of Kennebec

Title: Resolve, To Require that the Department of Economic and Community Development Establish an Independent Review Board

Comments: This bill would require that the Department of Economic and Community Development establish an ongoing and permanent review board to review studies submitted by research and development companies

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**FINANCE AUTHORITY
PROGRAMS**

LR: 2904

Sponsor: Senator Mitchell of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Provide Accessible Higher Education Assistance for Maine Families

Comments: This bill would amend certain provisions of the Finance Authority of Maine's existing authority to finance educational loans to ensure the ability of the Finance Authority of Maine to originate such loans.

LR: 2941

Sponsor: Representative Makas of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Include Occupational Therapists in the Educators for Maine Program

Comments: This bill would include occupational therapists in the Educators for Maine Program.

LR: 3185

Sponsor: Representative Sutherland of Chapman

Title: An Act To Ensure the Availability of Health Care Providers in Rural Areas

Comments: This bill would provide incentives, such as tax credits for tuition paid to non-Maine colleges and universities, to health care providers working in rural Maine.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1815

**HOMELESS PERSONS
EMERGENCY SHELTER**

LR: 3370

Sponsor: Representative Adams of Portland

Title: An Act To Assist Maine Communities with Transitional Housing Support

Comments: This bill would target funds from the Housing Opportunities for Maine Program for the creation of transitional homeless housing in areas of the State where there is an acute need as determined by the Maine State Housing Authority.

**INDUSTRIES
CONSTRUCTION**

LR: 3002

Sponsor: Representative Haskell of Portland

Title: An Act To Amend the Public Works Contractors' Surety Bond Law

Comments: This bill would increase the threshold amount of a contract to construct or repair a public building at which bonds are required from \$100,000 to \$250,000. This bill would also allow a letter of credit to be used in lieu of a bond, at the discretion of the public entity awarding the contract.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2969 Representative Crockett

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

INDUSTRIES

ENTERTAINMENT

LR: 3037

Sponsor: Representative Greeley of Levant

Title: An Act To Legalize Mixed Martial Arts Competitions

Comments: This bill would legalize mixed martial arts competitions.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2757 Representative Tuttle

LICENSING

ATHLETIC COMMISSION

LR: 2757

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

Title: An Act To Allow the Maine Athletic Commission To Regulate Mixed Martial Art Competitions in the State

Comments: This bill would allow the Maine Athletic Commission to regulate mixed martial art competitions in the State.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3037 Representative Greeley

LICENSING

ENGINEERS

LR: 2839

Sponsor: Senator Nass, R. of York

Title: An Act To Require That Persons Who Perform Engineering Work in Commercial Buildings Be Licensed

Comments: This bill would require that a person who installs air conditioning units in commercial buildings be licensed by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers.

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**LICENSING
NURSES**

LR: 2882

Sponsor: Representative Perry, A. of Calais

Title: An Act To Authorize the State Board of Nursing To Order the Physical or Mental Examination of a Licensed Nurse

Comments: This bill would authorize the State Board of Nursing to order the physical or mental examination of a licensed nurse.

LR: 2883

Sponsor: Representative Perry, A. of Calais

Title: An Act To Clarify the Licensure of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

Comments: This bill would change the language providing for authority to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse. Under the bill, licensure would be a one-step process rather than the two-step process currently in place.

LR: 3275

Sponsor: Representative Pendleton of Scarborough

Title: An Act To Protect Nurses from Mandatory Overtime and Other Requirements

Comments: This bill would prohibit employers from disciplining or removing any right, benefit or privilege of a registered nurse, licensed practical nurse or licensed nursing assistant for refusing to work overtime. The bill would also regulate the practice of requiring nursing staff to be on call.

**LICENSING
PHYSICAL THERAPISTS**

LR: 3182

Sponsor: Senator Bromley of Cumberland

Title: An Act Regarding the Board of Examiners in Physical Therapy

Comments: This bill would increase the number of physical therapists on the Board of Examiners in Physical Therapy from 2 to 3.

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LICENSING

RADIOLOGICAL TECHNICIANS

LR: 3338

Sponsor: Senator Turner of Cumberland

Title: An Act Regarding the Training of Applicants for a Limited Radiographer License by Licensed Practitioners

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing medical radiation health and safety as they relate to the award of a limited radiographer license by the Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners to provide that an applicant may train in the use of fluoroscope equipment if under the direct supervision of a licensed practitioner.

LICENSING

SCRAP METAL PROCESSORS

LR: 3141

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act To Regulate Scrap Metal Processors

Comments: This bill would define scrap metal processors, their responsibility to segregate scrap material and, upon receipt of scrap metal loads, their responsibility to photograph and maintain records of the specific loads and the vehicles delivering those loads.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2875 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2955 Representative Thibodeau

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3240 Representative Berry

LICENSING

UNDERGROUND TANK INSTALLERS

LR: 3280

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act To Clarify the Enforcement Authority of the Board of Underground Storage Tank Installers in Addressing Uncertified Practices

Comments: This bill would amend the law governing certification of underground oil storage tank installers by the Board of Underground Storage Tank Installers. It would give the board authority, consistent with the authority enjoyed by other state boards and commissions under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, section 8003-C, to pursue disciplinary action for uncertified practice.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

**CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS
MANAGEMENT**

LR: 2846

Sponsor: Representative Gerzofsky of Brunswick

Title: An Act To Reduce Property Taxes, Eliminate Duplication and Streamline Government by Unifying the State Prisons and County Jails

Comments: This bill would merge the county jails and state prisons under one unified state agency.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2952 Representative Crockett

LR: 2952

Sponsor: Representative Crockett of Augusta

Title: An Act To Better Coordinate and Reduce the Cost of the Delivery of State and County Correctional Services

Comments: This bill would establish the Joint State-County Corrections Authority, which would be empowered to do the following: 1. Direct the management of the inmate populations of the county and state corrections facilities and programs as necessary to achieve maximum utilization of existing resources, consistent with best correctional practices and public safety; 2. Oversee the transport of inmates by county and state correctional facilities in order to reduce the overall cost of inmate transport in the State, consistent with the interests of security, other governmental agencies, including the courts, and the needs of the inmates; 3. Ensure that the counties and the State maximize the use of alternatives to incarceration, consistent with best correctional practices and the protection of public safety; 4. Review and approve all requests for construction of new or expanded county or state correctional facilities through a certificate of need process; and 5. Conduct inspections of and to accredit county and state correctional facilities.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2846 Representative Gerzofsky

**CORRECTIONS DEPT
ADMINISTRATION**

LR: 2924

Sponsor: Representative Canavan of Waterville

Title: An Act To Establish an Ombudsman for Mentally Ill Inmates

Comments: This bill would establish an ombudsman for mentally ill inmates.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2923 Representative Canavan

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

CRIMES

ABUSE AND NEGLECT

LR: 3237

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Strengthen Criminal Laws against Domestic Violence

Comments: This bill would amend Public Law 2007, chapter 436 to implement the intent of the proponents of the law. It would ensure that instances of domestic violence that occurred before the effective date of the law are considered when determining whether an assault or other violence that occurs after the effective date is part of a course of conduct that justifies a higher criminal penalty.

CRIMES

COMPUTER

LR: 2734

Sponsor: Representative Boland of Sanford

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Required Implanting of a Microchip in a Person

Comments: This bill would prohibit a person from requiring an individual to receive a microchip implant into that individual's body and establish a civil violation with a fine of \$10,000 per offense that may be adjudged.

LR: 2840

Sponsor: Senator Bartlett of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Preserve Internet Security

Comments: This bill would make it a crime for a person to access another person's computer that is connected wirelessly to the Internet.

LR: 3158

Sponsor: Representative Thibodeau of Winterport

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Crime of Soliciting a Child by a Computer To Commit a Prohibited Act

Comments: This bill would increase from a Class D crime to a Class C crime the crime of soliciting a child by a computer to commit a prohibited act when the child is less than 14 years of age.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

CRIMES

NEW

LR: 2893

Sponsor: Representative Crockett of Augusta

Title: An Act To Establish the Crime of Negligent Motor Vehicle Homicide

Comments: This bill would establish a new Class D crime with permissive sentences of up to 364 days incarceration and a \$2,000 fine for death caused by the negligent operation of a motor vehicle or while committing a traffic violation.

LR: 3043

Sponsor: Representative Kaenrath of South Portland

Title: An Act To Create the Crime of Producing Graffiti

Comments: This bill would create the Class D crime of producing graffiti.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

CRIMES

SEX OFFENSES

LR: 2802

Sponsor: Representative Duprey of Hampden

Title: An Act To Protect Children in Schools, Day Care Centers and Churches

Comments: This bill would require all registered sex offenders to notify school office staff or day care directors of the sex offender's registration status if the sex offender is to be picking up the sex offender's own children or children authorized to be picked up at a school or a day care center. Registered sex offenders will be prohibited from being unescorted in a school or a day care center. A sex offender must also notify church office staff of registry status if the sex offender wishes to teach Sunday school for children under 18 years of age at a church. Violation would be a Class D crime.

LR: 2848

Sponsor: Representative Hill of York

Title: An Act To Strengthen the Crime of Visual Sexual Aggression against a Child

Comments: This bill would strengthen the crime of visual sexual aggression against a child by adding to the crime exposure made in a public place as well as a private place. This bill will close a loophole that prohibited prosecution of a person who exposed that person's self to a child in a public place.

LR: 2861

Sponsor: Representative Hinck of Portland

Title: An Act To Require Certain Sex Offenders To Register Their Online Identifiers

Comments: This bill would require convicted pedophiles to provide their online identifiers such as e-mail addresses and other electronic identities for inclusion on registries of convicted sex offenders; allow limited release of online identifier information in the sex offender registry to a limited number of entities such as Internet service providers, instant messaging companies and social networking sites; and establish the crime of age misrepresentation with intent to solicit a minor. Those subject to the requirement to register would be limited to convicted sex offenders whose victims at the time of the violation were 15 years of age or younger.

Closely Related CO: LD 446

LR: 3106

Sponsor: Representative Gerzofsky of Brunswick

Title: An Act To Modify the Law Governing the Sex Offender Registry

Comments: This bill would make changes to the law governing the sex offender registry to ensure that the registry is both constitutional and effective.

Closely Related CO: LD 446

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3188 Representative Pinkham

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

CRIMES

SEX OFFENSES

LR: 3188

Sponsor: Representative Pinkham of Lexington Township

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Sex Offender Registry

Comments: This bill would repeal requirements for sex offenders to register retroactively for crimes committed prior to September 17, 2005, except for those registrations specifically required under federal law. This bill would eliminate required registration in those instances where it would violate the state or federal constitution as suggested by John Doe v. District Attorney, which was decided September 25, 2007 by the Maine Law Court.

Closely Related CO: LD 446

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3106 Representative Gerzofsky

CRIMES

THEFTS

LR: 2955

Sponsor: Representative Thibodeau of Winterport

Title: An Act To Reduce the Theft of Catalytic Converters

Comments: This bill would require a person possessing or transporting a used catalytic converter or a new catalytic converter that was removed from a vehicle to provide the make, model and vehicle identification number of the vehicle to which the catalytic converter was attached to a law enforcement officer upon the request of that officer. Failure to do so would be a Class E crime. The bill also would require licensed recycling yards to keep a record of the names of the sellers and vehicle identification numbers connected with catalytic converters that they purchase.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2875 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3141 Representative Koffman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3240 Representative Berry

LR: 3240

Sponsor: Representative Berry of Bowdoinham

Title: An Act To Prevent the Theft and Recycling of Certain Metals

Comments: This bill would require scrap dealers to authenticate that copper, beer kegs or catalytic converters brought to them for processing are not stolen property.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2875 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2955 Representative Thibodeau

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3141 Representative Koffman

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

CRIMINAL HISTORIES

CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS

LR: 3266

Sponsor: Representative Gerzofsky of Brunswick

Title: An Act To Clarify the Law Regarding the Collection of DNA

Comments: This bill would clarify recently enacted provisions of law regarding the collection of DNA from persons convicted of felony crimes prior to January 1, 1996.

CRIMINAL HISTORIES

SCREENING

LR: 3218

Sponsor: Representative Cray of Palmyra

Title: An Act To Establish a Centralized Fingerprint Database of Those Employees Required To Be Fingerprinted for Employment

Comments: This bill would establish a centralized fingerprint database of those employees required to be fingerprinted for employment.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

ARRAIGNMENT

LR: 3179

Sponsor: Representative Mills, J. of Farmington

Title: An Act Regarding the Transfer Between Jails of Pretrial Detainees

Comments: This bill would address an inconsistency in current law regarding the transfer between jails of pretrial detainees.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

AMBULANCE SERVICES

LR: 2822

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

Title: An Act To Amend the Law Regarding First Responders for Emergency Services

Comments: This bill would allow a private ambulance company to respond first to a medical emergency if that company is closer than a municipal company and available.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM

LR: 3040

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

Title: Resolve, Directing Maine Emergency Medical Services To Study Methods To Protect Emergency Medical Services Personnel during the Transportation of Persons with Mental Illness

Comments: This resolve would establish a commission to study methods of protecting emergency medical services personnel during the transportation of persons with mental illness.

FIRE SAFETY PREVENTION

LR: 3146

Sponsor: Senator Mitchell of Kennebec

Title: An Act Regarding the Life Safety Code for Existing Places of Assembly

Comments: This bill would exempt places of assembly existing before the effective date of the 2006 Life Safety Code from the sprinkler installation requirement.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3229 Senator Martin

LR: 3229

Sponsor: Senator Martin of Aroostook

Title: An Act To Exempt Certain Facilities from Life Safety Code Sprinkler Requirements

Comments: This bill would grandfather existing facilities from the sprinkler requirement of the National Fire Protection Association Life Safety Code.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3146 Senator Mitchell

JUVENILE OFFENDERS JUVENILE CODE

LR: 2817

Sponsor: Senator Marrache of Kennebec

Title: Resolve, To Review the Maine Juvenile Code for Effectiveness Concerning Penalties

Comments: This resolve would direct the Department of Corrections to review the penalties established for juveniles and determine the penalties' effectiveness in helping juveniles. The department is to report to the Legislature with suggested changes.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

JUVENILE OFFENDERS
JUVENILE COURT

LR: 3259

Sponsor: Representative Perry, A. of Calais

Title: An Act To Provide Support for At-risk Children

Comments: This bill would create a program within the juvenile court system to address punishment and proactive treatment of at-risk youth.

LAW ENFORCEMENT
CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACADEMY

LR: 3034

Sponsor: Representative Pieh of Bremen

Title: An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy

Comments: This bill would implement the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy regarding training requirements for police officers.

LAW ENFORCEMENT
PROCEDURES

LR: 3095

Sponsor: Representative Greeley of Levant

Title: An Act To Provide Notice to Law Enforcement Officers That a Driver Is on Probation

Comments: This bill would notify a law enforcement officer that a driver is on probation when that officer performs a Maine driver's license query.

LAW ENFORCEMENT
SOLICITATION

LR: 3244

Sponsor: Representative Tardy of Newport

Title: An Act To Allow Limited Charitable Solicitations by Law Enforcement Associations

Comments: This bill would allow limited charitable solicitations by law enforcement associations in the event of a catastrophic illness, injury or event suffered by a law enforcement officer.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

**LAW ENFORCEMENT
STATE POLICE**

LR: 2812

Sponsor: Representative Beaudoin of Biddeford

Title: An Act To Appropriate Funds To Equip State Trooper Cars with Cages

Comments: This bill would appropriate sufficient funds to equip each state trooper vehicle with a vehicle security cage.

LR: 3038

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

Title: An Act To Improve the Working Conditions, Health and Personal Safety of Dispatchers at the Maine State Police Barracks in Gray, Maine

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to improve the working conditions, health and personal safety of dispatchers at the Maine State Police barracks in Gray, Maine.

**OPERATING UNDER INFLUENCE
PENALTIES**

LR: 3203

Sponsor: Senator Courtney of York

Title: An Act To Increase the Penalty for Operating under the Influence

Comments: This bill would amend current operating-under-the-influence laws by mandating a 10-year sentence for a death caused while operating under the influence after a prior conviction for operating under the influence, prohibiting operating under the influence from being plea-bargained to a lesser crime, and establishing reciprocity for operating under the influence committed in other states.

LR: 3345

Sponsor: Representative Peoples of Westbrook

Title: An Act To Require Ignition Interlock Systems for Drivers Convicted of Operating Under the Influence

Comments: This bill would require that all persons convicted of operating under the influence be required to install an ignition interlock device on their vehicle for a period of 2 years as a condition of having their license reinstated.

Closely Related CO: LD 856

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

**PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMUNICATIONS**

LR: 3354

Sponsor: Representative Bliss of South Portland

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Concerning the Maine Communications System Policy Board

Comments: This bill would allow the Maine Municipal Association to propose names for nomination for municipal officials for the Maine Communications System Policy Board.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

SENTENCES

ALTERNATIVES

LR: 2923

Sponsor: Representative Canavan of Waterville

Title: An Act To Facilitate the Diversion of Persons with Mental Illness and Substance Abuse Away from Incarceration through the Co-occurring Disorders Court

Comments: This bill would provide continued funding for the Kennebec County Co-occurring Disorders Court to allow it to continue the diversion of persons with significant mental illness, substance abuse disorders and criminal conduct from incarceration in county and state correctional facilities.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2924 Representative Canavan

LR: 3052

Sponsor: Representative Carter of Bethel

Title: An Act To Establish a Bracelet Monitoring Program for Persons Convicted of Minor Crimes

Comments: This bill would create a state bracelet program similar to the one now in the counties. The state program would also be able to accept qualified inmates from county jails that do not live in the county where incarcerated.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3174 Senator Benoit

LR: 3174

Sponsor: Senator Benoit of Sagadahoc

Title: An Act To Facilitate Behavioral Reform within the Department of Corrections

Comments: This bill would implement an ankle bracelet program for nonviolent prisoners in county jails and require them to participate in the New Horizons Academy program.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3052 Representative Carter

LR: 3239

Sponsor: Representative Cleary of Houlton

Title: An Act To Allow Community Service in Lieu of Fines

Comments: This bill would allow the court to order a person who fails to pay a fine to complete a community service requirement.

LR: 3330

Sponsor: Representative Perry, A. of Calais

Title: An Act To Enhance Public Safety and Savings through Expanded Alternatives to Incarceration

Comments: This bill would require the implementation of expanded screening and assessment in which all offenders convicted of a felony offense would participate in an evidence-based substance abuse screening and assessment process. The bill would require that the results of any screening and assessment of an offender be provided to the court prior to sentencing and would require treatment for substance abuse if considered necessary and appropriate.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

SENTENCES ENHANCED

LR: 2735

Sponsor: Representative Rector of Thomaston

Title: An Act Regarding the Sentencing of Certain Persons Convicted of Gross Sexual Assault against Victims under 12 Years of Age

Comments: This bill would require an enhanced prison sentence for a person who, knowing that he or she has a sexually transmitted disease, commits gross sexual assault against a child.

WEAPONS CONCEALED WEAPONS

LR: 2892

Sponsor: Representative Cebra of Naples

Title: An Act To Allow a Holder of a Concealed Weapons Permit To Carry a Weapon Anywhere in the State

Comments: This bill would allow a holder of a concealed weapons permit to carry a concealed weapon anywhere in the State, without restriction.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2906 Representative Fischer

WEAPONS POSSESSION

LR: 2906

Sponsor: Representative Fischer of Presque Isle

Title: An Act To Protect the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution during Times of Emergency

Comments: This bill would prohibit the seizure or confiscation of a firearm from a person lawfully in possession of that firearm, even during a declared state of emergency.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2892 Representative Cebra

WEAPONS SALES

LR: 2744

Sponsor: Representative Gerzofsky of Brunswick

Title: An Act Regarding the Sale of Firearms to Minors

Comments: This bill would prohibit the sale of a firearm to a person 16 years of age or older and under 18 years of age. It provides an exception for a sale by a parent, foster parent or guardian or a sale approved by a parent, foster parent or guardian.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

ADULT EDUCATION FUNDING

LR: 2968

Sponsor: Representative Crockett of Augusta

Title: An Act To Increase the State Subsidy for Adult Education within the Department of Education

Comments: This bill would increase the state subsidy for adult education within the Department of Education.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION

LR: 2928

Sponsor: Senator Mitchell of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Clarify Term Limits for Members of the State Board of Education

Comments: This bill would clarify that the 2 5-year term limit also applies to the current members of the State Board of Education.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2949 Representative Finch

LR: 2949

Sponsor: Representative Finch of Fairfield

Title: An Act Regarding the Application of Term Limits for the State Board of Education

Comments: This bill provides that term limits for members of the State Board of Education apply to current members as well as future appointees and that, if a person is appointed to fill a vacancy on the board and serves more than 1/2 of an unexpired term, that service counts as one term for the application of term limits.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2928 Senator Mitchell

BOARD OF EDUCATION POWERS

LR: 3060

Sponsor: Representative Connor of Kennebunk

Title: An Act To Develop and Implement a Strategic School Capital Plan

Comments: This bill would streamline the process by which we spend our school capital dollars by working from a strategic statewide plan rather than a patchwork of local proposals. This bill would propose that the State do an inventory of all the school buildings in the State to assess their status and maintenance needs. This inventory would be periodically updated. Based on the inventory, the State would develop a strategic plan for school capital investments that implements a fix-it-first policy and encourages collaboration across town and district lines to use the capacity we have before creating more. This bill would also propose that the State develop a plan for the long-term sustainability of the School Revolving Renovation Fund.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES DEGREE AUTHORITY

LR: 2930

Sponsor: Representative Connor of Kennebunk

Title: An Act To Provide Degree-granting Authority to the Landing School of Boatbuilding and Design

Comments: This bill would give the Landing School of Boatbuilding and Design the authority to grant degrees.

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

LR: 2765

Sponsor: Representative Makas of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Control the Costs of College Textbooks

Comments: This bill would prohibit the practice of bundling, which requires the purchase of other items with a textbook. It would require publishers to indicate textbook prices for educators to know when recommending textbooks and it would strengthen ethics issues in the textbook community.

LR: 3198

Sponsor: Representative Norton of Bangor

Title: An Act To Provide Postsecondary Institutions with More Authority To Protect Higher Education Personnel from Internet and Technology-based Defamation

Comments: This bill would authorize the trustees of postsecondary institutions to prohibit harassment of their faculty or staff, including harassment carried out via new technologies.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

LR: 3295

Sponsor: Representative Sutherland of Chapman

Title: An Act To Promote First-generation College Students

Comments: This bill would create scholarships for first-generation students of both traditional and nontraditional college age. The scholarship money would be funded through racino revenues.

LR: 3372

Sponsor: Representative Pratt of Eddington

Title: An Act To Provide Flexible Financial Aid and Create a Revolving Loan Fund for Nondependent Students

Comments: This bill would provide flexible financial aid and create a revolving loan fund to cover nonacademic expenses necessary to enable nondependent students to attend school.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

LR: 2911

Sponsor: Representative Eberle of South Portland

Title: Resolve, Authorizing the President of the Maine Community College System To Sell Two Parcels of Real Property in South Portland

Comments: This bill would authorize the Maine Community College System to sell two parcels of land in South Portland "as is," with no representations of warranties, by quit claim deed without covenant.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CONSOLIDATION

ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS

LR: 2772

Sponsor: Representative Finch of Fairfield

Title: An Act Regarding Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would amend the law governing the consolidation of school administrative units, which was enacted in the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

LR: 2787

Sponsor: Representative Clark of Millinocket

Title: An Act To Amend the Plan for the Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would amend the law governing the consolidation of school administrative units by specifying that it is the municipality, rather than the school administrative unit, that is responsible for forming a reorganization planning committee. This bill would also clarify that, unless specified exceptions apply, when circumstances justify an exception to the minimum size requirement of a school administrative unit, the unit must serve at least 1,200 students.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3059 Senator Hastings

LR: 2851

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

Title: An Act To Allow Regional School Units To Be Organized as School Unions

Comments: This bill would allow regional school units to be organized as school unions.

LR: 3011

Sponsor: Representative Miramant of Camden

Title: An Act To Allow Multiple Board Representation from Smaller Towns within Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would allow districts to override the 2% requirement in the interests of broader local representation within regional school units.

LR: 3031

Sponsor: Representative Percy of Phippsburg

Title: An Act To Equalize the Tax Burden for Education across Municipalities of the Lower Kennebec River Area

Comments: This bill would enact a mechanism to equalize the tax burden for education across municipalities authorized to regionalize in the lower Kennebec River area pursuant to Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 25. The bill would also authorize limiting choice for students from municipalities that join the regional school unit after the initial date of consolidation.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3121 Senator Benoit

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS**

LR: 3059

Sponsor: Senator Hastings of Oxford

Title: An Act To Clarify the Population Density Parameter under the Laws Governing School Administrative Unit Consolidation

Comments: This bill would specify that, for purposes of the law governing school administrative unit consolidation, a population density of less than 100 persons per square mile constitutes a justification for a proposed school unit's serving fewer than 2,500 students.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2787 Representative Clark

LR: 3062

Sponsor: Senator Mills, P. of Somerset

Title: An Act To Facilitate the Formation of the Northwest Maine Regional School Unit

Comments: This bill would encourage the formation of a regional school unit in northwest Maine comprised of Maine School Administrative District No. 12, Maine School Administrative District No. 13, the Town of Greenville, the Town of Shirley, Pleasant Ridge Plantation, Dennistown Plantation, Kingsbury Plantation, the Town of Beaver Cove, the Town of Caratunk, the Forks Plantation, West Forks Plantation and portions of the unorganized territory, including Rockwood. The bill would provide that the reorganization plan prepared by the Reorganization Planning Committee may include a cost-sharing formula applicable both to required local contributions and additional local funds based on valuation, number of pupils or other factors, and may include other cost-sharing transition provisions as determined by the Reorganization Planning Committee. The bill would authorize the Commissioner of Education to approve a reorganization plan for the proposed Northwest Regional School Unit with less than 1,200 resident pupils on the basis of geography, demographics, transportation and population density, but subject to a plan to reorganize administrative functions and noninstructional personnel so that projected expenditures for system administration, transportation, special education and facilities and maintenance will not have an adverse impact on the instructional program.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3153 Representative Pinkham

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3366 Senator Smith, D.

LR: 3121

Sponsor: Senator Benoit of Sagadahoc

Title: An Act To Facilitate Consolidation of School Districts in the Lower Kennebec River Area

Comments: This bill would require the lower Kennebec River area regional school unit to raise an amount of revenue equal to 50% of an anticipated reduction in local tax burden for schools to offset local tax increases for education.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3031 Representative Percy

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS**

LR: 3153

Sponsor: Representative Pinkham of Lexington Township

Title: An Act To Authorize Formation of the Northwest Maine Regional School Unit

Comments: This bill would encourage the formation of a regional school unit in northwest Maine comprised of Maine School Administrative District No. 12, Maine School Administrative District No. 13, the Town of Greenville, the Town of Shirley, Pleasant Ridge Plantation, Dennistown Plantation, Kingsbury Plantation, the Town of Beaver Cove, the Town of Caratunk, the Forks Plantation, West Forks Plantation and portions of the unorganized territory, including Rockwood. The bill would provide that the reorganization plan prepared by the Reorganization Planning Committee may include a cost-sharing formula applicable both to required local contributions and additional local funds based on valuation, number of pupils or other factors, and may include other cost-sharing transition provisions as determined by the Reorganization Planning Committee. The bill would authorize the Commissioner of Education to approve a reorganization plan for the proposed Northwest Regional School Unit with less than 1,200 resident pupils on the basis of geography, demographics, transportation and population density, but subject to a plan to reorganize administrative functions and noninstructional personnel so that projected expenditures for system administration, transportation, special education and facilities and maintenance will not have an adverse impact on the instructional program.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3062 Senator Mills, P.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3366 Senator Smith, D.

LR: 3161

Sponsor: Representative McLeod of Lee

Title: An Act To Remove Fiscal Impediments to the Consolidation of School Administrative Units for the Communities of Bancroft, Burlington, Carroll Plantation, Chester, Drew Plantation, East Millinocket, Edinburg, Enfield, Glenwood, Howland, Lakeville, Lee, Lincoln, Lowell, Macwahoc Plantation, Mattawamkeag, Maxfield, Medford, Medway, Millinocket, Passadumkeag, Reed Plantation, Seboeis Plantation, Springfield, Webster Plantation, Winn and Woodville

Comments: This bill would remove fiscal impediments to the consolidation of school administrative units for the communities of Bancroft, Burlington, Carroll Plantation, Chester, Drew Plantation, East Millinocket, Edinburg, Enfield, Glenwood, Howland, Lakeville, Lee, Lincoln, Lowell, Macwahoc Plantation, Mattawamkeag, Maxfield, Medford, Medway, Millinocket, Passadumkeag, Reed Plantation, Seboeis Plantation, Springfield, Webster Plantation, Winn and Woodville.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS**

LR: 3247

Sponsor: Representative Smith, N. of Monmouth

Title: An Act To Encourage Successful Efforts To Consolidate School Administrative Units by Focusing on Educational Excellence and Realistic Savings Opportunities

Comments: This bill would change a number of provisions in the laws governing the consolidation of school administrative units in Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX to allow for more realistic cost savings to be achieved for productive merger discussions to continue and for educational excellence to remain the top priority for schoolchildren in this State.

LR: 3359

Sponsor: Representative Eaton of Sullivan

Title: An Act To Facilitate Formation of Regional School Unit No. 7

Comments: This bill would encourage the formation of Regional School Unit No. 7, comprised of 2 or more of the following school administrative units: the City of Ellsworth and the towns of Otis, Mariaville, Waltham, Eastbrook, Hancock, Lamoine, Trenton, Surry, Franklin, Gouldsboro, Sorrento, Steuben, Sullivan and Winter Harbor. This bill would provide that the reorganization plan prepared by the reorganization planning committee for Regional School Unit No. 7 may include a cost-sharing formula applicable to all or a portion of the regional school unit's locally raised funds based on evaluation, number of pupils or other factors, and may include other cost-sharing transition provisions as determined by the reorganization planning committee.

LR: 3366

Sponsor: Senator Smith, D. of Piscataquis

Title: An Act To Facilitate Formation of the Northwest Maine Regional School Unit

Comments: This bill would encourage the formation of a regional school unit in northwest Maine comprised of School Administrative District No. 12, School Administrative District No. 13, the Town of Greenville, the Town of Shirley, Pleasant Ridge Plantation, Dennistown Plantation, Kingsbury Plantation, the Town of Beaver Cove, the Town of Caratunk, the Forks Plantation, West Forks Plantation and portions of the unorganized territory.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3062 Senator Mills, P.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3153 Representative Pinkham

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
APPEALS PROCESS**

LR: 3258

Sponsor: Representative Silsby of Augusta

Title: An Act To Improve School Administrative Unit Consolidation

Comments: This bill would create an appeals process under the laws governing the consolidation of school administrative units for school districts that were denied approval of their proposed consolidation or alternative plan by the Commissioner of Education.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
COST-SHARING**

LR: 2962

Sponsor: Representative Edgecomb of Caribou

Title: An Act To Allow Certain Schools To Negotiate Their Own Cost-sharing Formulas

Comments: This bill would allow the schools of Caribou, School Administrative District 20, Limestone, Caswell, Woodland, New Sweden and Westmanland to negotiate their own cost-sharing formulas.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

LR: 2983

Sponsor: Representative Walker of Lincolnville

Title: An Act To Modify the Cost-sharing Formula for Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would allow regional school units to use a cost-sharing formula other than the essential programs and services rate, as long as the alternate formula was approved in the final reorganization plan for that regional school unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CONSOLIDATION
COST-SHARING

LR: 2996

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

Title: An Act To Authorize Regional Planning Committees To Submit Negotiated
Cost-sharing Agreements as Part of Their Reorganization Plans

Comments: This bill would authorize regional planning committees, in the course of implementing
the law regarding the consolidation of school administrative units, to submit negotiated
cost-sharing agreements as part of their reorganization plans.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
COST-SHARING**

LR: 3005

Sponsor: Representative Hogan of Old Orchard Beach

Title: An Act To Allow School Districts Forming a Regional School Unit To Develop Individual Cost-sharing Agreements That Provide Equity in Local Funding

Comments: This bill would allow individual school districts to develop local cost-sharing formulas that remediate or eliminate cost-sharing problems that are encountered in the effort to consolidate into an approved regional school unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
COST-SHARING**

LR: 3015

Sponsor: Representative Miramant of Camden

Title: An Act To Allow for Alternative Cost-sharing Options in a New School Administrative Unit

Comments: This bill would grant school administrative units the flexibility to develop cost-sharing formulas if the essential programs and services model does not equitably distribute costs.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
COST-SHARING**

LR: 3032

Sponsor: Senator Turner of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Further Facilitate School Administrative Unit Consolidation

Comments: This bill would provide the Commissioner of Education the authority to approve changes to the formulas that outline the financial commitment each community must make as a member of a regional school unit. The commissioner would be able to blend student counts, municipal evaluations and any other measures considered necessary by the commissioner to ensure equity for all the municipalities of the regional school unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
COST-SHARING**

LR: 3104

Sponsor: Representative Hayes of Buckfield

Title: An Act To Assist Certain School Administrative Districts To Become More Favorable Partners for School District Consolidation

Comments: This bill would amend the school administrative regionalization requirements to include financial options for certain school units, such as Maine School Administrative District No. 39, to make those units more appealing partners for consolidation by not penalizing property taxpayers in the towns of any proposed regional school unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
COST-SHARING**

LR: 3110

Sponsor: Senator Mitchell of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Facilitate the Process of Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would allow members of newly consolidated units to negotiate valuation issues with each other and would require a referendum in a budget only if it exceeds guidelines for essential programs and services.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
COST-SHARING**

LR: 3142

Sponsor: Senator Nass, R. of York

Title: An Act To Amend the School Funding Formula To Facilitate School District Consolidation

Comments: This bill would allow the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs to look at the obstacles to consolidation, which include, but are not limited to, the cost of implementing consolidation to individual school administrative units. The committee is authorized to submit legislation that allows local school administrative units to develop cost-sharing agreements for regional school units to hold harmless districts that are penalized by the new consolidation and allow all partners to benefit from the cost reductions from consolidation.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
COST-SHARING**

LR: 3144

Sponsor: Representative Pingree of North Haven

Title: An Act To Establish a Cost-sharing Arrangement for Mount Desert Island High School

Comments: This bill would enact a cost-sharing arrangement for Mount Desert Island High School.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

LR: 3145

Sponsor: Representative Pingree of North Haven

Title: An Act To Encourage Cost-sharing in Maine Schools

Comments: This bill would encourage cost-sharing in Maine schools.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
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Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
COST-SHARING**

LR: 3175

Sponsor: Representative Saviello of Wilton

Title: An Act To Create Equitable Flexible Cost-sharing Formulas for the Formation and Support of Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would allow regional school unit directors to negotiate a cost-sharing formula that includes ratios of student numbers and valuation that will distribute costs in an equitable way. The bill also allows cost-sharing formulas to be reviewed annually.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
COST-SHARING**

LR: 3219

Sponsor: Representative Connor of Kennebunk

Title: An Act To Return to Fair and Equitable Cost Sharing of the Additional Local Costs within Certain Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would provide that certain municipalities that form multimunicipal regional school units will share any additional costs using the pro rata state valuation allocation method.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CONSOLIDATION COST-SHARING

LR: 3223

Sponsor: Senator Hobbins of York

Title: An Act To Allow School Districts in Regional School Units To Develop Individual Cost-sharing Agreements

Comments: This bill would allow individual school districts to develop local cost-sharing formulas that remediate or eliminate cost-sharing problems that are encountered in the effort to consolidate into an approved regional school unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor

CONSOLIDATION DEPARTMENT REDUCTIONS

LR: 3006

Sponsor: Representative Saviello of Wilton

Title: An Act To Reduce the Budget of the Department of Education To Reflect the Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Education to cut its budget by 20% by 2009 and by a total of 50% by 2010.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CONSOLIDATION

EFFICIENT, HIGH-PERFORMING

LR: 2899

Sponsor: Senator Sherman of Aroostook

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Consolidation of School Administration to Expand the Definition of Efficient, High-performing Districts

Comments: The bill would expand the definition of efficient, high-performing school districts. The bill would change the current requirement that such a district contain "at least 3 schools" identified as higher-performing so as not to unfairly eliminate a district with fewer than 3 schools in the entire district.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2929 Representative Lundeen

LR: 2929

Sponsor: Representative Lundeen of Mars Hill

Title: An Act To Amend the Criteria for Exceptions for Higher Performing and Highly Efficient Schools

Comments: This bill would amend the criteria for exceptions concerning school administrative unit consolidations for higher performing and highly efficient schools by making the choice of having 3 higher performing schools in a district or having improved spending percentages and no longer requiring both.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2899 Senator Sherman

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CONSOLIDATION EXTEND DEADLINES

LR: 2797

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

Title: An Act To Extend the Deadline for School Administrative Unit Consolidation

Comments: This bill would extend the deadlines imposed in the school administrative unit consolidation requirements by 3 years.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2803 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3221 Representative Clark

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3246 Representative Pratt

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3355 Senator Smith, D.

LR: 2803

Sponsor: Representative Cebra of Naples

Title: An Act To Extend All Deadlines Concerning the Consolidation of School Administrative Units by One Year

Comments: This bill would extend all deadlines and the application of penalties for not meeting the deadlines of the consolidation plan of school administrative units.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2797 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3221 Representative Clark

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3246 Representative Pratt

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3355 Senator Smith, D.

LR: 3221

Sponsor: Representative Clark of Millinocket

Title: An Act To Extend the Deadlines Concerning the Consolidation of School Administrative Units by 2 Years

Comments: This bill would extend the deadlines and the application of penalties for not complying with the deadlines of the consolidation plan of school administrative units.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2797 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2803 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3246 Representative Pratt

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3355 Senator Smith, D.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
EXTEND DEADLINES**

LR: 3246

Sponsor: Representative Pratt of Eddington

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would move back the deadline for the finalization of the consolidation of school administrative units one year. The Commissioner of Education would be required to create a new timeline based on this new deadline. The current cost savings related to the consolidation of school administrative units for fiscal year 2008-09 must be maintained.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2797 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2803 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3221 Representative Clark

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3355 Senator Smith, D.

LR: 3355

Sponsor: Senator Smith, D. of Piscataquis

Title: An Act To Postpone the Effects and Implementation of the School District Consolidation Law for One Year

Comments: This bill would postpone the effects and implementation of the school district consolidation law, suspend any funding of the law, halt meetings and suspend deadlines.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2797 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2803 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3221 Representative Clark

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3246 Representative Pratt

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
INCREASED COSTS**

LR: 2881

Sponsor: Representative McFadden of Dennysville

Title: An Act To Protect Schools and Towns from Unfair Debt Service

Comments: This bill would prevent schools and towns joining a regional school unit from taking on more debt service than required by the State.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2958 Representative MacDonald

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3014 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3041 Senator Rosen, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3046 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3159 Representative Lewin

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3376 Representative Babbidge

LR: 2958

Sponsor: Representative MacDonald of Boothbay

Title: An Act To Require the State To Reimburse a Municipality That Incurs Increased Education Costs Solely Due to School Administrative Consolidation

Comments: This bill would require the State to reimburse a municipality that incurs increased education costs solely due to school administrative consolidation.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2881 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3014 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3041 Senator Rosen, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3046 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3159 Representative Lewin

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3376 Representative Babbidge

LR: 3014

Sponsor: Representative Miramant of Camden

Title: An Act To Compensate Towns for Financial Losses due to School Administrative Consolidation

Comments: This bill would compensate a town for any financial loss that the town may have incurred due to school administrative consolidation.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2881 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2958 Representative MacDonald

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3041 Senator Rosen, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3046 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3159 Representative Lewin

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3376 Representative Babbidge

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CONSOLIDATION INCREASED COSTS

LR: 3041

Sponsor: Senator Rosen, R. of Hancock

Title: An Act To Exempt Host Municipalities from Financial Obligations as a Result of Offering Secondary School Choice within Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would ensure that municipalities without secondary school choice are not financially obligated by a regional school unit for expenditures that are used to support student attendance at a high school other than the regional school unit's.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2881 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2958 Representative MacDonald

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3014 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3046 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3159 Representative Lewin

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3376 Representative Babbidge

LR: 3046

Sponsor: Representative Webster of Freeport

Title: An Act To Ensure Tax Fairness for Taxpayers during Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Education to develop a mechanism that will ensure a mitigation of the tax shifting effect.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2881 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2958 Representative MacDonald

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3014 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3041 Senator Rosen, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3159 Representative Lewin

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3376 Representative Babbidge

LR: 3107

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

Title: An Act To Clarify the Procedures for Repayment of School Construction Debt for an Addition and Renovation Project at the Region 9 School of Applied Technology

Comments: This bill would clarify the procedures for repayment of school construction debt incurred for an approved addition and renovation project at the Region 9 School of Applied Technology in Mexico, Maine. The bill would provide that in the event that the current members of Region 9 are merged into regional school units pursuant to Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX the regional school units will have authority to assess and collect the annual debt service for the project.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
INCREASED COSTS**

LR: 3159

Sponsor: Representative Lewin of Eliot

Title: An Act To Require the State To Bear Expenses Associated with the Implementation of the Law Governing the Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would require the State to bear the costs associated with the implementation of the law governing the consolidation of school administrative units.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2881 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2958 Representative MacDonald

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3014 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3041 Senator Rosen, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3046 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3376 Representative Babbidge

LR: 3376

Sponsor: Representative Babbidge of Kennebunk

Title: An Act To Limit Extreme Disparities in the Mill Rate toward Public Education among Municipalities Sharing a Regional School Unit

Comments: This bill would require that no municipality be required to pay as part of its local allocation more than twice the mill rate of any other municipality within that same regional school unit and would allow a transition adjustment for a municipality adversely affected to be determined by the Department of Education.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2881 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2958 Representative MacDonald

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3014 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3041 Senator Rosen, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3046 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3159 Representative Lewin

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CONSOLIDATION LABOR ISSUES

LR: 2880

Sponsor: Representative McFadden of Dennysville

Title: An Act To Provide Equity in Labor Markets and School Administrative District Consolidation

Comments: This bill would require all schools or towns in a regional school unit to have the same labor market assessment as averaged in the State.

LR: 2967

Sponsor: Senator Rosen, R. of Hancock

Title: An Act To Enhance Flexibility for the Employment of Personnel in Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would remove the provisions of Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX that relate to employment contracts in school administrative units that join regional school units.

Closely Related CO: LD 1931

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3319 Representative Lansley

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3326 Representative Faircloth

LR: 3319

Sponsor: Representative Lansley of Sabattus

Title: An Act To Establish the Department of Education as Bargaining Agent and Payroll Agent for School Districts and Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would establish the Department of Education as the payroll, human resources and bargaining agent for all school units. Salaries for teachers would be determined by the labor market distribution currently in place and funded by the department.

Closely Related CO: LD 1931

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2967 Senator Rosen, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3326 Representative Faircloth

LR: 3326

Sponsor: Representative Faircloth of Bangor

Title: An Act To Clarify the Rights and Obligations of Regional School Units Concerning the Transfer and Subsequent Reassignment of Teachers and Other Employees

Comments: This bill would clarify the rights and obligations of regional school units concerning the reassignment of teachers and other employees of the regional school unit in the transitional period from the operational date of the regional school unit until the completion of negotiations for a collective bargaining agreement in which uniformity and consistency are achieved.

Closely Related CO: LD 1931

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2967 Senator Rosen, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3319 Representative Lansley

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CONSOLIDATION

MUNICIPAL WITHDRAWAL

LR: 2943

Sponsor: Senator Raye of Washington

Title: An Act To Allow a Municipality To Withdraw from a School Administrative Unit in Order To Join a Regional School Unit

Comments: This bill would allow a municipality to withdraw from a school administrative unit in order to join a regional school unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3010 Representative Miramant

LR: 3010

Sponsor: Representative Miramant of Camden

Title: An Act To Allow a Municipality To Withdraw from a School Administrative Unit

Comments: This bill would allow a municipality to withdraw from a school administrative unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2943 Senator Raye

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
PENALTIES**

LR: 2798

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

Title: An Act To Remove Penalties from the School Administrative Unit Consolidation Law

Comments: This bill would eliminate the penalties imposed on school districts if the districts haven't yet met all the school administrative unit consolidation requirements.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2801 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2804 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3012 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3130 Representative Treat

LR: 2801

Sponsor: Representative Edgecomb of Caribou

Title: An Act To Eliminate Penalties to School Systems Concerning Consolidation of School Administrative Unit Deadlines

Comments: This bill would eliminate the penalties that exist in the school administrative unit consolidation plan for school systems that haven't met the deadlines.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2798 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2804 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3012 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3130 Representative Treat

LR: 2804

Sponsor: Representative Cebra of Naples

Title: An Act To Waive All Penalties in the Plan for the Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would waive all penalties in the school administrative unit consolidation plan.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2798 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2801 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3012 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3130 Representative Treat

LR: 3012

Sponsor: Representative Miramant of Camden

Title: An Act To Lessen the Penalties That a District Would Incur If It Does Not Join a School Administrative Unit

Comments: This bill would lessen the penalties assessed on a school district that does not join a school administrative unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2798 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2801 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2804 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3130 Representative Treat

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CONSOLIDATION PENALTIES

LR: 3130

Sponsor: Representative Treat of Farmingdale

Title: An Act To Further the Goals of Consolidation by Removing Financial Disincentives

Comments: This bill would address various financial issues associated with implementing school district consolidation where the districts involve both school administrative districts and municipal districts. The bill would remove financial roadblocks to fully implementing the goals of the 2007 school district consolidation laws and give districts actively working to implement their consolidation plans additional time to finalize these financial changes.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2798 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2801 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2804 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3012 Representative Miramant

CONSOLIDATION REDUCTIONS

LR: 3127

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

Title: An Act To Ensure Transparency in the Implementation of the Laws Governing School Administrative Unit Consolidation

Comments: This bill would amend the law governing the consolidation of school administrative units to specifically allow a reorganization plan to include proposals to reduce teaching staffs and to close schools.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**CONSOLIDATION
REPEAL**

LR: 2796

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

Title: An Act To Repeal the Consolidation of School Administrative Units Law

Comments: This bill would repeal the school administrative unit consolidation requirements enacted into law in the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2937 Senator Weston

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3116 Senator Smith, D.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3162 Representative Eaton

LR: 2937

Sponsor: Senator Weston of Waldo

Title: An Act To Repeal the School Administrative Units Reorganization Law

Comments: This bill would repeal the school district reorganization provisions enacted in Part XXXX of Public Law 2007, chapter 240. This bill would repeal all of the statutory and unallocated provisions of that part of the law that were enacted to transform existing school administrative units and school unions to the regional school unit form of governance beginning on July 1, 2009. The bill would also repeal the mandatory budget validation, the cost center summary budget form and the regional collaboration provisions that were enacted. Finally, the bill would enact each of the statutory provisions that were repealed, including statutes pertaining to the governance and financing of school administrative districts, community school districts and school unions.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2796 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3116 Senator Smith, D.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3162 Representative Eaton

LR: 3116

Sponsor: Senator Smith, D. of Piscataquis

Title: An Act To Repeal the School District Consolidation Laws

Comments: This bill would repeal the school district consolidation laws.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2796 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2937 Senator Weston

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3162 Representative Eaton

LR: 3162

Sponsor: Representative Eaton of Sullivan

Title: An Act To Repeal the School District Consolidation Law

Comments: This bill would repeal the law requiring school districts to consolidate.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2796 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2937 Senator Weston

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3116 Senator Smith, D.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CONSOLIDATION SECONDARY SCHOOL

LR: 2864

Sponsor: Senator Plowman of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Encourage the Education of All Maine Students

Comments: This bill would provide that a regional school unit that requires a member school unit to send secondary students to the secondary school of that regional school unit must accept all the secondary students of that member school unit.

LR: 2979

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

Title: An Act To Allow a Regional School Unit with More than One Secondary School To Charge Different Tuition Rates

Comments: This bill would allow a regional school unit with more than one secondary school to charge municipalities that send students to those schools different tuition rates for those secondary schools.

LR: 3024

Sponsor: Representative Greeley of Levant

Title: An Act Pertaining to the Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would provide regional school units with school choice communities to make the amount over the regional school unit's high school tuition a regional school unit assessment. This bill would also allow a parent to pay the tuition if the tuition funds were not approved by the municipalities. This bill would also protect a student who is already a tuition student at another school from being taken out of that school. The student would be grandfathered from the new law.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**EDUCATION DEPT
ADMINISTRATION**

LR: 3140

Sponsor: Representative Treat of Farmingdale

Title: Resolve, To Reimburse School Administrative District No. 11 for the State Share of Retirement Contributions Paid in Error

Comments: This resolve would authorize and direct the Commissioner of Education to make a state subsidy adjustment to School Administrative District No. 11 for contributions to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System that should have been paid by the department from state funds, but which were instead paid in error by School Administrative District No. 11 from local funds.

LR: 3285

Sponsor: Representative Pendleton of Scarborough

Title: An Act To Create the Position of Braille Transcriber and Assistant

Comments: This bill would create the position of Braille Transcriber and Assistant in the Department of Education.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**EDUCATION DEPT
POWERS**

LR: 2896

Sponsor: Representative Faircloth of Bangor

Title: An Act To Improve School Nutrition

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Education to adopt the Institute of Medicine's recommendations for school nutrition standards.

LR: 3088

Sponsor: Representative Pieh of Bremen

Title: Resolve, To Conduct an Objective and Independent Review of the Department of Education

Comments: This bill would create a task force whose charge would be to objectively and independently examine the role, responsibilities and functions of the Department of Education. The task force would examine the capacity of the department to fulfill its responsibilities, the administrative organization of the department, the adequacy of the department's budget and the expenditures of department funds and the impact that the department has on improving education for all Maine students. The task force would report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

LR: 3177

Sponsor: Representative Casavant of Biddeford

Title: Resolve, To Create a Work Group Concerning Education Curricula and Social Networking Websites

Comments: This resolve would create a work group involving the education community and public safety community to report findings and suggested legislation concerning the social networking sites on the Internet and how they affect middle and high school students and education curricula.

LR: 3331

Sponsor: Representative Rector of Thomaston

Title: An Act To Ensure Support for a Model of Consolidated and Integrated Secondary and Postsecondary Education

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Education to select a model school unit and provide support and an assurance of funding so that the unit can serve as a model of consolidated and integrated secondary and postsecondary education to other districts throughout the State.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA ADJUSTMENTS

LR: 2776

Sponsor: Representative MacDonald of Boothbay

Title: An Act To Exempt Certain Municipalities from the Minimum Revenue Contributions to Education Costs

Comments: This bill would exempt those municipalities that contain a school administrative district that has a minimum per-pupil expenditure of 125% of the state average from the requirement that the municipality contribute a minimum of 2 mills for education costs.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2800 Representative MacDonald

LR: 2800

Sponsor: Representative MacDonald of Boothbay

Title: An Act To Eliminate the Requirement That a Community Raise 2 Mills for Education Purposes

Comments: This bill would eliminate the requirement that a community raise a minimum of 2 mills for education purposes.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2776 Representative MacDonald

SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA ESSENTIAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

LR: 3196

Sponsor: Senator Hastings of Oxford

Title: An Act To Establish the Transition Adjustment for Fiscal Year 2008-09

Comments: This bill would require the Commissioner of Education to establish the transition adjustment for fiscal year 2008-09 at the same level as the adjustment in fiscal year 2007-08.

LR: 3216

Sponsor: Representative Farrington of Gorham

Title: An Act To Clarify the Application of the Budget Validation Process for School Administrative Units Spending at or Less than the Essential Programs and Services Model

Comments: This bill would exempt those school administrative units that are spending less than the level of funding outlined in the essential programs and services funding model from the newly passed budget validation process until they exceed that funding level.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA
STATE/LOCAL SHARE**

LR: 2891

Sponsor: Representative Weddell of Frankfort

Title: An Act To Amend the Approval Process for School Budgets

Comments: This bill would require that, when a secret ballot election vote is taken on an annual school budget and an article pertaining to that budget is defeated, a minimum of 50% of the total voters present for the secret ballot election must be present at any subsequent public meeting held to approve the school budget for that year. A failure to obtain 50% attendance would prevent a vote from being held. If a vote cannot be held due to the failure to obtain 50% attendance or if the vote is held and the article is defeated, the district would be required to hold a 3rd election, and this election must be by secret ballot election. Should that election result in the defeat of that article, the budget would remain unchanged from the previous year.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3101 Representative Harlow

LR: 3098

Sponsor: Senator Hobbins of York

Title: An Act To Authorize a Budget Process for Municipal School Units Governed by Municipal Charters

Comments: This bill would allow municipal school units that have submitted an alternate plan to consolidation that has been approved by the Department of Education and that have a budget process established by a municipal charter to follow that budget process. These municipal school units would still have to comply with the budget preparation and formatting required by state law for all school units.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3337 Representative Silsby

LR: 3101

Sponsor: Representative Harlow of Portland

Title: An Act To Clarify the Authority of Municipalities To Assess and Collect Property Taxes and Allow School Administrative Units To Spend Funds

Comments: For any school administrative unit whose voters fail to approve a budget before the relevant fiscal year begins, this bill would establish the current fiscal year's budget as adjusted by a departmentally approved Consumer Price Index factor as the budget used to authorize expenditures and to set the tax rate and commitment for that unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2891 Representative Weddell

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA
STATE/LOCAL SHARE**

LR: 3103

Sponsor: Representative Farrington of Gorham

Title: An Act To Clarify Budget Validation Referendum Procedures in Charter Municipalities

Comments: This bill would clarify the provisions of the school district consolidation law that require municipal school budgets to be adopted using the budget validation referendum process by making it clear that the initial budget meeting in that process is a meeting of the town or city council or other municipal legislative body as established by municipal charter and making it clear that the required use of the cost center summary budget format does not change a local charter's allocation of school budget authority between the municipal council or its legislative body and the municipal school committee or school board. It would not affect the requirement that the budget be approved at a budget validation referendum.

LR: 3111

Sponsor: Senator Rotundo of Androscoggin

Title: An Act To Adjust the Valuation Calculation Used in Determining Local Share of State Education Funding

Comments: This bill would temper spikes in property valuation used in determining local share for education by implementing a 3-year average.

LR: 3337

Sponsor: Representative Silsby of Augusta

Title: An Act To Clarify the Budget Validation Process Concerning Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would allow a municipality that already follows a municipal charter for adoption of a budget to use that budget and not follow the budget validation process in the plan established in the school administrative consolidation laws.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3098 Senator Hobbins

**SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA
SUBSIDIZABLE COSTS**

LR: 2829

Sponsor: Senator Mitchell of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Fully Fund School Breakfast from Kindergarten to Grade 12

Comments: This bill would require that all public schools from kindergarten to grade 12 have a full school breakfast program, and provides funding for the program.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**SCHOOL PERSONNEL
TRAINING**

LR: 2736

Sponsor: Representative Emery of Cutler

Title: An Act To Require Elementary and Secondary Education Personnel To Be Trained To Recognize Signs of Child Abuse and Neglect

Comments: This bill would require all elementary and secondary school teachers and other educational personnel to be trained to recognize signs of child abuse and neglect.

**SCHOOL POLICIES
ATTENDANCE**

LR: 3271

Sponsor: Representative Tardy of Newport

Title: An Act To Allow Students To Attend a School in Another Regional School Unit under Certain Circumstances

Comments: This bill would allow a secondary school student to attend a school outside of that student's regional school unit if the student's regional school unit does not offer academic or fine arts programs sought by that student.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

SCHOOL POLICIES CURRICULUM

LR: 2836

Sponsor: Representative Percy of Phippsburg

Title: An Act To Develop Guidelines for Use in Implementing a Program of Instruction on Financial Literacy in Secondary Schools and To Provide for the Establishment of a Fund To Receive Public and Private Contributions for Financial Literacy Instruction

Comments: This bill would direct the State Board of Education to develop guidelines for school administrative units to use in implementing a program of instruction on financial literacy within courses currently offered in secondary schools. It also would provide for the establishment of a fund to receive public and private contributions for financial literacy instruction.

LR: 2867

Sponsor: Representative Makas of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Provide Education on Internet Safety

Comments: This bill would require that schools in Maine provide education on Internet safety.

LR: 2925

Sponsor: Representative Treat of Farmingdale

Title: An Act To Expand Access to Foreign Language Instruction in State Schools

Comments: This bill would assist teachers of modern and classical languages whose primary language is not English to retain certification while receiving support to pass the required Praxis test. It would establish alternative standards for certification while maintaining high standards and meeting the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

LR: 2954

Sponsor: Representative Crockett of Augusta

Title: An Act To Provide Age-appropriate Instruction in Protection against and Awareness of Sexual Predators to Students

Comments: This bill would add to the requirements of the system of learning results a curriculum of age-appropriate instruction regarding how to protect oneself from and be aware of the dangers of sexual predators for students in kindergarten to grade 12.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

SCHOOL POLICIES CURRICULUM

LR: 3346

Sponsor: Senator Brannigan of Cumberland

- Title: An Act To Require Teaching of Mental Health Awareness in Maine's Middle Schools
- Comments: This bill would require that mental health awareness be taught in all middle schools in Maine and would require the Department of Education to include the curriculum as prescribed by the National Institutes of Health's "The Science of Mental Illness" curriculum supplement series for grades 6 to 8 to enhance the understanding of mental illness from biological, psychological and environmental aspects in the classroom, making for healthier communities. It would assist children suffering from the disease, their peers, teachers and school staff, and families of those with the disease.

SCHOOL POLICIES DISCIPLINE

LR: 3287

Sponsor: Representative Makas of Lewiston

- Title: An Act To Protect School Children from Dangerous or Abusive Restraint and Seclusion
- Comments: This bill would require a teacher who restrains a student to meet certain requirements currently contained in Department of Education rules.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

LR: 2870

Sponsor: Representative Simpson of Auburn

- Title: An Act To Protect Student Athletes
- Comments: This bill would require certain safety precautions and training for extracurricular activities, including prohibiting the return of a student to a practice or competition during which the student became unconscious.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

SPECIAL EDUCATION

CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

LR: 2997

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

Title: An Act To Provide Child Development Services through Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would provide child development services for children from birth to school age through the regional school units established pursuant to Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX.

LR: 3150

Sponsor: Senator Bowman of York

Title: An Act To Improve the Compliance and Accountability of the Child Development Services System

Comments: This bill would require more frequent and more detailed reporting by the Department of Education regarding Child Development Services System sites that are either not in compliance with state law or are under state governance.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
FUNDING**

LR: 2741

Sponsor: Representative Percy of Phippsburg

Title: An Act Relating to the Minimum Special Education Adjustment

Comments: This bill would amend the minimum special education allocation by removing the 5% adverse economic impact requirement for municipalities.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2984 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3013 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3122 Representative McKane

LR: 2984

Sponsor: Representative Walker of Lincolnville

Title: An Act To Ensure Maintenance of a Minimum Special Education Subsidy

Comments: This bill would require the special education subsidy for a regional school unit to be at least the same amount previously received by the school district in the new regional school unit that received the greatest subsidy.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2741 Representative Percy

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3013 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3122 Representative McKane

LR: 3013

Sponsor: Representative Miramant of Camden

Title: An Act To Ensure Support of a Minimum Special Education Subsidy

Comments: This bill would require that low receiving school administrative units would continue to receive funding to maintain a minimum special education subsidy.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2741 Representative Percy

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2984 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3122 Representative McKane

LR: 3122

Sponsor: Representative McKane of Newcastle

Title: An Act To Amend the School District Consolidation Laws Regarding Special Education Funding

Comments: This bill would restore the 5% minimum or special education subsidy for minimum receivers in order to make those minimum receivers favorable partners for consolidation. This bill would also amend the requirement that school districts raise 2 mills for contribution to the regional school unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2741 Representative Percy

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2984 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3013 Representative Miramant

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
IDENTIFICATION**

LR: 2912

Sponsor: Representative Jackson of Allagash

Title: An Act Regarding Educational Testing and Evaluations

Comments: This bill would provide that the deadline of 60 days in which to conduct an education evaluation applies to school days only and removes weekend days and school vacation days from the calculation of the deadline.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION
SERVICES**

LR: 2936

Sponsor: Representative Percy of Phippsburg

Title: An Act To Provide Equity for Educational Interpreters for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing

Comments: This bill would formalize the status and definition of educational interpreters for the deaf and hard-of-hearing in Maine public schools. The bill would ensure oversight of the interpreters by the Department of Education, including qualifications, review, hiring, training and compensation levels.

LR: 3093

Sponsor: Senator Weston of Waldo

Title: An Act To Use Valid Risk and Preventive Factors for Youth Programs

Comments: This bill would require the State, in its biannual survey of students, to use the "Committees That Care" survey recommended by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

LR: 3133

Sponsor: Representative Flood of Winthrop

Title: An Act To Provide Parents of Special Needs Children Access to Ombudsman Services

Comments: This bill would provide funding for ombudsman services in the Department of Education and require school systems to provide notice to parents of special needs children of the availability of such services.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**TEACHERS
CERTIFICATION**

LR: 2918

Sponsor: Representative Marley of Portland

Title: An Act To Meet the Growing Need for Special Education Teachers

Comments: This bill would allow universities and colleges in the State to offer dual certification for both elementary education and special education.

**UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
ADMINISTRATION**

LR: 3282

Sponsor: Representative Pendleton of Scarborough

Title: An Act To Provide Child Care for Students in Maine's Community Colleges and the University of Maine System

Comments: This bill would establish on-site child care facilities at all major facilities of the Maine Community College System and the University of Maine System in order to increase educational opportunities for returning and older students with children. In smaller locations, where creating an on-site facility is impossible, students with child care needs would be provided with subsidies for child care assistance.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
CHILD CARE**

LR: 2780

Sponsor: Representative Duprey of Hampden

Title: An Act To Ensure Fairness for Child Care Centers

Comments: This bill would require market surveys that the Department of Health and Human Services does to determine the average market rate at which child care centers are reimbursed to be performed every year rather than every other year.

LR: 2791

Sponsor: Representative Richardson, W. of Warren

Title: An Act To Ensure Liability Coverage for Day Care Centers

Comments: This bill would require that all day care centers show proof of liability insurance coverage in order to be licensed.

LR: 2953

Sponsor: Representative Crockett of Augusta

Title: An Act To Allow Day Care Facilities To Charge in Advance for a Maximum of 2 Weeks

Comments: This bill would allow day care facilities to charge in advance for a maximum of 2 weeks.

LR: 3008

Sponsor: Representative Saviello of Wilton

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Adopt Rules Governing the Use of Lakes by Licensed Child Care Facilities

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt rules governing the use of lakes by licensed child care facilities.

LR: 3315

Sponsor: Representative Trinward of Waterville

Title: Resolve, To Study Community Child Care Alternatives

Comments: This resolve would create a study commission to review the availability of community programming throughout Maine when public schools are not in session due to storm cancellations or school breaks. It will assess the need of working parents statewide who choose to stay home with their children in the event of a school cancellation or break and risk losing pay or shifts at work. Further, the study commission will make recommendations on how the Department of Education may support communities, children and working parents through the development of pilot programs for alternative activities for school-age children.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MATERNITY SERVICES

LR: 3373

Sponsor: Representative Mills, J. of Farmington

Title: An Act To Allow Pregnant Minors To Obtain Prenatal Care

Comments: This bill would allow a pregnant minor to obtain prenatal care without the consent of the minor's parent.

DISABLED PERSONS AUTISTIC PERSONS

LR: 2866

Sponsor: Representative Flood of Winthrop

Title: An Act To Provide Grants to Persons with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Comments: This bill would establish and fund a grant program for persons with autism spectrum disorders. Funding would be \$50,000 and would be provided in grant amounts from \$100 to \$500.

LR: 2992

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

Title: An Act To Establish Defined Reasonable Time Frames for Treating Regressive Disorders, Including Autism

Comments: This bill would establish defined reasonable time frames for treating regressive disorders, including autism.

LR: 3363

Sponsor: Senator Mills, P. of Somerset

Title: Resolve, To Establish a Statewide Protocol for the Early Detection and Treatment of Autism

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services within their existing resources to establish a uniform statewide protocol for the screening of all children between 18 and 30 months of age for signs of autism. For each child who tests positive, this bill would implement through the 16 Child Development Services System sites guidelines jointly adopted by the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services incorporating best practices as supported by evidence-based clinical trials.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DISABLED PERSONS

PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITY

LR: 3292

Sponsor: Representative Dill of Cape Elizabeth

Title: An Act To Improve the Safety of Passengers in Wheelchairs on Public Transportation

Comments: This bill would require wheelchair manufacturers and distributors to disclose to customers purchasing, renting or leasing wheelchairs and similar aids whether the product is "WC19" compliant and encourage the use of WC19-compliant products in order to minimize transportation risks to passengers in wheelchairs and to other public transportation passengers and operators.

DISEASES

AWARENESS

LR: 3249

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: Resolve, To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Promote Awareness of Parkinson's Disease

Comments: This resolve would require the Department of Health and Human Services to design and implement a program to educate people about Parkinson's disease and how to respond to crisis situations for persons with Parkinson's disease. The education programs would be directed toward people who work in the fields of health care, emergency services, public transportation and crisis intervention.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DISEASES CANCER

LR: 3327 Sponsor: Representative Strang Burgess of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Prevent and Treat Cancer in Maine by Implementing Critical Portions of the Comprehensive Cancer Program

Comments: This bill would provide an ongoing General Fund appropriation for a comprehensive cancer screening, detection and prevention program. The program would be funded by equalizing taxes on loose, or "roll your own," tobacco and the price of prerolled cigarettes. This bill would require all tobacco products other than cigarettes to be taxed at the rate of \$1 per ounce.

LR: 3358 Sponsor: Senator Strimling of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Protect the Health of and Prevent the Incidence of Skin Cancer for Maine Adolescents

Comments: This bill would ban the use of tanning beds for Maine youths under 18 years of age. It would also augment requirements for posting of rules and enhance penalties for violation of the rules.

DISEASES LYME DISEASE

LR: 2993 Sponsor: Representative Bryant, M. of Windham

Title: An Act To Provide for the Testing of Deer Ticks for Lyme Disease

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Infectious Disease to provide for the testing of ticks for Lyme disease.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2994 Senator Bryant, B.

LR: 2994 Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

Title: An Act To Expand the Case Definition of Lyme Disease for Purposes of Compiling the Annual Lyme Disease Surveillance Report

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention to expand the case definition of Lyme disease for purposes of compiling the annual Lyme disease surveillance report.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2993 Representative Bryant, M.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DISEASES REPORTING

LR: 2792

Sponsor: Representative Richardson, W. of Warren

Title: Resolve, To Establish a Reporting Method of the Statistics of Diseases

Comments: This bill would require that the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention establish a reporting method of the numbers of diseases or illnesses acquired in hospitals in the State compared to the total percentage of patients treated in the hospital to help consumers make better decisions for patient health care.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE ELIGIBILITY

LR: 3298

Sponsor: Representative Samson of Auburn

Title: An Act To Encourage the Transition from Welfare to Work

Comments: This bill would raise the income threshold at which an individual is no longer eligible for welfare to ensure that the individual secures employment with an income that fully sustains the individual. The bill would also direct the State to convene a study group to examine welfare-to-work and welfare diversion policies and programs, service delivery, data collection and monitoring systems to identify how and where to target resources.

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES CERTIFICATE OF NEED

LR: 3231

Sponsor: Senator Diamond of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Ensure Access to Necessary Health Care Services in Maine

Comments: This bill would eliminate the capital investment fund, which is a cap limiting the amount of capital spending that hospitals and physicians may make for health care projects that are subject to the certificate of need law.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1517

Closely Related CO: LD 1047

Closely Related CO: LD 1760

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3089 Senator Weston

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES CLINICS

LR: 2890

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

Title: An Act To Improve the Health of Maine Communities and Reduce Emergency Care Burdens

Comments: This bill would create pilot projects with community health centers in the State in order to work to improve the health of communities.

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES HOSPITALS

LR: 3378

Sponsor: Representative Mills, J. of Farmington

Title: An Act To Avoid the Expense of Unnecessary Medical Facility Inspections

Comments: This bill would clarify that state inspections of medical facilities and survey visits are not called for unless there is a documented complaint regarding a specific problem.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES CHILDREN

LR: 3293

Sponsor: Representative Miller of Somerville

Title: An Act To Allow the Administration of Emergency Medication to Children by Municipal Employees

Comments: Similar to the law that allows school personnel to administer epinephrine, this bill would allow trained municipal employees to administer epinephrine to children using "epi-pens" in the event of an emergency.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HEALTH CARE SERVICES DELIVERY

LR: 2917

Sponsor: Representative Crockett of Augusta

Title: An Act To Prohibit Hospitals from Charging for Treatment To Correct Medical Mistakes

Comments: This bill would prohibit hospitals from charging for care to correct medical mistakes, such as leaving an instrument in a patient or operating on the wrong body part.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3113 Representative Brautigam

LR: 3113

Sponsor: Representative Brautigam of Falmouth

Title: An Act To Reduce Health Care Costs and Improve Health Outcomes

Comments: This bill would prohibit a health care provider from billing a patient or any health plan or government benefit program in which that patient is enrolled for expenses incurred in treating conditions resulting from mistakes made by that provider. The bill would also prohibit a health care provider from billing a patient for expenses incurred in treating an infection acquired while in the care of the provider if the infection is of a type that is preventable.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2917 Representative Crockett

HEALTH CARE SERVICES HOME HEALTH CARE

LR: 3342

Sponsor: Representative Craven of Lewiston

Title: Resolve, To Create a Blue Ribbon Commission To Study Long-Term Home-based Care

Comments: This bill would establish a blue ribbon commission on the future of long-term home-based and community-based care to examine and make recommendations on the development of choices to meet unmet needs and financing options to ensure access and affordability.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

LR: 3284

Sponsor: Senator Brannigan of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Amend the Prescription Drug Practice Laws

Comments: This bill would exempt the MaineCare program from the provisions of the prescription drug practices laws governing pharmacy benefits management.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HEALTH CARE SERVICES PREVENTION PROGRAMS

LR: 2957

Sponsor: Representative Boland of Sanford

Title: An Act To Inform Patients of Their Right To Decline To Be Vaccinated

Comments: This bill would require a health care provider to give written and oral notification to a patient who is to be vaccinated of the patient's right to decline to be vaccinated.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES RESPITE CARE

LR: 2837

Sponsor: Representative Craven of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Encourage Access to Respite Care Services for Maine Families with Behavioral Health Needs

Comments: This bill would repeal the sliding fee scale for respite care services, which is based on ability to pay.

HOMELESS PERSONS YOUTH

LR: 3025

Sponsor: Representative Craven of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Enact the Homeless Youth Act of 2008

Comments: This bill would enact the Homeless Youth Act of 2008 to meet the emergency needs of homeless youth 12 to 21 years of age in the State by continuing to fund existing services and to create funding for more services.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MEDICAID

MAINECARE

LR: 2823

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

Title: An Act Regarding the Use of MaineCare Insurance during Catastrophic Illness

Comments: This bill would allow a person on disability to qualify for MaineCare insurance in the event of catastrophic illness.

LR: 2964

Sponsor: Representative Walker of Lincolnville

Title: An Act To Secure Patient Access to MaineCare

Comments: This bill would use half of the General Fund money that is currently used as seed money to pay for noncategorical MaineCare patients to increase reimbursement for physicians.

LR: 3049

Sponsor: Representative Perry, A. of Calais

Title: An Act To Increase MaineCare Payments to Dentists

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Health and Human Services annually to incrementally adjust the MaineCare reimbursement rates for dental services over the next 5 years until the rates reach the 50th percentile of the fees published in the most recent "Survey of Dental Fees, New England Region," published by the American Dental Association and after that adjust the fee annually for inflation.

LR: 3299

Sponsor: Representative Campbell of Newfield

Title: An Act To Preserve Access to Assisted Living Services for Maine's Elderly and Disabled Citizens

Comments: This bill would preserve access to assisted living services for elderly and disabled citizens by amending MaineCare rules for reimbursement and adjusting MaineCare reimbursement rates as they relate to assisted living services.

LR: 3314

Sponsor: Representative Bryant, M. of Windham

Title: Resolve, To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Amend MaineCare Rules and Stay Review for Ongoing Eligibility for Nursing Facility Services To Permit an Exception Process for Late Submissions

Comments: This bill would require that the Department of Health and Human Services amend MaineCare rules and stay review for ongoing eligibility for nursing facility services to permit an exception process for late submissions.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DELIVERY

LR: 2989

Sponsor: Senator Brannigan of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Establish a Consumer Council System of Maine Consistent with the Riverview Psychiatric Center Consent Decree

Comments: This bill would establish a statewide consumer council in order to influence public policy and address community issues affecting the lives of consumers of mental health services.

PUBLIC HEALTH RESTROOMS

LR: 2811

Sponsor: Representative Beaudoin of Biddeford

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Public Restroom Facilities

Comments: This bill proposes to require that all places of public accommodation that provide restroom facilities provide disposable toilet seat covers.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC SAFETY LEAD POISONING

LR: 3047

Sponsor: Representative Webster of Freeport

Title: An Act To Address Lead Poisoning of Infants and Children in Maine Rental Housing Stock

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a mechanism that would allow for early detection and intervention in housing stock containing lead that is poisoning infants and children.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3102 Speaker Cummings

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3220 Representative Connor

LR: 3102

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

Title: An Act To Inform Consumers of, and Protect Children from, Hazardous Lead-based Paint

Comments: This bill would enact measures to increase child safety by reducing exposure to lead-based paint in residential properties and by imposing lead poisoning prevention fees on manufacturers and wholesalers of paint sold in the State. Money from the fees would support activities for lead hazard prevention.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3047 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3220 Representative Connor

LR: 3220

Sponsor: Representative Connor of Kennebunk

Title: An Act To Protect Children from Lead Poisoning

Comments: This bill would expand the Lead Poisoning Control Act by requiring that all physicians screen children under 6 years of age at designated intervals and by requiring kindergartens to obtain evidence of screening for lead poisoning for every child.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3047 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3102 Speaker Cummings

RESIDENTIAL CARE RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES

LR: 3316

Sponsor: Representative Bryant, M. of Windham

Title: Resolve, To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Provide Appropriate Cost-of-living Adjustments for Certain Medical and Remedial Private Nonmedical Institutions

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its principles of reimbursement for certain residential care facilities and certain medical and remedial private nonmedical institutions to provide these facilities with a 2% cost-of-living adjustment in fiscal year 2008-09.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SMOKING

PUBLIC PROTECTION

LR: 2781

Sponsor: Representative Duprey of Hampden

Title: An Act To Protect Children

Comments: This bill would prohibit smoking in vehicles in which children under 18 years of age are present.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2965 Representative Blanchette

LR: 2965

Sponsor: Representative Blanchette of Bangor

Title: An Act To Protect Children from Secondhand Smoke

Comments: This bill would prohibit a person from smoking in a motor vehicle if there is a minor present.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2781 Representative Duprey

SMOKING

TOBACCO PRODUCTS

LR: 2813

Sponsor: Senator Brannigan of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Repeal the Ban on the Sale and Furnishing of Hard Snuff

Comments: This bill would repeal the prohibition on the sale, furnishing or gifting of hard snuff.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

PREVENTION

LR: 3215

Sponsor: Senator Martin of Aroostook

Title: An Act Relating to the Office of Substance Abuse

Comments: This bill would elevate the Office of Substance Abuse to a cabinet-level agency in order to address the substance abuse problem in this State. This cabinet-level agency would address the cost of substance abuse in this State and the effects of substance abuse on health care costs, workers' compensation, economic development and the reputation of the Maine workforce. This bill would allow the State to coordinate statewide substance abuse and addiction policies at a high level.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

**TEMPORARY ASSIST TO NEEDY FAMILIES
ELIGIBILITY**

LR: 3187

Sponsor: Representative Sutherland of Chapman

Title: An Act To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Provide Written Reasons for Denial of Certain Benefits

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to provide in writing the reasons for denial of ASPIRE-TANF benefits.

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

FISH SALMON

LR: 3171

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act To Enhance the Availability of Landlocked Salmon in Their Original Waters

Comments: This bill would establish management tools such as protective slots, maximum size limits and catch and release to enhance the availability of landlocked salmon in their original waters.

FISH TROUT

LR: 2988

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act Regarding Reclamation of Native Brook Trout Waters

Comments: This bill would permit the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to capture native brook trout from native brook trout waters, breed them in a hatchery and release them and their progeny back into native brook trout waters.

FISHING ARMED FORCES LICENSES

LR: 2827

Sponsor: Representative Clark of Millinocket

Title: An Act To Provide Members of the Armed Forces Who Are Not Residents of this State Privileges To Hunt and Fish Comparable to Those Provided to Members of the Armed Forces Who Are Residents

Comments: This bill would provide members of the armed forces who are not residents of this State privileges to hunt and fish comparable to those provided to members of the armed forces who are residents.

FISHING YOUTH LICENSES

LR: 3176

Sponsor: Representative Theriault of Madawaska

Title: An Act To Promote Fly-fishing among Youth

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to create a pilot program and stock a private or public body of water for educating Maine youth in fly-fishing.

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

HUNTING

DISABLED PERSONS

LR: 2786

Sponsor: Representative Annis of Dover-Foxcroft

Title: An Act To Allow the Transfer of an Antlerless Deer Permit to an Individual with Autism

Comments: This bill would allow a person who holds an antlerless deer permit to transfer that permit to an individual with autism who has successfully completed a hunter safety course acceptable under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, sections 10108 and 11105.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 616

HUNTING

LICENSES

LR: 3058

Sponsor: Representative Thomas of Ripley

Title: An Act To Amend the Law Governing the Superpack Hunting License

Comments: This bill would permit a hunter with a superpack license to shoot only one deer with a firearm. The hunter may, however, enter the any-deer lottery. Currently, a superpack licensee may take 2 deer, one buck and one antlerless, with an option of entry into the any-deer lottery.

HUNTING

REGULATIONS

LR: 2758

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

Title: An Act To Create a Wild Boar Game Ranch in Piscataquis County

Comments: This bill would authorize the licensing of one additional commercial large game shooting area, which would be located in Piscataquis County.

LR: 3056

Sponsor: Representative Jackson of Allagash

Title: An Act To Allow Certain Assistance to Bear Hunters

Comments: This bill would allow certain assistance to bear hunters.

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

HUNTING SEASON

LR: 3312

Sponsor: Representative Wheeler of Kittery

Title: An Act To Amend the Hunting Season for Ruffed Grouse

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to restrict the hunting season for ruffed grouse or partridge to the months of October and November.

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE DEPT POWERS

LR: 2931

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Research the Feasibility of a Special Bass Fishing Trail

Comments: This resolve would direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to conduct a study and report back to the next Legislature concerning the feasibility of establishing a special bass fishing trail similar to one in the state of Georgia.

LR: 3325

Sponsor: Representative Bryant, M. of Windham

Title: An Act To Direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the University of Maine To Develop a Methodology To Reduce the Population of Deer Ticks

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the University of Maine to develop a methodology to reduce the population of deer ticks.

RECREATION ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES

LR: 2934

Sponsor: Senator Martin of Aroostook

Title: An Act To Amend the Provisions for All-terrain Vehicles

Comments: This bill would allow a landowner to decide who can cross the landowner's property with an all-terrain vehicle and still continue to receive the protection of the State.

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

RECREATION

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

LR: 2885

Sponsor: Representative Perry, A. of Calais

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Parking of Recreational Vehicles

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to address the issues presented by the overnight parking of recreational vehicles in areas other than authorized campgrounds.

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

RECREATION WATERCRAFT

LR: 2769 Sponsor: Representative Driscoll of Westbrook

Title: An Act To Allow Online Registration of Watercraft

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to allow Maine residents to register their watercraft online.

LR: 2779 Sponsor: Representative Watson of Bath

Title: An Act To Require Boating Safety Education

Comments: This bill would require mandatory boating safety education for all power boat operators in Maine.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2945 Representative Sykes

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3309 Representative Bryant, M.

LR: 2782 Sponsor: Representative Sykes of Harrison

Title: An Act To Impose a Horsepower Restriction for Boat Motors on Long Lake and Brandy Pond

Comments: This bill would limit the horsepower of boat motors operated on Long Lake and Brandy Pond in the towns of Bridgton, Harrison and Naples in Cumberland County.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2998 Representative Pilon

LR: 2945 Sponsor: Representative Sykes of Harrison

Title: An Act To Enact a Safe Boating Education Act

Comments: This bill would enact a statewide safe boating act based on other states' model acts.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2779 Representative Watson

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3309 Representative Bryant, M.

LR: 2946 Sponsor: Representative Sykes of Harrison

Title: An Act To Enact Guidelines for Operating a Boat

Comments: This bill would require the same guidelines for operating personal watercraft when operating all motorboats.

LR: 2971 Sponsor: Representative Sykes of Harrison

Title: An Act To Restrict the Operation of Certain Motorboats to Persons 16 Years of Age or Older

Comments: This bill would require that operators of motorboats with motors of more than 10 horsepower be at least 16 years of age.

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

**RECREATION
WATERCRAFT**

LR: 2998

Sponsor: Representative Pilon of Saco

Title: An Act To Ban Large Power Boats from Inland Waters

Comments: This bill would ban large boats, as determined by length and horsepower, from lakes and other inland waters in Maine.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2782 Representative Sykes

LR: 3050

Sponsor: Representative Carter of Bethel

Title: Resolve, To Build a Public Dock on Mooselookmeguntic Lake

Comments: This resolve would direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to study the feasibility of building a dock for public use and summer rentals on Mooselookmeguntic Lake at the Toothaker Landing site to restore public access to the lake now that the current dock has been privately purchased.

LR: 3250

Sponsor: Representative Cleary of Houlton

Title: An Act To Promote Boater Safety

Comments: This bill would require that all boats with an outboard motor have a propeller guard.

LR: 3309

Sponsor: Representative Bryant, M. of Windham

Title: An Act To Require Education in Boating Safety

Comments: This bill would require mandatory boating safety education for all power boat operators in Maine.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2779 Representative Watson

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2945 Representative Sykes

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

RECREATION

WHITEWATER RAFTING

LR: 3238

Sponsor: Representative Pratt of Eddington

Title: An Act To Amend the Whitewater Rafting Allocation System

Comments: This bill would prohibit the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife from removing, revoking or suspending allocations from a whitewater rafting outfitter for any reason other than to protect public safety or for continued or serious violation of the outfitter's license. The department could not remove, revoke or suspend allocations for what it determines to be the failure of the outfitter to continue using its allocations productively or for other subjective reasons.

LR: 3335

Sponsor: Representative Millett of Waterford

Title: An Act To Clarify the Filing Requirements for Certain Not-for-profit Whitewater Rafting Organizations

Comments: This bill would amend the filing requirements for noncommercial whitewater rafting organizations by having the initial filing limited to the requested information from the club's officers, directors and trustees, with a subsequent filing for all dues-paying members at the end of the rafting season each year, not later than December 31st.

WARDENS

POWERS AND DUTIES

LR: 2947

Sponsor: Representative Sykes of Harrison

Title: An Act Concerning Seasonal Wardens and Boating Safety

Comments: This bill would allow a municipality to hire seasonal wardens to help patrol the waters for increased boater safety.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3308 Representative Bryant, M.

LR: 3308

Sponsor: Representative Bryant, M. of Windham

Title: An Act To Create a New Position in the Bureau of Warden Service

Comments: This bill would create a new position in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Bureau of Warden Service to patrol Sebago Lake and Long Lake and contiguous waterways.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2947 Representative Sykes

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

**WILDLIFE
HABITAT**

LR: 3135

Sponsor: Representative Flood of Winthrop

Title: An Act To Clarify the Application of Protections under Significant Wildlife Habitats
Pertaining to Nonmetallic Mining Activities

Comments: This bill would clarify that the law that offers new protections to significant wildlife
habitat does not apply to nonmetallic mineral mining activities that were permitted or
otherwise authorized by the State prior to the effective date of the law.

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS BUREAU ADMINISTRATION

LR: 2889

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

Title: Resolve, Directing the Bureau of Financial Institutions To Study the Impact of Identity Theft and Data Security Breaches in the State

Comments: This resolve would direct the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Financial Institutions to study the effect of data security breaches on Maine consumers, financial institutions and credit unions, including the damages suffered as a result of these breaches, and to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than February 1, 2009.

FINANCIAL PRACTICES ACCOUNT SALES

LR: 2747

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Preserve Competition in the Financial Services Market

Comments: This bill would preserve competition in the financial services market.

FINANCIAL PRACTICES CONSUMER CREDIT

LR: 2940

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

Title: An Act To Prevent Home Foreclosures and Provide Consumer Assistance

Comments: This bill would provide consumer counseling services and free legal service resources for consumers caught in the subprime predatory lending boom.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2752 Representative Priest

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2939 Speaker Cummings

FINANCIAL PRACTICES CREDIT CARDS

LR: 2733

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Ensure Fairness in Credit Card Practices

Comments: This bill would prohibit certain unfair practices of credit card companies.

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

FINANCIAL PRACTICES INVESTMENTS

LR: 3256

Sponsor: Senator Rotundo of Androscoggin

Title: An Act To Simplify the Transfer of Retirement Funds

Comments: This bill would require written consent from an individual in order for a company to hold money in a retirement money market account beyond the time of transfer of the manager of the retirement funds.

FINANCIAL PRACTICES MORTGAGES

LR: 2752

Sponsor: Representative Priest of Brunswick

Title: An Act To Protect Homeowners from Equity Stripping during Foreclosures

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to protect homeowners from equity stripping during foreclosures.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2939 Speaker Cummings

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2940 Speaker Cummings

LR: 2939

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

Title: An Act To Protect Home Ownership and Prevent Foreclosures

Comments: This bill would establish a Home Foreclosure Task Force, which would include a representative from the Department of the Attorney General, the Maine State Housing Authority and the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Office of Consumer Credit Regulation. The purpose of the task force would be to work with consumers and lenders to avoid foreclosures.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2752 Representative Priest

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2940 Speaker Cummings

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

INSURANCE HEALTH

- LR: 2742 Sponsor: Representative Conover of Oakland
Title: An Act To Prevent Health Insurers from Discriminating against Consumers
Comments: This bill would prohibit health insurers from using health surveys to discriminate against consumers.
- LR: 2749 Sponsor: Representative Makas of Lewiston
Title: An Act To Bring Insurance Reimbursement Rates Up-to-date for Screening and Treating Newborns and Preschool Children for Hearing Loss for MaineCare
Comments: This bill would increase the reimbursement rates to bring them up-to-date to current costs concerning screening and treating newborns and preschool children for hearing loss for MaineCare.
- LR: 2805 Sponsor: Representative Mazurek of Rockland
Title: An Act Relating to Insurance Coverage for Colorectal Cancer Early Detection
Comments: This bill would require all health insurance policies, contracts and certificates to provide coverage for colorectal cancer screening tests.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3318 Representative Sirois
- LR: 2815 Sponsor: Representative Miramant of Camden
Title: An Act To Provide Equity in Reimbursement for Health Care Services
Comments: This bill would prohibit insurance companies from distinguishing between preferred and nonpreferred health care providers and hospitals in order to prevent inequities in billing between insured individuals and insurance companies. The bill would provide the same relationship to insured individuals as that claimed by insurance companies with respect to health care providers and hospitals regarding terms of reimbursement.
- LR: 2824 Sponsor: Representative Priest of Brunswick
Title: An Act To Establish an Office of the Health Care Insurance Advocate in the State
Comments: This bill would establish a Health Care Insurance Advocate for the State, based on a similar program in Connecticut. The advocate would aid citizens in the State with their health care insurance issues and would be funded by a levy on health insurance companies.

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

**INSURANCE
HEALTH**

LR: 2995

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

Title: An Act To Limit Annual Increases in Health Insurance Premiums to the Increase in the Cost of Living

Comments: This bill would limit annual increases in health insurance premiums to the increase in the cost of living.

LR: 3089

Sponsor: Senator Weston of Waldo

Title: An Act To Expand Affordable Health Insurance Choices in Maine

Comments: This bill would permit certain out-of-state health insurers to offer their individual or group health plans for sale in this State, reform the guaranteed issuance requirement in the individual health insurance market, create the Comprehensive Guaranteed Access Health Insurance Association, permit individual health insurance carriers to forgo approval of premium rates if the carrier maintains a loss ratio of 68% over a continuous 36-month period, broaden the community rating laws for individual and small group health plans, repeal the savings offset payment, repeal the laws establishing the certificate of need program and the capital investment fund, repeal the hospital tax, repeal the premium tax on insurance companies with respect to health insurance, require the State to reimburse hospitals for all unpaid MaineCare hospital settlements, provide a deduction from income for certain premiums paid for health insurance and place a 5-year moratorium on the enactment of new mandated health insurance benefits.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1517

Closely Related CO: LD 1047

Closely Related CO: LD 1760

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3157 Representative Tardy

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3231 Senator Diamond

LR: 3105

Sponsor: Representative Barstow of Gorham

Title: An Act To Clarify the Laws Governing the Extension of Health Care Coverage to Dependents

Comments: This bill would amend the law enacted last session that extended health insurance coverage for dependent children up to 25 years of age by clarifying definitions and eligibility for dependent children up to 25 years of age.

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

INSURANCE HEALTH

LR: 3143

Sponsor: Representative Pingree of North Haven

Title: An Act To Continue Maine's Leadership in Providing Health Insurance Coverage to the Uninsured

Comments: This bill would reform the individual health care insurance market and establish an ongoing funding source for Dirigo Health.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1890

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2825 Representative Priest

LR: 3157

Sponsor: Representative Tardy of Newport

Title: An Act To Allow the Regional Purchase of Health Insurance

Comments: This bill would allow businesses and individuals to purchase health insurance from outside the State.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1517

Closely Related CO: LD 1760

Closely Related CO: LD 1047

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3089 Senator Weston

LR: 3257

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Address the Affordability and Comprehensiveness of Health Coverage in Maine

Comments: This bill would enact concepts in the National Association of Insurance Commissioners model act that address the affordability and comprehensiveness of health coverage in the nongroup and small group marketplace in the State.

LR: 3261

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: Resolve, To Establish the Maine Guaranteed Health Coverage Commission

Comments: This resolve would create the Maine Guaranteed Health Coverage Commission to design a guaranteed health coverage program that provides affordable quality health coverage to all Maine residents. The commission would report its recommendations, with accompanying legislation to create the program, to the 124th Legislature by March 15, 2009.

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

INSURANCE HEALTH

LR: 3277

Sponsor: Representative Craven of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Ensure Coverage of Care for Individuals with Acquired Brain Injuries

Comments: This bill would require a health insurer to provide coverage for services related to an acquired brain injury and require the insurer to provide adequate training to the insurer's employees responsible for preauthorization of coverage.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 722 and 1782

LR: 3302

Sponsor: Representative Brautigam of Falmouth

Title: An Act To Ensure Stability and Affordability within the Health Insurance Market

Comments: This bill would merge the individual and small group health insurance markets and would establish a reinsurance model designed to offset any increases in rates for small business that result from the merger of markets.

Closely Related CO: LD 1047

Closely Related CO: LD 1294

Closely Related CO: LD 1760

LR: 3306

Sponsor: Representative Savage, D. of Falmouth

Title: An Act To Require Insurance Carriers To Pay a Minimum Amount for Emergency Treatment

Comments: This bill would require insurance carriers to pay at least 80% of the cost of emergency medical services rendered when an emergency occurs more than 100 miles from the residence of the insured patient.

LR: 3318

Sponsor: Representative Sirois of Turner

Title: An Act To Ensure Early Detection of Colorectal and Prostate Cancers

Comments: This bill would require that all health insurance companies providing coverage to Maine residents must cover early detection exams and procedures referred by primary care physicians for colorectal and prostate cancers.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2805 Representative Mazurek

LR: 3380

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

Title: An Act To Ensure Affordable Health Care for Maine Citizens

Comments: This bill would raise the cigarette tax by \$.50, and would dedicate that increase to funding the Dirigo Health Plan.

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

INSURANCE

HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS

LR: 3061

Sponsor: Senator Snowe-Mello of Androscoggin

Title: An Act To Increase Deductibles for Plans Offered by Health Maintenance Organizations

Comments: This bill would allow health maintenance organizations to offer plans with deductibles up to \$2,500.

LR: 3138

Sponsor: Representative Perry, A. of Calais

Title: An Act To Increase the Reimbursement of Nurse Practitioners as Primary Care Providers

Comments: This bill would require health maintenance organizations to reimburse nurse practitioners who are primary care providers.

INSURANCE

LIFE

LR: 3217

Sponsor: Representative Brautigam of Falmouth

Title: An Act To Protect Life Insurance Consumers

Comments: This bill would amend Maine's law on viatical settlements to be consistent with the recently adopted National Association of Insurance Commissioners Viatical Settlements Model Act by seeking a limited 5-year moratorium on certain life insurance settlements and requiring more robust disclosure requirements to policy owners.

INSURANCE

MOTOR VEHICLE

LR: 2905

Sponsor: Representative Fischer of Presque Isle

Title: An Act To Provide Incentives for Motorcyclists To Wear Helmets

Comments: This bill would require insurance companies to offer a credit on motorcycle insurance to policyholders who wear helmets

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

**INSURANCE PRACTICES
RATING**

LR: 3368

Sponsor: Senator Sullivan of York

Title: An Act To Amend the Insurance Scoring and Rerating Laws

Comments: This bill would provide an exemption to actions generated by insurers requesting
rescoring.

JUDICIARY

ABUSE DOMESTIC

LR: 2898

Sponsor: Senator Sullivan of York

Title: An Act To Prevent Domestic Violence and Protect Our Citizens

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to prevent domestic violence and to protect the citizens of the State, including establishing county domestic violence advocacy offices, the funding of attorney services for victims of domestic violence, increased funding for safe houses and crisis assistance, the establishment of a statewide registry of perpetrators and the creation of a task force to undertake a comprehensive review of the criminal code related to domestic violence.

ATTORNEY GENERAL DEPT POWERS

LR: 3248

Sponsor: Representative Berry of Bowdoinham

Title: An Act To Create a Mental Health Homicide Review Board

Comments: This bill would create a mental health homicide review board in conjunction with the Attorney General's office similar to the domestic violence review board that currently exists.

ATTORNEYS ATTORNEYS FEES

LR: 2894

Sponsor: Senator Hastings of Oxford

Title: An Act To Amend the Freedom of Access Laws To Provide Attorney's Fees in Certain Successful Appeals

Comments: This bill would allow a person bringing an appeal under the freedom of access laws to recover attorney's fees if the court determines certain actions were willful.

BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES

LR: 3136

Sponsor: Representative Cleary of Houlton

Title: An Act To Assist Distressed Businesses Organized as Limited Liability Companies

Comments: This bill would allow a limited liability company, upon filing with the Secretary of State, to be excused from further filings with the Secretary of State as long as the company does not transact any business.

JUDICIARY

BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS LIMITED PARTNERSHIPS

LR: 2986

Sponsor: Senator Hobbins of York

Title: An Act To Correct the Uniform Limited Partnership Act of 2007

Comments: This bill would correct a gap in the Uniform Limited Partnership Act of 2007 inadvertently created by Public Law 2005, chapter 543. Current law is ambiguous with regard to what law applies to existing limited partnerships that do not elect to be covered by the new law before July 1, 2008.

CIVIL COMMITMENTS INVOLUNTARY

LR: 3202

Sponsor: Senator Nutting, J. of Androscoggin

Title: An Act To Clarify the Qualifications of Mental Health Examiners

Comments: This bill would add nurse practitioners, advanced practice nurses and physician assistants to the list of medical personnel authorized to conduct involuntary commitment examinations.

COURTS JUDICIAL DEPT

LR: 3283

Sponsor: Representative Dill of Cape Elizabeth

Title: An Act To Create a Judicial Cascade Account

Comments: This bill would provide long-term funding for the judicial branch by creating a mini-cascade account that would be designated for judicial capital projects.

DISCLOSURE JOURNALIST CONFIDENTIAL SOURCES

LR: 3297

Sponsor: Representative Hinck of Portland

Title: An Act To Shield Journalists' Confidential Sources

Comments: This bill would protect a journalist's confidential sources. Under certain circumstances, a court may compel the disclosure of the identity of a source.

JUDICIARY

DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVORCE

LR: 3228

Sponsor: Senator Martin of Aroostook

Title: An Act To Require a Waiting Period from the Close of Divorce Mediation before a Valid Mediation Agreement Is Signed

Comments: This bill would require a period of 24 hours to lapse from the close of mediation in a divorce before the parties may sign a mediation agreement.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS PARENTAL RIGHTS

LR: 2901

Sponsor: Representative Clark of Millinocket

Title: An Act To Grant Step-parents the Same Rights as Biological Parents

Comments: This bill would amend the law to grant step-parents the same rights held by biological parents with respect to decisions regarding a child, including decisions about medical treatment and education needs.

FREEDOM OF ACCESS EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

LR: 2873

Sponsor: Representative Hogan of Old Orchard Beach

Title: An Act To Require the Recording of all Public Entities When in Executive Session

Comments: This bill would require that all meetings held in executive session by public entities be recorded and kept on file for one year.

HUMAN RIGHTS DISCRIMINATION

LR: 3281

Sponsor: Representative Dill of Cape Elizabeth

Title: An Act To Prohibit Discrimination Based on Familial Status and Responsibilities

Comments: This bill would amend the Maine Human Rights Act to prohibit employment discrimination based on marital status, parental status and family responsibilities.

JUDICIARY

MEDICAL RIGHTS PATIENT'S RIGHTS

LR: 2990

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

Title: An Act To Require That Health Care Providers Follow "Do Not Resuscitate" Orders

Comments: This bill would require that health care providers follow "do not resuscitate" orders.

REAL ESTATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

LR: 2857

Sponsor: Representative Clark of Millinocket

Title: An Act To Protect the Rights of Leaseholders

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to protect the rights of leaseholders.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1576

TORTS DUTY TO REPORT

LR: 2854

Sponsor: Representative McLeod of Lee

Title: An Act To Create a Duty To Report Serious Injuries

Comments: This bill would require a person who observes that another person has received a serious injury to immediately report that condition and request first aid by the quickest means of communication available to a police department, emergency dispatch center, licensed medical facility or licensed medical provider.

TORTS IMMUNITY

LR: 3235

Sponsor: Senator Hobbins of York

Title: An Act Regarding the Administration of Medication to Children with Allergies and Asthma

Comments: This bill would provide immunity to governmental agencies and their subdivisions and personnel with respect to administering prescriptions or other medications to children with allergies or asthma.

JUDICIARY

TORTS LIABILITY

LR: 2963

Sponsor: Senator Nass, R. of York

Title: An Act To Establish Limited Liability for Landowners for Owners of Noncommercial Airstrips

Comments: This bill would establish limited landowner liability for the owners of noncommercial airstrips. The limited liability would be modeled on the law currently applicable to owners of land on which people conduct recreational activities such as hiking, snowmobiling and biking.

TORTS TORT CLAIMS ACT

LR: 3180

Sponsor: Representative Mills, J. of Farmington

Title: An Act To Clarify the Definition of "Dumpster" as Used in the Maine Tort Claims Act

Comments: This bill would clarify the definition of "dumpster" as used in the Maine Tort Claims Act.

LABOR

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS LEAVE POLICIES

LR: 2761

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

Title: An Act To Amend the Family Medical Leave Laws To Include Siblings

Comments: This bill would allow an employee to take family medical leave for a sibling with a serious health condition.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2771 Representative Marley

LR: 2771

Sponsor: Representative Marley of Portland

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Family Medical Leave To Include Siblings

Comments: This bill would include siblings of an employee as persons for whose care the employee could request family medical leave.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2761 Representative Tuttle

LR: 3199

Sponsor: Representative Norton of Bangor

Title: An Act To Require Bereavement Leave in the Event of Miscarriage or Death of a Fetus

Comments: This bill would require an employer that employs 25 or more employees to allow an employee who has experienced a miscarriage or the death of a fetus 5 days' paid bereavement leave.

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY BENEFITS

LR: 3317

Sponsor: Representative Bryant, M. of Windham

Title: An Act To Protect Maine Workers during Labor Disputes

Comments: This bill would allow workers locked out of their jobs during extensive labor disputes access to Maine unemployment insurance benefits after 60 days and the opportunity to pursue retraining opportunities that are typically available to laid-off employees after 120 days without resolution of the dispute.

LABOR DEPT ADMINISTRATION

LR: 3253

Sponsor: Representative Patrick of Rumford

Title: An Act Regarding International Trade Agreements

Comments: This bill would require legislative approval before the State is required to adhere to government procurement rules, service sector rules and investment rules of an international trade agreement.

LABOR

LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

LR: 2942

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

Title: An Act To Improve the Elections Process under the Maine Labor Relations Board Laws

Comments: This bill would amend the Maine Labor Relations Board laws to change the timing of elections.

LABOR RELATIONS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

LR: 2843

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

Title: An Act To Ensure Family Child Care Providers the Freedom To Jointly Negotiate with the State

Comments: This bill would enable family child care providers, including state-certified home day care providers and legal, unlicensed providers who participate in the State's child care subsidy programs for low-income families, to jointly negotiate with the State concerning the provision of quality child care services. It would establish procedures for a fair election and certification of an exclusive representative to participate on the providers' behalf in these negotiations and provide for the conduct and subjects of negotiations. It would help to ensure that providers are not restricted from engaging in joint activities to improve access to and the delivery of quality child care services.

LABOR RELATIONS LABOR DISPUTES

LR: 2933

Sponsor: Senator Martin of Aroostook

Title: An Act Pertaining to Labor Relations

Comments: This bill would provide for an appeals process between an employer and an employee in the private setting.

STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM BENEFITS

LR: 3094

Sponsor: Senator Benoit of Sagadahoc

Title: An Act To Allow Changes to Beneficiaries under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System

Comments: This bill would allow a retiree in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to change the designated beneficiary more than once.

LABOR

**STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM
CREDITS**

LR: 3036

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Correct the Law Regarding Portability of Pension Benefits for Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighters

Comments: This bill would correct an error in the law that was intended to allow law enforcement officers and firefighters to move among jobs at the state and local level without losing the value of the service credits they had earned with a prior employer.

LR: 3044

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Allow Certain Purchased Retirement Service Credit To Count as Pre-1993 Service

Comments: This bill would allow a person to purchase retirement service credit for time served in the Peace Corps, VISTA, Head Start and other such programs and have that service count towards pre-1993 service.

**STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM
EARNABLE COMPENSATION**

LR: 3200

Sponsor: Representative Farrington of Gorham

Title: An Act To Exclude Collectively Bargained and Job Promotion Increases from the Earnable Compensation Limitation for Retirement Purposes

Comments: This bill would exclude collectively bargained salary or wage increases and salary or wage increases that are a result of a job promotion from the limitation on earnable compensation for retirement purposes.

**STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM
SCHOOL PERSONNEL**

LR: 3020

Sponsor: Representative Jacobsen of Waterboro

Title: An Act To Include School Bus Drivers in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System

Comments: This bill would include school bus drivers in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

LABOR

STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM
TEACHERS

LR: 2879

Sponsor: Representative Marley of Portland

Title: Resolve, To Study the Effect of Changes in Retirement Benefits on Teachers

Comments: This resolve would direct the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to study the effect of changes in retirement benefits for those teachers who were employed as such when changes to the calculation of retirement benefits took effect, but who missed the cutoff by 30 days or less. Maine Public Employees Retirement System would report with methods of allowing those teachers to attain the "pre-cliff" benefits.

Closely Related CO: LD 1693

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
AGENCY STORES

LR: 2976

Sponsor: Representative Fletcher of Winslow

Title: An Act To Allow Agency Liquor Stores 2 Exterior Advertising Signs

Comments: This bill would allow agency liquor stores to have 2 exterior advertising signs instead of the one allowed under current law.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
INTERSTATE SHIPPING

LR: 3147

Sponsor: Senator Bromley of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Allow Direct-to-consumer Wine Sales

Comments: This bill would allow direct-to-consumer sales of wine to state-registered buyers.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 143

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
LICENSING

LR: 3027

Sponsor: Representative Carter of Bethel

Title: An Act To Establish a Combination Spirits License

Comments: This bill would allow a general store that has less than \$150,000 per year in gross sales, that has less than 1,250 square feet of sales area and that is the only general store within a municipality to purchase a combination beer and wine license for \$300 plus applicable fees.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
WINE

LR: 3189

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

Title: An Act To Promote the Production of Wine in Maine

Comments: This bill would remove some of the restrictions on the taste-testing of wine on the premises of farm wineries. It would also remove some of the restrictions on the taste-testing of wine on the premises of fine wine stores for a maximum of one wine-tasting per week.

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

ELECTIONS

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

LR: 2756

Sponsor: Representative Piotti of Unity

Title: An Act To Ensure Integrity in Financing Publicly Funded Campaigns

Comments: This bill would prohibit a publicly financed candidate for Governor or the Legislature from directing state funds to a spouse, domestic partner or other contributor to the candidate's household finances for services provided. This bill would also prohibit a publicly financed candidate from directing state funds to a business owned by that family member for services.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3374 Representative Mills, J.

LR: 2869

Sponsor: Representative Simpson of Auburn

Title: An Act To Ensure the Integrity of Maine Clean Election Fund Expenditures

Comments: This bill would require all Maine Clean Election Fund candidates to file receipts of clean elections money expenditures.

LR: 3374

Sponsor: Representative Mills, J. of Farmington

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Use of Maine Clean Election Fund Money for Payment to Family Members

Comments: This bill would disallow payment of Maine Clean Election Fund money to spouses and close family members as salary for campaign work.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2756 Representative Piotti

ELECTIONS

REFERENDA

LR: 2748

Sponsor: Representative Makas of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Define the Need To Vote Again on Referendum Questions

Comments: This bill would require a follow-up vote on certain referendum questions that are approved on election day but not immediately implemented. If in the interim circumstances of the subject of the referendum have changed, another vote must be held within a specific period.

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

GAMBLING

GAMES OF CHANCE

LR: 3361

Sponsor: Senator Mills, P. of Somerset

Title: An Act To Authorize Low-stakes Cribbage Games at Charitable and Fraternal Organizations

Comments: This bill would authorize nonprofit, charitable and fraternal organizations to administer cribbage games as games of chance by charging \$15 per evening for a maximum of 60 participants, as long as the total amount wagered for the evening does not exceed \$300. This bill would address the recent determination by the Department of Public Safety that cribbage games conducted by groups such as the American Legion and the Eagles Club, with low-stakes prizes for a license fee of \$15 are not in compliance with current state law.

GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS

DISCLOSURES

LR: 3294

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Increase Public Confidence in Government by Expanding Public Disclosure

Comments: This bill would expand the list of information that Legislators and executive branch officials are required to list on financial disclosures to include interest in real estate, the value of various investments, positions as officers and directors of corporations and names of spouses and dependents.

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS ETHICS COMMISSION

LR: 2768

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

Title: An Act To Require the Maine Economic Research Institute To Report Financial Matters to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices

Comments: This bill would require the Maine Economic Research Institute to report its financial matters to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices as do political action committees.

LR: 2807

Sponsor: Representative Canavan of Waterville

Title: An Act To Amend the Law Governing Membership on the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices

Comments: This bill would change the way members of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices are chosen to the way originally enacted in law. In addition, this bill would prohibit the officers, directors or members of the boards of organizations that lobby the Legislature, or affiliates of such organizations, from serving as members of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3305 Speaker Cummings

LR: 3305

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

Title: An Act To Provide for Removal of Members of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices

Comments: This bill would provide the Governor with authority to remove a member of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2807 Representative Canavan

GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS LEGISLATORS

LR: 2853

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

Title: An Act To Promote Transparency and Accountability in Campaigns and Governmental Ethics

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to promote transparency and accountability in campaigns and governmental ethics.

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

**LANDLORD AND TENANT
EVICITION**

LR: 2956

Sponsor: Representative Thomas of Ripley

Title: An Act To Protect Landlords against False Statements

Comments: This bill would allow a quicker eviction of a nonpaying tenant if that tenant made a false statement on a rental agreement.

LR: 3213

Sponsor: Senator Plowman of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Protect Landlords from Frivolous Eviction Appeals

Comments: This bill would require a tenant that is appealing an eviction to put rent payments for the duration of the appeal process in escrow.

**LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEES**

LR: 2739

Sponsor: Representative Miramant of Camden

Title: An Act To Require That a Person Who Testifies before a Committee Must Be Sworn
In

Comments: This bill would require that anyone who testifies before a committee must be sworn in.

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

LOBBYISTS DISCLOSURE

LR: 2806 Sponsor: Representative Canavan of Waterville

Title: An Act To Require Lobbyists To Disclose the Cost of Advertising for the Purpose of Influencing Any Legislative Action

Comments: This bill would require a lobbyist to include in the lobbyist's monthly report to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices the specific dollar amount of expenditures for solicitation.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1898

LR: 2809 Sponsor: Representative Canavan of Waterville

Title: An Act To Require the Enhanced Disclosure of the Costs of Lobbying

Comments: This bill would require that any person or entity who hires a lobbyist disclose to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices the amount of expenditures to the lobbyist to advance or defeat proposed legislation.

LR: 3178 Sponsor: Representative Mills, J. of Farmington

Title: An Act To Require Registration of Persons Lobbying the Office of the Attorney General

Comments: This bill would require registration and disclosure of lobbying costs for those who lobby the Office of the Attorney General.

TORT CLAIMS CLAIMS AGAINST THE STATE

LR: 3001 Sponsor: Senator Benoit of Sagadahoc

Title: Resolve, To Allow John Jorgenson To Sue the State

Comments: This resolve would allow John Jorgenson, who was injured in a collision with a Department of Transportation vehicle, to sue the State and recover up to \$4,000,000 of any damages awarded by a jury.

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

**VETERANS
CEMETERY**

LR: 2826

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

Title: Resolve, To Name the Springvale Veterans Cemetery the Roger Landry Veterans Cemetery

Comments: This resolve would rename the veterans cemetery in Springvale the Roger Landry Veterans Cemetery.

**VETERANS
SERVICES**

LR: 3357

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Meet the Emergency Needs of Maine Veterans

Comments: This bill would increase the amount of emergency assistance that the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services may provide to a veteran for medical needs from \$500 to \$5,000.

MARINE RESOURCES

FISH FISHWAYS

LR: 3243

Sponsor: Senator Damon of Hancock

Title: An Act To Restore Diadromous Fish in the St. Croix River

Comments: This bill would require the Commissioner of Marine Resources and the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to ensure that by May 1, 2008 the fishways on the Woodland Dam and the Grand Falls Dam are configured in a manner that allows the passage of alewives.

LOBSTERS PROMOTION

LR: 2760

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

Title: An Act To Create a Lobster Stock Rebuilding Program

Comments: This bill would create a lobster stock rebuilding program.

MARINE RESOURCES DEPT ADMINISTRATION

LR: 2887

Sponsor: Representative Emery of Cutler

Title: An Act To Develop and Implement the Marine Fisheries Stock Enhancement Fund

Comments: This bill would establish a council of 7 members to oversee and disburse money in the Marine Fisheries Stock Enhancement Fund for applied research, development, production of harvested species, infrastructure, monitoring and assessment.

MARINE RESOURCES DEPT RULES

LR: 3263

Sponsor: Senator Damon of Hancock

Title: An Act To Make Marine Resources Management More Responsive

Comments: This bill would change the rules that are adopted to limit the taking of a marine organism for the purpose of protecting another marine organism from major substantive to routine technical in order to allow the Department of Marine Resources to respond more effectively to fisheries management needs.

MARINE RESOURCES

RECREATIONAL FISHING

RESTORE FISHING AS IMPORTANT RECREATION INDUSTRY

LR: 3000

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act To Restore Maine's Status as a Premier Fishing Destination

Comments: This bill would restore Maine's former national reputation as a premier destination for serious anglers from around the world, and thereby strengthen Maine's outdoor tourism-based economy, by improving visitors' fishing experiences through state fisheries regulations and management measures.

SHELLFISH CLAMS

LR: 3029

Sponsor: Representative Gerzofsky of Brunswick

Title: An Act To Protect Public Health and Promote a Healthy Shellfish Industry

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Marine Resources to establish rules that permit the purchase of soft-shell clams at landings by certified shellfish dealers.

LR: 3045

Sponsor: Representative Webster of Freeport

Title: An Act To Make Clam Flat Status Notification More Efficient, Cost-effective and Economically Beneficial to the Shellfish Industry

Comments: This bill would make the shellfish hotline the mechanism by which the Department of Marine Resources would notify shellfish harvesters of the opening and closing of clam flats.

SHELLFISH HARVESTING

LR: 3030

Sponsor: Representative Gerzofsky of Brunswick

Title: An Act To More Quickly Reopen Clam Flats

Comments: This bill would give municipalities the option to hire private laboratories to engage in extra water sampling so that more shellfish growing areas can be analyzed and, if they are clean, utilized.

MARINE RESOURCES

**SHELLFISH
MUSSELS**

LR: 3057

Sponsor: Senator Raye of Washington

Title: An Act To Give Municipalities Control of Mussels Located in Intertidal Zones

Comments: This bill would include mussels located in intertidal zones on the list of species that are under the control of municipalities.

**SHELLFISH
SCALLOPS**

LR: 3214

Sponsor: Senator Damon of Hancock

Title: An Act To Preserve the Cobscook Bay Scallop Fishery

Comments: This bill would require the suspension of a person's scallop fishing license if that person is convicted of 3 or more violations of the scallop fishing laws in Cobscook Bay. This bill would also establish a mandatory fine for violations of scallop fishing laws in Cobscook Bay.

NATURAL RESOURCES

AIR QUALITY EMISSIONS

LR: 2922

Sponsor: Representative Fletcher of Winslow

Title: An Act To Require Legislative Approval of Department of Environmental Protection Rules Implementing the Carbon Dioxide Cap-and-trade Program of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Act of 2007

Comments: Under current law, rules adopted to implement the carbon dioxide cap-and-trade program of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Act of 2007 are designated as routine technical rules. This bill would change those rules from routine technical rules to major substantive rules.

LR: 3033

Sponsor: Representative MacDonald of Boothbay

Title: An Act To Require Capture and Sequestration of Carbon Dioxide Emissions from New Coal-powered Industrial Facilities in the State

Comments: This bill would, to meet Maine's climate goals and to promote development of new clean energy and carbon reduction technologies, prohibit development of new coal-powered industrial facilities in the State unless such facilities capture and permanently isolate 90% of the carbon dioxide emissions that contribute to global warming.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3222 Senator Strimling

LR: 3201

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act To Update the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

Comments: This bill would amend the definition of "fossil fuel fired" electrical generating units to comply with the definition in the final version of the model rules for the regional greenhouse gas initiative.

LR: 3222

Sponsor: Senator Strimling of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Require the State To Consider Carbon Dioxide Effects when Permitting Projects

Comments: This bill would require state permitting agencies to consider and provide preference to projects that diminish carbon dioxide production, as compared to oil and coal.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3033 Representative MacDonald

NATURAL RESOURCES

COASTAL AREAS

INTERTIDAL LANDS

LR: 3260

Sponsor: Representative Percy of Phippsburg

Title: An Act To Safeguard the Natural Communities of Pitch Pine, Semi-dune and Wetland

Comments: This bill would provide protection for unique areas that are of geological interest and are botanic and wildlife habitats in Maine coastal areas. The guidelines for protecting these areas would be jointly developed by the Natural Areas Program and the Maine Geological Survey, both within the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Geology and Natural Areas; the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; and the Department of Environmental Protection.

CONTAINERS - RETURNABLE

PLASTIC BAGS

LR: 3207

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act To Reduce Litter, Preserve Landfill Space and Protect Wildlife Habitat

Comments: This bill would implement a fee on plastic grocery shopping bags of 20 cents each. Customers who provide their own cloth bags would be given a 20-cent credit per bag. If the grocery store provided biodegradable, starch-based bags, the store could keep 10 cents of the fee. The balance would be forwarded to the Department of Environmental Protection for its waste management program.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD

ADMINISTRATION

LR: 3362

Sponsor: Senator Mills, P. of Somerset

Title: An Act To Raise the Per Diem Rate for Members of the Board of Environmental Protection and the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission

Comments: This bill would increase from \$55 to \$100 the per diem fees for members of the Board of Environmental Protection and the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission

NATURAL RESOURCES

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPT
ADMINISTRATION**

LR: 3264

Sponsor: Representative Wagner of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Provide for Enforcement of the Office Paper Recycling Program

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management to enforce the office paper recycling program. The bureau would report to the Legislature on a biannual basis. Penalties would be established for noncompliance. Funds from penalties would be used to pay or defray the cost of enforcement.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPT
ENFORCEMENT**

LR: 3131

Sponsor: Senator Strimling of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Diminish Global Warming

Comments: This bill would prohibit the sale or use of incandescent light bulbs beginning in 2010.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3333 Representative Finley

LR: 3333

Sponsor: Representative Finley of Skowhegan

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Sale of Nonenergy-efficient Fluorescent Light Bulbs

Comments: This bill would ban the sale of nonenergy-efficient fluorescent light bulbs beginning in 2010.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3131 Senator Strimling

NATURAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPT. PROCEDURES

LR: 2960

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act To Reduce the Volume and Toxicity of Solid Waste through Promotion of Biobased Plastics

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing solid waste to: 1. Require the State to give preference in purchasing to avoidance of disposable products made with or packaged in plastic, unless such materials are biobased plastics; 2. Prohibit the use of disposable plastic cups for retail sale of iced beverages unless they are made from biobased plastics; 3. Establish a goal of ultimately sourcing biobased plastics from Maine-grown agricultural and forest products; 4. Establish a goal that biobased plastics used or sold in the State should meet all relevant sustainability guidelines; and 5. Define biobased plastics as polymeric materials that are petroleum-free, nontoxic and biocompostable at the end of their useful life.

LR: 3334

Sponsor: Representative Duchesne of Hudson

Title: An Act To Clarify Jurisdiction over Solid Waste Facilities Involved in Large-scale Composting Operations

Comments: This bill would clarify that the Department of Environmental Protection has jurisdiction over any agricultural composting facility that accepts or handles 30 or more cubic yards in any consecutive 30-day period.

FUELS GASOLINE

LR: 3384

Sponsor: Senator Nass, R. of York

Title: An Act Concerning Vapor Recovery Requirements

Comments: This bill would supply a repeal date for the gasoline station vapor recovery requirements.

NATURAL RESOURCES

FUELS

REFORMULATED FUEL

LR: 3051

Sponsor: Representative Carter of Bethel

Title: An Act Regarding Off-road Diesel Fuel

Comments: This bill would permit users of off-road diesel fuel to receive a fuel tax exemption upon purchase rather than as an annual tax refund. The bill would require purchasers to show a certification document to sellers that verifies the fuel tax exemption for an amount of diesel equal to their previous year's consumption. The purchaser would then add dye to the tax-exempt fuel to ensure that the fuel is not used for on-road purposes.

GROUND WATER

CONTAMINATION

LR: 2982

Sponsor: Senator Bartlett of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Storm Water Management

Comments: This bill would require disturbed areas created after January 1, 2008 that are associated with utility substations to meet only the basic standards for storm water management under the rules of the Department of Environmental Protection.

LAND USE

SAND AND GRAVEL PITS

LR: 3134

Sponsor: Representative Flood of Winthrop

Title: An Act To Require a Natural Resource Protection Laws Permit for Certain Gravel Pits and Quarries

Comments: This bill would amend the performance standards for gravel pits and quarries to clarify that a variance may be granted for excavations close to a protected natural resource only with a permit under the natural resource protection laws.

LAND USE

SET-BACKS

LR: 2847

Sponsor: Representative Thomas of Ripley

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Wetlands and Wildlife Habitats

Comments: This bill would reduce from 250 feet to 75 feet the setback requirements that apply to wetlands and would eliminate the setback requirements that apply to forested wetlands. This bill would also require that the least restrictive guidelines apply to manmade wetlands, and would require that, before an area may qualify as a wildlife habitat, it must be demonstrated that the area is inhabited by such wildlife.

NATURAL RESOURCES

LAND USE

SHORELAND ZONING

LR: 3137

Sponsor: Representative Bryant, M. of Windham

Title: An Act To Amend the Shoreland Zoning Laws To Allow Carports

Comments: This bill would amend the shoreland zoning laws to allow carports.

PROTECTED NATURAL RESOURCES

WETLANDS

LR: 3311

Sponsor: Representative Savage, D. of Falmouth

Title: Resolve, To More Clearly Define Vernal Pools and What the Best Distances Are for Protection

Comments: This resolve would require that the Department of Environmental Protection to propose a clearer definition of "vernal pool" and better scientific parameters of accurate distances needed to protect the vernal pools.

SURFACE WATER

LAKES

LR: 3019

Sponsor: Representative Jacobsen of Waterboro

Title: Resolve, To Make Lake Arrowhead in the Town of Waterboro and the Town of Limerick the Primary Location for Developing and Testing Methods of Eradicating Milfoil and Other Invasive Aquatic Species

Comments: This resolve would make Lake Arrowhead in the Town of Waterboro and the Town of Limerick the primary location for developing and testing methods of eradicating milfoil and other invasive aquatic species. The resolve would establish a committee to expedite the regulatory process, make recommendations to the Department of Environmental Protection and oversee the results. The resolve would be funded through the milfoil sticker program.

TOXIC SUBSTANCES

LEAD SAFETY MEASURES

LR: 3163

Sponsor: Representative Hinck of Portland

Title: An Act To Protect Public Health and the Environment with Safer Alternatives to Lead Wheel Weights

Comments: This bill would require the use of nonlead wheel weights, phased in over a 2-year period.

NATURAL RESOURCES

TOXIC SUBSTANCES REDUCTION AND PREVENTION

LR: 3291

Sponsor: Senator Perry, J. of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Encourage the Use of Environmentally Safe Drain Cleaners

Comments: The bill would enact measures designed to encourage the use of environmentally safe drain cleaners.

WASTE FACILITIES LANDFILLS

LR: 2764

Sponsor: Senator Schneider of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Protect Public Safety, Provide for the Prudent Use of Landfill Capacity and Save Taxpayers Money

Comments: This bill would limit to 50,000 pounds the weight of trucks delivering trash to state-owned landfills that have been expanded or built out. It also would direct the Executive Department, State Planning Office and the Department of Environmental Protection to calculate the solid waste disposal capacity needs of the State.

LR: 2831

Sponsor: Senator Schneider of Penobscot

Title: Resolve, To Determine Appropriate Buffer Zones for Landfill Construction and Expansion

Comments: This resolve would require the Executive Department, State Planning Office and the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt major substantive rules regarding buffer zones for landfill construction and expansion. These rules must protect the public and nearby property owners from the visual effects, odor and noise of landfills. The State Planning Office and the Department of Environmental Protection must hold public hearings in conjunction with the development of these rules.

LR: 3254

Sponsor: Representative Cain of Orono

Title: An Act To Expand the Membership of the Juniper Ridge Landfill Advisory Committee To Include a Member from Orono

Comments: This bill would expand the membership of the Juniper Ridge Landfill Advisory Committee to include a member from Orono.

NATURAL RESOURCES

WASTES

BY-PASS WASTE

LR: 2750

Sponsor: Representative Makas of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Require Correct Labeling of Out-of-state Bypass Waste

Comments: This bill would require a restriction on the amount of out-of-state bypass waste brought into the State that can be eventually considered as Maine waste.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2948 Representative Wagner

LR: 2948

Sponsor: Representative Wagner of Lewiston

Title: An Act Regarding the Disposal of Out-of-state Construction and Demolition Debris Waste

Comments: This bill would prohibit a municipal landfill from accepting out-of-state construction and demolition debris waste. Out-of-state construction and demolition debris waste may only be disposed of in a state-owned facility. The bill would change the definition of out-of-state waste to provide that the sorting of out-of-state construction and demolition debris waste at an in-state facility does not convert that waste into in-state waste.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2750 Representative Makas

NATURAL RESOURCES

WASTES

HAZARDOUS WASTES

LR: 2985

Sponsor: Representative Thomas of Ripley

Title: An Act To Establish an Exemption from the Premium Imposed on Motor Vehicle Oil Changes

Comments: This bill would exempt oil changes performed by the owner of a motor vehicle from the premium imposed on motor vehicle oil changes.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3204 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3367 Senator Smith, D.

LR: 3204

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

Title: An Act To Repeal the Premium Imposed on Motor Vehicle Oil Changes

Comments: This bill would repeal the premium imposed last session on motor vehicle oil changes.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2985 Representative Thomas

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3367 Senator Smith, D.

LR: 3274

Sponsor: Senator Martin of Aroostook

Title: An Act To Extend the Deadline for Applications for Costs Associated with the Remediation of a Waste Oil Site in Plymouth

Comments: This bill would extend from 180 to 365 the number of days provided for those seeking to borrow funds from the Finance Authority of Maine to apply for funding to assist with the remediation of the Plymouth Waste Oil Site.

LR: 3367

Sponsor: Senator Smith, D. of Piscataquis

Title: An Act To Cap the Additional Charge on All Motor Vehicle Oil Changes

Comments: This bill would cap the additional charge on all motor vehicle oil changes to one dollar per service.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2985 Representative Thomas

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3204 Representative Schatz

LR: 3369

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act To Clarify the Waste Motor Oil Disposal Site Remediation Program

Comments: This bill would require specific definition of what types of fluids and what types of motor vehicles are to be charged under the Waste Motor Oil Disposal Site Remediation Program

NATURAL RESOURCES

WASTES

SOURCE REDUCTION

LR: 3048

Sponsor: Representative Webster of Freeport

Title: An Act To Protect Shellfish Harvesters from Coastal Pollution

Comments: This bill would require that a failing septic system be repaired before the sale of a home.

WASTES

SPECIAL WASTES

LR: 2884

Sponsor: Representative Perry, A. of Calais

Title: An Act To Clarify the Status of Household Pharmaceuticals Collected for Disposal

Comments: This bill would clarify that household pharmaceuticals collected for disposal pursuant to Public Law 2003, chapter 369 constitute "household waste" rather than "hazardous waste."

WATER QUALITY

WASTEWATER DISCHARGES

LR: 3125

Sponsor: Representative Fischer of Presque Isle

Title: An Act Regarding Storm Water Standards for York's of Houlton

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection to apply a particular storm water standard to York's of Houlton due to the unique circumstances of the project site. Under this bill, York's of Houlton would be required to meet all other applicable standards.

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**COUNTY GOVERNMENT
COMMISSIONERS**

LR: 3152

Sponsor: Representative Pinkham of Lexington Township

Title: An Act To Authorize County Commissioners To Enact Ordinances To Provide Road Services and Maintenance

Comments: This bill would specifically authorize the county commissioners of a county to enact an ordinance for the purposes of providing road services and maintenance.

Closely Related CO: LD 885

**COUNTY GOVERNMENT
REGISTERS OF DEEDS**

LR: 2932

Sponsor: Representative Tardy of Newport

Title: An Act To Help Prevent Identity Theft

Comments: This bill would require that any state or federal tax lien or other documents required to contain personally identifiable information not include the complete information or number on the document.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2959 President Edmonds

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3301 Representative Hayes

LR: 2959

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Restrict the Inclusion and Display of Social Security Information and Other Personal Information in Records Filed in Registries of Deeds

Comments: This bill would prohibit the inclusion of personally identifiable information in documents that are recorded in registries of deeds. This bill would also authorize a registry of deeds to redact personally identifying information from records that were filed in the past and are accessible on the registry's publicly accessible Internet site.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2932 Representative Tardy

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3301 Representative Hayes

LR: 3301

Sponsor: Representative Hayes of Buckfield

Title: An Act To Protect Personally Identifying Information

Comments: This bill would allow a person who prepares for filing in a public office a document that contains another individual's personal information, such as social security number or driver's license number, to be held liable for compromising that individual's identity.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2932 Representative Tardy

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2959 President Edmonds

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**LEGISLATURE
EXPENSES**

LR: 2999

Sponsor: Representative Pilon of Saco

Title: An Act To Tie the Travel Reimbursement Rate for Legislators to the Federal Reimbursement Rate

Comments: This bill would annually adjust the mileage reimbursement rate for Legislators to make it equal to the federal mileage reimbursement rate.

**MUNICIPALITIES
ELECTIONS**

LR: 3100

Sponsor: Senator Brannigan of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Clarify the Election of Municipal Charter Commission Members

Comments: This bill would allow the election of municipal charter commission members no later than the next scheduled regular or special municipal or state election that is at least 90 days after a referendum authorizing a charter commission. The bill also would establish a method of determining the number of voter members on a charter commission.

**MUNICIPALITIES
LAND USE**

LR: 2788

Sponsor: Senator Hastings of Oxford

Title: An Act To Amend the Informed Growth Act

Comments: This bill would add an option for a municipality to waive the right to apply the provisions of the Informed Growth Act at any time by its legislative body. This bill would also require that if the legislative body is a town council or city council the vote must be approved by the citizens at a referendum.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2789 Senator Hastings

LR: 2789

Sponsor: Senator Hastings of Oxford

Title: An Act To Repeal the Informed Growth Act

Comments: This bill would repeal the Informed Growth Act.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2788 Senator Hastings

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**MUNICIPALITIES
ORDINANCES**

LR: 2871

Sponsor: Representative Casavant of Biddeford

Title: An Act To Allow Disability Variances To Be Granted for Reasons Other than Ingress or Egress

Comments: This bill would amend zoning law to allow a disability variance to be granted for the construction of structures that assist a disabled person other than for ingress and egress to the property.

**MUNICIPALITIES
ROADS**

LR: 3092

Sponsor: Senator Nass, R. of York

Title: An Act Relating to Access on Private Roads

Comments: This bill would allow owners of property on a private way to meet to determine what improvements need to be made to bring the road to municipal standards.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2737 Representative Knight

**MUNICIPALITIES
SERVICES**

LR: 3097

Sponsor: Representative Haskell of Portland

Title: An Act To Authorize Municipal Licensing Boards under the Liquor Laws

Comments: This bill would authorize a municipality to enact an ordinance establishing a municipal licensing board to hear and decide applications for new or renewal liquor licenses and special permits for music, dancing and entertainment in facilities that have a liquor license. Prior to the enactment of an ordinance by a municipality's legislative body, the municipal officers must submit a written policy on liquor licensing for approval by the Department of Public Safety, Liquor Licensing and Compliance Division.

**MUNICIPALITIES
VILLAGE CORPORATIONS**

LR: 2897

Sponsor: Senator Rosen, R. of Hancock

Title: An Act To Amend the Lucerne-in-Maine Village Corporation Charter

Comments: This bill would amend the Lucerne-in-Maine Village Corporation charter to add certain parts of Peakes Hill Road to the confines of the village.

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

STATE AGENCIES ARCHIVES

LR: 3273

Sponsor: Representative Simpson of Auburn

Title: An Act To Protect against Identity Theft

Comments: This bill would direct the State Archivist to adopt rules to clarify what is a public record and establish a process to track state records and who accesses them. This bill would also direct nonpublic entities that hold sensitive personal information to adopt policies to protect it.

STATE AGENCIES SECRETARY OF STATE DEPT

LR: 3063

Sponsor: Senator Martin of Aroostook

Title: An Act To Consolidate the Cultural Agencies To Promote Accountability and Citizen-centered Delivery of Services

Comments: This bill would consolidate the cultural agencies to promote accountability and citizen-centered delivery of services.

STATE GOVERNMENT CONTRACTED SERVICES

LR: 2969

Sponsor: Representative Crockett of Augusta

Title: An Act To Protect Maine Contractors

Comments: This bill would require a construction contract to identify the bonding agent and how that agent may be contacted. It also would require that an action on a bond for a construction project in this State be litigated in this State and arbitration in connection with a construction project in this State be conducted in the State.

Closely Related CO: LD 1038

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3002 Representative Haskell

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

STATE GOVERNMENT
FUTURE PLANNING

LR: 3166

Sponsor: Representative Smith, N. of Monmouth

Title: An Act To Ensure That State Policies Promote Sustainable Development To Enhance Communities, Reduce the Cost of Government and Achieve State Climate Goals

Comments: This bill would require all state agencies and departments to identify all governing statutes and regulations to ensure that they promote compact, mixed-use development, reduce automobile dependence and are consistent with the State's greenhouse gas reduction goals and the state climate action plan. The agencies would identify problem areas in the laws that discourage these goals and report to the 124th Legislature proposing legislation.

STATE GOVERNMENT
LAND CONVEYANCES

LR: 2951

Sponsor: Representative Theriault of Madawaska

Title: Resolve, To Authorize the State To Convey an Unused Parcel of Land in Frenchville to an Abutting Neighbor

Comments: This resolve would authorize the sale of a parcel of unused state property in Frenchville to an abutting neighbor.

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**STATE GOVERNMENT
PLANNING**

LR: 3289

Sponsor: Representative Canavan of Waterville

Title: An Act To Limit Outsourcing of Government Functions

Comments: This bill would prohibit the State from outsourcing to private contractors a function previously performed by state workers unless the private contractor provides proof of the contractor's ability to perform the function more efficiently than state workers.

LR: 3336

Sponsor: Representative Millett of Waterford

Title: An Act To Ensure That State Government Is a Model Employer of People with Disabilities

Comments: This bill would reestablish the position of Disability Employment Services Coordinator within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to review hiring and promotion procedures for workers with disabilities, expand outreach efforts, increase efforts to accommodate workers with disabilities and seek to increase the number of workers with disabilities within State Government.

LR: 3353

Sponsor: Representative Hill of York

Title: An Act To Require the Accurate Designation of Flood Plain Areas

Comments: This bill would require that the most current topographical and GIS data available be used when making municipal maps and changes to those maps.

**STATE GOVERNMENT
PROGRAM REVIEW**

LR: 3155

Sponsor: Representative Robinson of Raymond

Title: An Act To Promote Sustainable Prosperity by Streamlining and Modernizing State Government

Comments: This bill would find savings within State Government through streamlining and modernization of current practices.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1021

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

STATE GOVERNMENT

STATE COMMEMORATIONS

LR: 2810

Sponsor: Representative Soctomah of Passamaquoddy Tribe

Title: An Act To Establish Native American Veteran Day

Comments: This bill would officially make June 6th of every year Native American Veteran Day.

LR: 2907

Sponsor: Representative Austin of Gray

Title: An Act To Designate August 24th as Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day

Comments: This bill would designate every August 24th as Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day.

STATE GOVERNMENT

STATE EMBLEMS

LR: 2819

Sponsor: Representative Bliss of South Portland

Title: An Act To Make the Lupine the Official Flower of Maine

Comments: This bill would replace the current state flower, the pine cone and tassel, with the lupine.

TAXATION

INCOME TAX
CORPORATIONS

LR: 3035

Sponsor: Representative Brautigam of Falmouth

Title: An Act To Provide Tax Treatment Consistency for Limited Liability and Subchapter S Corporations

Comments: This bill would credit a member of a limited liability corporation or a subchapter S corporation that member's share of the entity's tax paid to another state or taxing jurisdiction.

Closely Related CO: LD 1400

TAXATION

INCOME TAX CREDITS

LR: 2778

Sponsor: Senator Courtney of York

Title: An Act To Provide Ongoing Funding for the Historic Preservation Tax Credit

Comments: This bill would identify adequate funding sources for future historic preservation tax credits by earmarking tax revenues generated in renovating or refurbishing properties and structures that receive the historic preservation tax credit. This bill would provide that structures previously used as mills would qualify for funding from these tax revenues.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1356

Closely Related CO: LD 262

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3344 Representative Koffman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3375 Representative Koffman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3379 Representative Koffman

LR: 2790

Sponsor: Representative Marley of Portland

Title: An Act To Establish a Credit To Offset the Harbor Maintenance Tax

Comments: This bill would provide a tax credit to offset the harbor maintenance tax that is imposed on Maine companies shipping their goods through Maine's ports.

LR: 2849

Sponsor: Representative Boland of Sanford

Title: An Act To Extend the Tax Credit for College Loan Repayment to Students Attending Out-of-state Colleges

Comments: This bill would extend the tax credit for college loan repayment to students that attend an out-of-state school of higher education as long as they return to the State to work.

LR: 2862

Sponsor: Senator Sherman of Aroostook

Title: An Act To Provide a Tax Credit for the Installation of Geothermal Systems in Residential Dwellings

Comments: This bill would provide a tax credit for the installation of geothermal systems in residential dwellings.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2755 Representative Carter

LR: 2914

Sponsor: Representative Giles of Belfast

Title: An Act To Establish the Wellness Tax Credit

Comments: This bill would give a tax credit of \$100 per employee for a business that institutes a wellness program in the workplace.

TAXATION

INCOME TAX CREDITS

LR: 2915

Sponsor: Senator Turner of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Modify the Use of Educational Tax Credits

Comments: This bill would limit the tax credit allowed under the job creation through educational opportunity program in 2 ways. First, the bill would establish a maximum of \$1,000,000 per year, beginning in fiscal year 2009-10. Second, the credit would be allowed only for those jobs that are critical to the State's economic growth or development.

LR: 2916

Sponsor: Senator Turner of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Provide a State Income Tax Credit to Dentists for Military Pensions

Comments: This bill would establish a state income tax credit for dentists collecting a military pension. The credit could be claimed only if: 1. The dentist continues to practice at least 1/2 time; and 2. The dentist accepts MaineCare patients.

LR: 3184

Sponsor: Representative Jackson of Allagash

Title: An Act To Provide a Tax Credit for Businesses and Homeowners Who Build Windmills

Comments: This bill would provide a tax credit to businesses and homeowners who build windmills.

Closely Related CO: LD 349

INCOME TAX DEDUCTIONS

LR: 3208

Sponsor: Senator Benoit of Sagadahoc

Title: An Act To Provide Federal Civil Service Retirees the Same Income Tax Deduction as Provided to Military Service Retirees

Comments: This bill would allow retirees receiving retirement benefits under the federal Civil Service Retirement System to deduct up to \$6,000 of those retirement benefits from their adjusted gross income on their state income tax returns without having to offset that deduction by any Social Security benefits they are also receiving.

TAXATION

**INCOME TAX
EXEMPTIONS**

LR: 3023

Sponsor: Representative Greeley of Levant

Title: An Act To Exempt Military Reenlistment Bonuses from Income Tax

Comments: This bill would exempt from income tax any military reenlistment bonuses.

LR: 3112

Sponsor: Senator Raye of Washington

Title: An Act To Address Taxation of Severance Pay

Comments: This bill would provide an exemption from state income tax for severance pay.

**INCOME TAX
PROVISIONS REVISED**

LR: 2777

Sponsor: Representative Mazurek of Rockland

Title: An Act To Tax Only the Interest Received on Annuities

Comments: This bill would tax only the interest received on an annuity once it is cashed in and not the amount that was used to purchase the annuity.

TAXATION

INCOME TAX RATE

LR: 3168

Sponsor: Senator Smith, D. of Piscataquis

Title: An Act To Reduce Income Tax Rates

Comments: This bill would phase in, over a 3-year period, a reduction in individual income tax rates.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1670

Closely Related CO: LD 952

Closely Related CO: LD 1582

Closely Related CO: LD 1833

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3300 Representative Lansley

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3351 Representative Pingree

LR: 3169

Sponsor: Senator Smith, D. of Piscataquis

Title: An Act To Create Tax Equity for Working Spouses

Comments: This bill would institute a flat 4.25% individual income tax on second wage earners for those filing a married joint return.

LR: 3279

Sponsor: Representative Duchesne of Hudson

Title: An Act To Reestablish Fairness in Corporate Taxation

Comments: This bill would require real estate investment trusts to pay income taxes at the same rates as corporations.

LR: 3300

Sponsor: Representative Lansley of Sabattus

Title: An Act To Reduce Taxes for Maine Residents

Comments: This bill would decrease the top 2 individual income tax rates over a 3-year period until both rates are 4.5%; the loss in revenue would be offset by deappropriations to various state agencies. This bill would also allocate any excess sales tax revenue to various accounts for the reduction of income and property taxes.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1670

Closely Related CO: LD 952

Closely Related CO: LD 1582

Closely Related CO: LD 1833

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3168 Senator Smith, D.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3351 Representative Pingree

TAXATION

**INCOME TAX
RATE**

LR: 3351

Sponsor: Representative Pingree of North Haven

Title: An Act To Lower Maine's Tax Burden on Maine People

Comments: This bill would reform Maine's income tax by reducing the top rate, raising the threshold for the top rate, raising the personal exemption, making the credit from the Maine Residents Property Tax Program a refundable credit on the income tax and making the earned income tax refundable and balance these reductions in revenue increases.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1670

Closely Related CO: LD 952

Closely Related CO: LD 1582

Closely Related CO: LD 1833

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3168 Senator Smith, D.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3300 Representative Lansley

TAXATION

MISCELLANEOUS TAXES

EXCISE TAX

LR: 2774

Sponsor: Representative McDonough of Scarborough

Title: An Act To Compute Automobile and Boat Excise Tax Based on the Actual Purchase Price

Comments: This bill would change the method of computing the excise tax that is levied on motor vehicles and boats registered in the State.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 79, 459, 558, 1460 and 1905

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2795 Representative Pilon

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3053 Representative Savage, D.

LR: 2795

Sponsor: Representative Pilon of Saco

Title: An Act To Alter the Method of Calculating the Excise Tax on Automobiles

Comments: This bill would alter the method of calculating the excise tax on automobiles.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 79, 459, 558, 1460 and 1905

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2774 Representative McDonough

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3053 Representative Savage, D.

LR: 3053

Sponsor: Representative Savage, D. of Falmouth

Title: An Act To Adjust the Excise Tax on Motor Vehicles

Comments: This bill would calculate the excise tax on motor vehicles by applying the tax to only 90% of the manufacturer's suggested retail price, or "MSRP," rather than the full MSRP.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 79, 459, 558, 1460 and 1905

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2774 Representative McDonough

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2795 Representative Pilon

LR: 3108

Sponsor: Senator Bartlett of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Promote Fuel-efficient Cars and Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Comments: This bill would provide exemptions from the motor vehicle excise tax for motor vehicles that are rated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency for more than 40 miles per gallon on the highway or that are so-called "zero pollution" vehicles.

Closely Related CO: LD 531

Closely Related CO: LD 1155

TAXATION

MISCELLANEOUS TAXES MOTOR FUEL TAX

LR: 2770

Sponsor: Representative Marley of Portland

Title: An Act To Repeal the Annual Indexing of the Fuel Tax

Comments: This bill would repeal the annual adjustment of the fuel tax for inflation.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 89

MISCELLANEOUS TAXES REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAX

LR: 3255

Sponsor: Representative Bliss of South Portland

Title: An Act To Create the Municipal Real Estate Transfer Tax

Comments: This bill would create a municipal real estate transfer tax.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 761, 762 and 1649

LR: 3375

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act To Promote the Restoration of Historic Buildings

Comments: This bill would provide a funding source for Maine's historic tax credit program by imposing a real estate transfer tax on sales of property. The rate of the tax would vary based on the cost of the property.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1356

Closely Related CO: LD 262

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2778 Senator Courtney

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3344 Representative Koffman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3379 Representative Koffman

LR: 3379

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act To Restore Maine's Historic Buildings

Comments: This bill would change the amount a county would receive from the transfer tax on real property from 10% of the amount received to 10% of the first 0.44% of the amount received. It also would require that 50% of the revenue received by the State attributable to the tax on the first 0.44% be credited to the Maine State Housing Authority and the remainder credited to the General Fund. The bill would also reduce the tax credit to home buyers to \$1,000 and dedicate the additional forecasted proceeds to a historical commercial rehabilitation fund.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1356

Closely Related CO: LD 262

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2778 Senator Courtney

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3344 Representative Koffman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3375 Representative Koffman

TAXATION

PROPERTY TAX CREDITS

LR: 2903

Sponsor: Senator Bartlett of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Provide Property Tax Relief

Comments: This bill would establish a refundable tax credit on primary residences.

PROPERTY TAX DEFERRALS

LR: 2794

Sponsor: Representative Pilon of Saco

Title: An Act To Create a Tax Deferral Program for Maine Residents 65 Years of Age or Older

Comments: This bill would create a tax deferral program for Maine residents 65 years of age or older if the resident is eligible.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 527, 1412, 1433, 1557, 1559, 1708, 1770 and 1925

Closely Related CO: LD 276

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3099 Representative Rand

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPT OWNERS

LR: 3303

Sponsor: Representative Wheeler of Kittery

Title: An Act To Provide Property and Excise Tax Relief to Disabled Maine Veterans

Comments: This bill would provide a property tax exemption and vehicle excise tax exemption to those veterans who are considered service-connected 100% permanently disabled.

PROPERTY TAX FARM AND OPEN SPACE TAX

LR: 2859

Sponsor: Senator Gooley of Franklin

Title: An Act To Eliminate the Income-producing Requirement for Land in the Farm and Open Space Program

Comments: This bill would eliminate the requirement that land enrolled in the farm and open space program produce revenue in order to qualify.

TAXATION

PROPERTY TAX PROVISIONS REVISED

LR: 3156

Sponsor: Representative Tardy of Newport

Title: An Act To Eliminate Property Tax Exemptions for Commercial Processors of Septic Waste

Comments: This bill would require that property taxes be paid on commercial processors of septic waste.

PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

LR: 2876

Sponsor: Senator Perry, J. of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Protect Maine's Lakes and Ponds through a Property Tax Incentive

Comments: This bill would provide a 10% reduction in property taxes for a person who owns waterfront property.

LR: 2913

Sponsor: Representative Giles of Belfast

Title: An Act To Amend the Circuitbreaker Program

Comments: This bill would expand who would qualify for the Circuitbreaker Program. Persons who make up to \$85,000 and couples who make up to \$120,000 would qualify to participate in the Circuitbreaker Program.

LR: 3004

Sponsor: Senator Benoit of Sagadahoc

Title: An Act To Allow Choice of Benefited Property under the Maine Residents Property Tax Program

Comments: This bill would allow a person who owns more than one property in Maine and who qualifies for reimbursement of property taxes under the Circuitbreaker Program to choose which property would receive reimbursement of property taxes.

LR: 3120

Sponsor: Representative Cebra of Naples

Title: An Act To Cap Property Taxes

Comments: This bill would cap property taxes for Maine residents at 5% of their household income. This bill would also require the Circuitbreaker Program application to be made part of the individual income tax form.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1588

TAXATION

PROPERTY TAX PROCEDURES COLLECTION

LR: 2785

Sponsor: Representative Sirois of Turner

Title: An Act To Protect Sellers in Residential Real Estate Transactions

Comments: This bill would protect the seller of a residential real estate transaction from penalties due to any buyer's financial problems.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2838 Representative Craven

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2841 Representative Bryant, M.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2921 Representative Fletcher

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3055 Representative Savage, D.

LR: 2838

Sponsor: Representative Craven of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Protect Former Property Owners from Liens

Comments: This bill would require the buyer of a property to pay in advance, or to place in escrow, sufficient revenue to pay remaining property tax due for the current year, as agreed at the time of the closing transaction. The bill would also require lenders to determine the current ownership of the property, in addition to the deed holder on April 1st of the year of sale. If the property tax was prorated at the time of sale, and the new buyer signed the agreement, the former owner could not be held responsible, and a lien could not be filed against the former owner.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2785 Representative Sirois

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2841 Representative Bryant, M.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2921 Representative Fletcher

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3055 Representative Savage, D.

LR: 2841

Sponsor: Representative Bryant, M. of Windham

Title: An Act To Require Disclosure Statements Regarding Proration of Property Taxes When Real Estate Is Sold

Comments: This bill would require closing agents in real estate transactions to disclose tax liability to the seller and the buyer prior to closing.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2785 Representative Sirois

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2838 Representative Craven

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2921 Representative Fletcher

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3055 Representative Savage, D.

TAXATION

PROPERTY TAX PROCEDURES COLLECTION

LR: 2921

Sponsor: Representative Fletcher of Winslow

Title: An Act To Ensure Timely Recognition of Title Transfer for Purposes of Property Tax Liability

Comments: This bill would require that municipalities record the change of ownership of a property within 60 days of receipt of a title transfer notification so that the new owners of the property are recorded as the responsible parties for property tax liabilities.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2785 Representative Sirois

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2838 Representative Craven

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2841 Representative Bryant, M.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3055 Representative Savage, D.

LR: 3055

Sponsor: Representative Savage, D. of Falmouth

Title: An Act To Require the Purchaser To Pay All Property Taxes

Comments: This bill would require the purchaser to be solely responsible for paying the property taxes on property.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2785 Representative Sirois

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2838 Representative Craven

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2841 Representative Bryant, M.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2921 Representative Fletcher

PROPERTY TAX PROCEDURES PAYMENT

LR: 3099

Sponsor: Representative Rand of Portland

Title: An Act To Authorize Municipal Property Tax Deferral Programs in Municipalities

Comments: This bill would authorize municipalities to establish property tax deferral programs.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 527, 1412, 1433, 1557, 1559, 1708, 1770 and 1925

Closely Related CO: LD 276

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2794 Representative Pilon

TAXATION

REVENUE SERVICES BUREAU ADMINISTRATION

LR: 3344

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act To Preserve Maine's Historic Buildings

Comments: This bill would charge a \$2.50-per-ton tax on fuel comprised of processed construction and demolition debris, the proceeds from which will be collected by the Bureau of Revenue Services for deposit in an historic commercial rehabilitation fund, which is devoted solely to the historic tax credit program refunds and administration. The tax will take effect on January 15, 2009. The provisions of this bill will not apply to contractual relationships between the State of Maine and the supplier of fuel for Red Shield Environmental in Old Town, Maine.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1356

Closely Related CO: LD 262

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2778 Senator Courtney

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3375 Representative Koffman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3379 Representative Koffman

TAXATION

SALES AND USE TAX EXEMPT ITEMS

LR: 2783

Sponsor: Representative Rosen, K. of Bucksport

Title: An Act To Exempt General Merchandise from Sales Tax for One Week in August

Comments: This bill would exempt general merchandise from sales tax for one week in August.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 829

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3054 Representative Savage, D.

LR: 2858

Sponsor: Representative Hayes of Buckfield

Title: An Act To Exempt from Taxation Sales of Veterans' Memorials To Be Installed on Public Property

Comments: This bill would exempt from taxation sales of veterans' memorials that are to be installed on public property.

LR: 2975

Sponsor: Representative Moore, G. of Standish

Title: An Act To Exempt Commercial Logging Equipment from the State Sales Tax

Comments: This bill would exempt from the sales tax commercial logging equipment.

LR: 3016

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Enhance Economic Development in Maine's Aviation Industry

Comments: This bill would exempt the sale and lease of aircraft and the sale of aircraft parts and equipment from state sales tax.

LR: 3022

Sponsor: Representative Greeley of Levant

Title: An Act To Exempt Items Purchased under the United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program from Sales Tax

Comments: This bill would exempt items purchased under the United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program from the sales tax.

LR: 3028

Sponsor: Senator Hastings of Oxford

Title: An Act To Clarify the Sales Tax on Prepared Meals

Comments: This bill would amend the definition of retail sale in the laws governing sales tax to exclude the serving of prepared food by a youth camp licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services.

TAXATION

SALES AND USE TAX EXEMPT ITEMS

LR: 3054

Sponsor: Representative Savage, D. of Falmouth

Title: An Act To Create a Sales-tax-free Weekend

Comments: This bill would create a weekend for shopping that is sales-tax-free and is based on Massachusetts law.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 829

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2783 Representative Rosen, K.

LR: 3119

Sponsor: Representative Thomas of Ripley

Title: An Act To Clarify the Exemption of Retail Sales of Kerosene from the Sales Tax

Comments: This bill would specifically exempt from the sales tax kerosene that is sold at retail outlets and stored in individual containers of 5 gallons or less.

LR: 3212

Sponsor: Senator Benoit of Sagadahoc

Title: An Act To Exempt from Sales Tax Garbage Bags Required To Be Purchased by Municipalities

Comments: This bill would exempt from the sales tax garbage bags purchased by users in municipalities that require the use of those garbage bags.

SALES AND USE TAX EXEMPT PURCHASERS

LR: 2977

Sponsor: Representative Faircloth of Bangor

Title: An Act To Increase Access to Dental Care

Comments: This bill would provide a 5-year income tax exemption and sales tax exemption for dental equipment supplies purchased by a dentist who: is licensed to practice in Maine; agrees to practice in underserved areas in Maine as determined by the Department of Health and Human Services; and establishes a new dental practice or joins an existing practice.

LR: 3288

Sponsor: Representative Dill of Cape Elizabeth

Title: An Act To Improve the Services of Charitable Organizations by Providing a Sales Tax Exemption

Comments: This bill would exempt a charitable organization from paying sales tax on materials purchased by the organization to provide charitable services.

TAXATION

TAX ASSESSMENT VALUATION

LR: 2926

Sponsor: Representative Bliss of South Portland

Title: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Restrict Revaluations of Real Property

Comments: This resolution would stop all real property and attached building revaluations unless the property is sold or the land use is changed or intensified to increase income. If the land use is intensified to increase income, the revaluation of the property would be based only on the added investment value.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1494

LR: 2950

Sponsor: Representative MacDonald of Boothbay

Title: An Act To Adjust Property Valuations in Consolidated School Districts To Achieve Parity

Comments: This bill would require Maine Revenue Services to determine the percentage by which towns are at or below the actual market value for their towns. The consolidated district finance officer, or someone at the state level, would then adjust the values for the towns to a number substantially equal to the real market value of the property for that town so that all towns are at parity. Only after this is done would the district then assign costs to each town in the district, and only for the portion of cost due to property valuation.

LR: 3017

Sponsor: Senator McCormick of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Eliminate the Sheltering of Values in State Valuation Associated with Tax Increment Financing

Comments: This bill would amend the duties of the State Tax Assessor with respect to the determination of each municipality's "equalized valuation," sometimes referred to as "state valuation." Under current law, the assessor must subtract from a municipality's valuation certain values associated with property in various tax increment financing districts. The discounting or sheltering of those values provides an advantage to those municipalities and a relative disadvantage to their municipal counterparts with respect to school subsidy, municipal revenue sharing and county assessments. This bill would eliminate the sheltering of those values from the determination of each municipality's equalized valuation.

TAXATION

TAX ASSESSMENT VALUATION

LR: 3115

Sponsor: Representative Pingree of North Haven

Title: An Act To Make Changes to the Working Waterfront Use Laws

Comments: This bill would make changes to the working waterfront property taxation laws.

Closely Related CO: LD 1298

LR: 3251

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

Title: An Act Relating to State Valuation of Certain Municipalities

Comments: This bill would provide that a municipality containing a chartered village corporation is entitled to an adjustment to its state valuation for purposes of revenue sharing and education funding if the municipality is required to rebate a certain portion of the property taxes collected within the village corporation territory back to the village corporation.

LR: 3265

Sponsor: Representative Pendleton of Scarborough

Title: An Act To Reduce Municipal Property Taxes

Comments: This bill would require the State to reimburse municipalities for the portion of the taxes they have lost as a result of tax-exempt property. The State would create a classification system for tax-exempt property. Local town assessors would use the classification system to assess the value of tax-exempt property. The State would reimburse municipalities for the lost property taxes based on the new classification system.

TRANSPORTATION

AERONAUTICS

AIRPORTS

LR: 3009

Sponsor: Representative Miramant of Camden

Title: An Act To Ensure That the Requirement of Airport Manager Training Does Not Affect the Issuance of an Annual Registration Certificate until January 1, 2009

Comments: This bill would delay the implementation of the requirement that an airport manager not be issued an annual registration certificate before completing airport manager training to January 1, 2009.

BICYCLES

REQUIREMENTS

LR: 3151

Sponsor: Senator Nutting, J. of Androscoggin

Title: An Act To Prohibit Bicyclists from Passing Stopped School Buses

Comments: This bill would make it illegal for a bicyclist to pass a stopped school bus that has its flashers on and would provide the same penalties for infractions as those prescribed for motor vehicles.

MOTOR CARRIERS

SAFETY

LR: 2970

Sponsor: Representative Browne of Vassalboro

Title: An Act To Designate Certain Rules of the Bureau of State Police as Major Substantive Rules

Comments: This bill would change the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police rule-making authority designation regarding motor carrier safety to major substantive. Currently these rules are designated as routine technical rules.

MOTOR CARRIERS

WEIGHT

LR: 3252

Sponsor: Representative Cleary of Houlton

Title: An Act To Reward Environmentally Efficient Tractor-trailer Trucks

Comments: This bill would allow tractor-trailer trucks to haul an additional 400 pounds if those trucks are environmentally efficient according to federal standards.

TRANSPORTATION

MOTOR VEHICLE BUREAU HEARINGS

LR: 3343

Sponsor: Representative Wheeler of Kittery

Title: An Act To Require a Hearing When a Fatality Results from a Motor Vehicle Accident

Comments: This bill would require the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to hold a hearing to investigate all motor vehicle accidents that result in a human fatality. This bill would also require the Secretary of State to review all such cases over the immediately preceding 12-month period to determine whether changes need to be made to the law.

MOTOR VEHICLES ANTIQUE

LR: 3276

Sponsor: Representative Mills, J. of Farmington

Title: An Act To Require Inspections of Automobiles Licensed as Antiques

Comments: This bill would require some minimal safety inspections of vehicles designated antiques by the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles that are driven on public ways.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1748

MOTOR VEHICLES FARM VEHICLES

LR: 2888

Sponsor: Senator Damon of Hancock

Title: An Act Regarding Axle Weight on Tri-axle Farm Trucks

Comments: This bill would expand the axle tolerance limit for tri-axle farm trucks to 64,000 pounds. The bill would not make any changes to the gross weight limit and is for tri-axle trucks with farm registrations only.

MOTOR VEHICLES INSPECTION

LR: 2966

Sponsor: Representative Kaenrath of South Portland

Title: An Act To Increase the Time Period for Motor Vehicle Inspections to 2 Years

Comments: This bill would require a motor vehicle registered in the State to be inspected every 2 years, instead of the current annual requirement.

TRANSPORTATION

MOTOR VEHICLES NUMBER PLATES

LR: 3128

Sponsor: Representative Clark of Millinocket

Title: An Act To Allow Disabled Veterans To Have Flags on Their Registration Plates

Comments: This bill would allow any disabled veteran to have a flag on the veteran's registration plate.

MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTRATION

LR: 2909

Sponsor: Representative Ayotte of Caswell

Title: An Act To Promote Fuel Conservation

Comments: This bill would allow the registration of mini-trucks for operation within a 100-mile radius of the address where the vehicle is registered.

MOTOR VEHICLES SEAT BELTS

LR: 2828

Sponsor: Representative Clark of Millinocket

Title: An Act To Provide Placards to Drivers Who for Medical Reasons Are Not Required To Wear Seat Belts

Comments: This bill would provide placards to drivers who for medical reasons are not required to wear seat belts.

MOTORCYCLES OPERATION

LR: 3123

Sponsor: Representative Robinson of Raymond

Title: An Act To Ensure Safe Sound Levels on Motorcycles

Comments: This bill would limit the decibel level allowed for motorcycles.

TRANSPORTATION

MOTORCYCLES PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR

LR: 2935

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

Title: An Act To Require Helmets for Motorcyclists

Comments: This bill would require that all motorcyclists wear helmets and would require that this change in the law be submitted to the citizens of the State for ratification at a referendum to be held in 2008.

OPERATORS LICENSES AUTOMOBILE

LR: 3272

Sponsor: Representative Simpson of Auburn

Title: An Act To Provide Safe Driving Incentive for Young Drivers

Comments: This bill would require that if a driver under 18 years of age has a moving violation, the driver's license must be suspended until the driver turns 18 years of age.

LR: 3278

Sponsor: Representative Mills, J. of Farmington

Title: An Act To Allow Nondangerous Drivers To Obtain a Work-restricted License

Comments: This bill would expand the availability of work-restricted licenses for habitual offenders and those convicted of driving to endanger or operating after suspension.

LR: 3356

Sponsor: Senator Marrache of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Clarify Procedures within the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for Transgendered Individuals

Comments: This bill would allow a person to change the sexual gender assignment on a driver's license when the transgendered person applies for a new license with a name change instead of when the full transgender procedure is complete.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 180

TRANSPORTATION

RAILROADS

PASSENGER

LR: 3210

Sponsor: Representative Marley of Portland

Title: An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Governor's Task Force on
Passenger Rail Funding

Comments: This bill would implement the recommendations of the Governor's Task Force on
Passenger Rail Funding.

ROADS

BRIDGES

LR: 2978

Sponsor: Representative Wagner of Lewiston

Title: Resolve, To Change the Name of the South Bridge between Lewiston and Auburn

Comments: This resolve would change the name of the South Bridge between Lewiston and
Auburn.

LR: 3042

Sponsor: Senator Raye of Washington

Title: Resolve, To Rename the Milbridge Bridge the "Harold West Bridge"

Comments: This resolve would rename the great south bridge in Milbridge the "Harold West
Bridge."

ROADS

HIGHWAY SAFETY

LR: 3173

Sponsor: Representative Finley of Skowhegan

Title: An Act To Require Certain Persons To Wear Reflective Vests at Night

Comments: This bill would require recreational walkers and joggers to wear a reflective vest at
night when jogging or walking on secondary roads that do not have a sidewalk.

TRANSPORTATION

ROADS

MAINTENANCE

LR: 2737

Sponsor: Representative Knight of Livermore Falls

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to Road Associations

Comments: This bill would amend the laws pertaining to road associations by tying in the present law with the adoption of comprehensive bylaws so that all aspects of a road association may be dealt with. The bill would also amend the current law to allow people on public easements to form a road association. The bill would also require that road association assessments be based not only on property assessments but on use and property assessments, determined by a majority vote of the road association at a meeting.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3092 Senator Nass, R.

LR: 2738

Sponsor: Representative Miramant of Camden

Title: An Act To Ban the Use of Liquid Calcium on Roads

Comments: This bill would ban the use of liquid calcium on roads.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2773 Representative Marley

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2793 Representative Weddell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3087 Representative Schatz

LR: 2773

Sponsor: Representative Marley of Portland

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Study the Corrosive Effects of Chemicals Used by the Department in Inclement Weather

Comments: This resolve would require the Department of Transportation to study the corrosive effect on vehicles and infrastructure of magnesium chloride used on roads.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2738 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2793 Representative Weddell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3087 Representative Schatz

LR: 2793

Sponsor: Representative Weddell of Frankfort

Title: Resolve, To Require the Department of Transportation To Examine the Feasibility of Discontinuing the Use of Brine on Roads

Comments: This resolve would require the Department of Transportation to examine the feasibility of discontinuing the brine-based solution used on roads in inclement weather.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2738 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2773 Representative Marley

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3087 Representative Schatz

TRANSPORTATION

ROADS

MAINTENANCE

LR: 2816

Sponsor: Senator Marrache of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Prevent the Closing of Store Road in Somerset County

Comments: This bill would require that a county road in Somerset County, Store Road, be kept open.

LR: 3087

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

Title: An Act To Eliminate the Use of Calcium Chloride on Roads

Comments: This bill would eliminate the use of calcium chloride in the course of winter maintenance on roads.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2738 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2773 Representative Marley

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2793 Representative Weddell

ROADS

PRIVATE WAYS

LR: 2878

Sponsor: Representative Burns of Berwick

Title: An Act To Allow the Use of Municipal Equipment on Private Roads for Emergency Access

Comments: This bill would allow the voters in a town to authorize the use of the town's equipment and resources on private roads to ensure access by emergency service vehicles during an emergency as declared by the Governor.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 906

ROADS

REST AREAS

LR: 3007

Sponsor: Representative Saviello of Wilton

Title: An Act To Ensure Continued Access to and Maintenance of Rest Areas on Maine Highways

Comments: This bill would require that the costs to maintain rest areas in the State be shared by the Department of Transportation and the Department of Economic and Community Development. This bill would also require that maintenance of the rest areas be performed by prison inmates.

TRANSPORTATION

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS IDLING

LR: 2775

Sponsor: Representative Hinck of Portland

Title: An Act To Conserve Gasoline and Preserve Clean Air

Comments: This bill would prohibit idling by motor vehicles for certain lengths of time based on the outside air temperature and would make Maine law consistent with the laws in New Hampshire and Massachusetts on vehicle idling.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 533

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS PEDESTRIANS

LR: 2865

Sponsor: Representative Harlow of Portland

Title: An Act To Improve Health and Safety in Maine

Comments: This bill would require motorists to give pedestrians on the side of the road at least 3 feet clearance while passing those pedestrians.

TRANSPORTATION

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS SPEED

LR: 2850

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

Title: An Act To Allow Law Enforcement Agencies To Use Devices That Record a Vehicle's Speed and License Plate Number in Order To Reduce Speeding

Comments: This bill would allow law enforcement agencies to use devices on roads that indicate to a driver the driver's speed, take a picture of the driver's license plate and facilitate the issuance of a speeding ticket, if appropriate, in an effort to reduce the incidence of speeding, particularly on rural roads.

LR: 2856

Sponsor: Representative Clark of Millinocket

Title: Resolve, To Establish a Blue Ribbon Commission To Study On-ramp Speed Limits

Comments: This resolve would establish a blue ribbon commission to study the feasibility of decreasing the speed limits on the on-ramps to the interstate highways.

LR: 3329

Sponsor: Representative Cray of Palmyra

Title: An Act To Permit School Buses To Travel at the Speed Limit on the Interstate

Comments: This bill would allow a school bus, with students on board, to travel at the 65 miles per hour speed limit while on Interstates 95 and 295.

TRANSPORTATION DEPT ADMINISTRATION

LR: 3360

Sponsor: Senator Mills, P. of Somerset

Title: An Act To Authorize the Department of Transportation To Recover for the Highway Fund Any Money Recovered from Those Responsible for Doing Damage to State Roads and Bridges

Comments: Currently, if the Department of Transportation recovers funds from motorists and others who do damage to highways, the money must be turned over to the General Fund. This bill would make it clear that the Department of Transportation has both the right and the duty to recover such sums for the exclusive benefit of the Highway Fund.

TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION DEPT PLANNING

- LR: 2759 Sponsor: Representative Mazurek of Rockland
Title: Resolve, To Direct the Department of Transportation To Do a Feasibility Study To Provide a 2nd Story to the Parking Lot at the State Ferry Terminal in Rockland
Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Transportation to do a feasibility study to provide a 2nd story to the parking lot at the State Ferry Terminal in Rockland.
- LR: 2863 Sponsor: Senator Plowman of Penobscot
Title: Resolve, To Create a Commission To Study the Real Estate Holdings of the Department of Transportation
Comments: This resolve would create a commission to study the real estate holdings of the Department of Transportation. The commission would be charged with evaluating Department of Transportation locations and making recommendations regarding the sale or retention of real estate.
- LR: 3096 Sponsor: Representative Marley of Portland
Title: Resolve, To Study a Road User Fee
Comments: This resolve would direct the Maine Department of Transportation to seek federal funding to finance a mileage fee pilot project in the Portland area. The study would be modeled upon the successful one-year pilot project recently done by the Oregon Department of Transportation in the Portland, Oregon area.
- LR: 3117 Sponsor: Representative Cebra of Naples
Title: An Act To Require Municipal Reporting of Urban-Rural Initiative Program Funds Spending
Comments: This bill would require municipalities to report annually to the Department of Transportation on how Urban-Rural Initiative Program funds are spent by those municipalities.
- LR: 3118 Sponsor: Representative Cebra of Naples
Title: An Act To Require Municipal Reporting Regarding Expenditures of Excise Tax Revenue for Road Projects
Comments: This bill would require municipalities to report annually to the Department of Transportation regarding those road projects that were funded with excise tax revenue.

TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION DEPT PLANNING

LR: 3232

Sponsor: Representative Miramant of Camden

Title: An Act To Clarify Recent Changes to the Law Concerning Payments for Business or Farm Displacements

Comments: This bill would clarify that recent changes to the law concerning fixed payments for business or farm displacements up to \$100,000 are for Federal Highway Administration-related projects only; otherwise, the maximum amount allowed is \$20,000 for all other federal agency issues.

TURNPIKE AUTHORITY POWERS

LR: 3209

Sponsor: Representative Marley of Portland

Title: An Act To Allow Congestion Pricing by the Maine Turnpike Authority

Comments: This bill would allow the Maine Turnpike Authority to base variable tolls on the time of the day.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3371 Representative Chase

LR: 3371

Sponsor: Representative Chase of Wells

Title: An Act To Make Maine Turnpike Tolls More Equitable

Comments: This bill would change the method of determining the tolls charged to a commuter pass on the Maine Turnpike by basing the toll on the average toll cost per mile of the turnpike. One cent of the toll would go to those municipalities in which or near which a toll barrier is located.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3209 Representative Marley

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

REBATE FOR GEOTHERMAL HEATING UNITS

LR: 2755

Sponsor: Representative Carter of Bethel

Title: An Act To Provide a Rebate for Clean Energy Geothermal Heating Units

Comments: This bill would provide a rebate for the purchase and installation of geothermal heating units to Maine homes or businesses, similar to the one currently available for the purchase and installation of solar heating units.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2862 Senator Sherman

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

SOLAR ENERGY QUALIFIED INSTALLERS

LR: 3270

Sponsor: Representative Miller of Somerville

Title: An Act To Clarify the Qualifications of Installers under the Solar Energy Rebate Program

Comments: This bill would clarify who qualifies as a qualified solar thermal system installer since currently installers who are required to take a qualification course still need a plumber to approve installations.

ELECTRIC UTILITIES

PLANNING

LR: 3352

Sponsor: Representative Pingree of North Haven

Title: An Act To Protect Maine Electricity Consumers

Comments: This bill would amend Maine public utilities laws within the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, and would also amend certain private and special laws to ensure that the State has authorized its agencies and others to fully protect electricity consumers in the current era of state deregulation and increased federal preemption.

Closely Related CO: LD 1098

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

ELECTRIC UTILITIES TRANSMISSION LINES

LR: 2919

Sponsor: Representative Fletcher of Winslow

Title: An Act Regarding Private Line Construction

Comments: This bill would clarify that electric utilities must provide a detailed quote that includes all costs to each residential, commercial or industrial customer to build a line extension, rather than relying on per-foot average pricing.

LR: 3286

Sponsor: Representative Dill of Cape Elizabeth

Title: An Act To Minimize Power Outages in Future Development

Comments: This bill would require that future development projects run power lines underground.
Closely Related CO: LD 398

ENERGY ELECTRICITY GENERATION

LR: 3114

Sponsor: Representative Pingree of North Haven

Title: An Act To Decrease Energy Costs on Downeast Islands

Comments: This bill would allow island electric cooperatives on Swans Island and Frenchboro Island to sell wholesale electric generation service to reduce their cost of providing retail service.

LR: 3365

Sponsor: Senator Strimling of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Promote Competition in Maine's Electric Industry

Comments: This bill would allow persons other than transmission and distribution utilities to compete with any transmission and distribution utilities that are affiliated with persons who own or operate electrical generation in the State.

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

ENERGY PLANNING

LR: 2833

Sponsor: Senator Martin of Aroostook

Title: An Act To Create the Public Power Delivery System

Comments: This bill would establish a public power delivery system under which the State would take over the delivery of electricity in the State.

LR: 2834

Sponsor: Representative Pingree of North Haven

Title: An Act To Lower Energy Costs and Increase Renewable Energy in Maine

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to develop more sustainable and affordable energy policies for the State. These measures may include methods to increase access to renewable energy; reduce energy costs; and utilize energy partnerships to maximize resources and production.

ENERGY CONSERVATION EFFICIENCY MAINE GRANTS

LR: 2902

Sponsor: Senator Bartlett of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Promote Home Energy Conservation

Comments: This bill would authorize Efficiency Maine to provide grants to be used to increase the efficiency of home heating.

ENERGY CONSERVATION STANDARDS

LR: 2784

Sponsor: Representative Hinck of Portland

Title: An Act To Preserve Successful Historic Neighborhood Schools

Comments: This bill would allow the State to exempt a historic neighborhood school from some requirements of existing energy standards if the school can achieve substantial compliance with the standards or otherwise demonstrates substantial energy efficiencies or other education, social or environmental benefits over alternative school siting proposals. The analysis under the amended law would factor in the embodied energy in an existing building and energy use as part of school transportation if the alternative proposals involve construction of a new school or a school in a more remote location.

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

GAS UTILITIES PROPANE

LR: 3091

Sponsor: Senator Weston of Waldo

Title: An Act To Increase Public Safety and Limit Liability for Businesses and Employees Who Work with Liquefied Petroleum Gas

Comments: This bill would limit the liability of marketers, transporters, handlers and sellers of propane gas for actual and punitive damages related to the installation, modification, repair or servicing of propane gas systems or appliances by any other person.

NUCLEAR POWER NUCLEAR POWER COUNCIL ESTABLISHED

LR: 2845

Sponsor: Representative Walker of Lincolnville

Title: An Act To Establish the Maine Nuclear Power Council

Comments: This bill would establish the Maine Nuclear Power Council to explore the need for carbon-free alternatives for power generation such as nuclear power in the State to lessen the State's dependency on foreign oil and natural gas sources. The council would also facilitate the planning for, locating of and study of the environmental impacts for the construction of a nuclear power facility and coordinate and expedite compliance with appropriate federal requirements.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3018 Representative Jacobsen

NUCLEAR POWER TASK FORCE TO STUDY USE IN FUTURE

LR: 3018

Sponsor: Representative Jacobsen of Waterboro

Title: Resolve, To Ensure the Future Supply of Domestic and Industrial Electric Power Generated within the State

Comments: This resolve would establish an advisory committee to determine whether future power needs could be met by using nuclear power generation. The advisory committee would determine whether nuclear power is a reasonable replacement for power generated by oil, gas and biomass by examining various economic and environmental factors.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2845 Representative Walker

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION POWERS

LR: 2927

Sponsor: Representative Bliss of South Portland

Title: An Act To Establish Consistent Consumer Protections for Cable and Video Programming Customers

Comments: This bill would require the Public Utilities Commission to adopt a uniform set of consumer protection standards for all cable and video services. This bill would also require the Public Utilities Commission to develop a model franchise agreement that a municipality could adopt to streamline the municipal franchising process, ensure consistency in customer service and encourage competition for the providing of video services.

LR: 3304

Sponsor: Representative Berry of Bowdoinham

Title: An Act To Allow the Public Utilities Commission To Change the Rates of a Utility Found To Engage in Misconduct

Comments: This bill would allow the Public Utilities Commission, upon a finding that a regulated utility has failed to disclose pertinent ratemaking information needed by the Public Utilities Commission to establish just and reasonable rates or has engaged in utility misconduct, to engage in retroactive ratemaking for the purpose of resetting the utility's rates to be just and reasonable. If the commission determines that the utility rates are unjust or unreasonable or if the utility had earnings in excess of its authorized rate of return, the Public Utility Commission would be authorized to require a refund.

LR: 3364

Sponsor: Senator Martin of Aroostook

Title: An Act To Protect Electricity Consumers of Northern Maine

Comments: This bill would amend portions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A to increase the power and duties of the Public Utilities Commission to more fully protect the electricity consumers of northern Maine from further price increases, to diminish recent price increases to these consumers and to make energy infrastructure decisions that protect northern Maine electricity consumers.

Closely Related CO: LD 1248

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES SOURCES

LR: 3172

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

Title: An Act To Protect Persons Responding to the Loss of a Water Supply by a Water Utility

Comments: This bill would exempt from liability those persons responding to the sudden loss of a water supply by a water utility.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3245 Senator Hastings

LR: 3245

Sponsor: Senator Hastings of Oxford

Title: An Act To Limit the Liability of Water Utilities Operating outside Their Service Charter in Response to Emergency Situations

Comments: This bill would limit the liability of water utilities and their staffs who perform water utility work and service outside their service charter in response to emergency situations.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3172 Senator Bryant, B.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS 9-1-1 EMERGENCY SYSTEM

LR: 3148

Sponsor: Senator Bowman of York

Title: An Act To Restrict the E-9-1-1 Fund to Use for E-9-1-1 Statewide and Local System Needs

Comments: This bill would articulate the sole permitted uses of the E-9-1-1 fund.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3307 Representative Wheeler

LR: 3307

Sponsor: Representative Wheeler of Kittery

Title: An Act To Protect the Integrity of Maine's Statewide E-9-1-1 Fund

Comments: This bill would restrict the use of Maine's E-9-1-1 fund for the support of state E-9-1-1 database contracts and equipment updates. Any surplus funds beyond the contract and equipment updates could only be used to provide grants for equipment and software support for dispatch and public safety answering point centers.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3148 Senator Bowman

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

TELECOMMUNICATIONS SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES

LR: 3160

Sponsor: Representative McLeod of Lee

Title: An Act To Allow the Maine School and Library Network To Provide Services to the Central Offices of the Newly Established Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would allow the Maine School and Library Network to provide services to the central offices of the newly established regional school units.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS TELEPHONE SYSTEMS

LR: 3124

Sponsor: Representative Robinson of Raymond

Title: An Act To Ensure Digital Telephone Access in Rural Areas

Comments: This bill would ensure digital telephone access in rural areas.

Closely Related CO: LD 305

LR: 3377

Sponsor: Representative Adams of Portland

Title: An Act To Ensure the Integrity of Prepaid Calling Accounts

Comments: This bill would require 25-day notice of an increase in in-state rates to holders of already purchased prepaid calling accounts. This bill would require clear disclosure at point of sale. This bill would also place into law the terms of the 2007 settlement agreement negotiated with the Office of the Public Advocate.

UTILITY DISTRICTS CHARTER CHANGES

LR: 3241

Sponsor: Senator Dow of Lincoln

Title: An Act To Include the Town of Nobleboro within the Service Area of the Great Salt Bay Sanitary District

Comments: This bill would include the Town of Nobleboro within the service area of the Great Salt Bay Sanitary District.

LR: 3242

Sponsor: Representative Millett of Waterford

Title: An Act To Amend the Charter of the Norway Water District

Comments: This bill would expand the territory of the Norway Water District so that it conforms with the actual service area of the district.

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

UTILITY DISTRICTS
NEW

LR: 3129

Sponsor: Senator Raye of Washington

Title: An Act To Create the Starboard Water District

Comments: This bill would create the Starboard Water District.

UTILITY DISTRICTS
REGULATION

LR: 3310

Sponsor: Senator Bromley of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Provide Reasonable Notice to Consumers When Utility Services Are Interrupted for Repairs and Restored

Comments: This bill would require utility companies to provide better notice to consumers of those utilities when the services are scheduled for repairs and interruptions.

PART 3

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Adams of Portland

LR: 3370

Title: An Act To Assist Maine Communities with Transitional Housing Support

Comments: This bill would target funds from the Housing Opportunities for Maine Program for the creation of transitional homeless housing in areas of the State where there is an acute need as determined by the Maine State Housing Authority.

LR: 3377

Title: An Act To Ensure the Integrity of Prepaid Calling Accounts

Comments: This bill would require 25-day notice of an increase in in-state rates to holders of already purchased prepaid calling accounts. This bill would require clear disclosure at point of sale. This bill would also place into law the terms of the 2007 settlement agreement negotiated with the Office of the Public Advocate.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Annis of Dover-Foxcroft

LR: 2786

Title: An Act To Allow the Transfer of an Antlerless Deer Permit to an Individual with Autism

Comments: This bill would allow a person who holds an antlerless deer permit to transfer that permit to an individual with autism who has successfully completed a hunter safety course acceptable under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, sections 10108 and 11105.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 616

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Austin of Gray

LR: 2907

Title: An Act To Designate August 24th as Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day

Comments: This bill would designate every August 24th as Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Ayotte of Caswell

LR: 2909

Title: An Act To Promote Fuel Conservation

Comments: This bill would allow the registration of mini-trucks for operation within a 100-mile radius of the address where the vehicle is registered.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Babbidge of Kennebunk

LR: 3376

Title: An Act To Limit Extreme Disparities in the Mill Rate toward Public Education among Municipalities Sharing a Regional School Unit

Comments: This bill would require that no municipality be required to pay as part of its local allocation more than twice the mill rate of any other municipality within that same regional school unit and would allow a transition adjustment for a municipality adversely affected to be determined by the Department of Education.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2881 Representative McFadden
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2958 Representative MacDonald
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3014 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3041 Senator Rosen, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3046 Representative Webster
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3159 Representative Lewin

Sponsor: Representative Barstow of Gorham

LR: 3105

Title: An Act To Clarify the Laws Governing the Extension of Health Care Coverage to Dependents

Comments: This bill would amend the law enacted last session that extended health insurance coverage for dependent children up to 25 years of age by clarifying definitions and eligibility for dependent children up to 25 years of age.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Bartlett of Cumberland

LR: 2840

Title: An Act To Preserve Internet Security

Comments: This bill would make it a crime for a person to access another person's computer that is connected wirelessly to the Internet.

LR: 2902

Title: An Act To Promote Home Energy Conservation

Comments: This bill would authorize Efficiency Maine to provide grants to be used to increase the efficiency of home heating.

LR: 2903

Title: An Act To Provide Property Tax Relief

Comments: This bill would establish a refundable tax credit on primary residences.

LR: 2982

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Storm Water Management

Comments: This bill would require disturbed areas created after January 1, 2008 that are associated with utility substations to meet only the basic standards for storm water management under the rules of the Department of Environmental Protection.

LR: 3108

Title: An Act To Promote Fuel-efficient Cars and Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Comments: This bill would provide exemptions from the motor vehicle excise tax for motor vehicles that are rated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency for more than 40 miles per gallon on the highway or that are so-called "zero pollution" vehicles.

Closely Related CO: LD 531

Closely Related CO: LD 1155

LR: 3109

Title: An Act To Clarify Maine's "Do Not Call" Law

Comments: This bill would expand exemptions under the state "Do Not Call" law to parallel federal law concerning existing business relationships.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Beaudoin of Biddeford

LR: 2811

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Public Restroom Facilities

Comments: This bill proposes to require that all places of public accommodation that provide restroom facilities provide disposable toilet seat covers.

LR: 2812

Title: An Act To Appropriate Funds To Equip State Trooper Cars with Cages

Comments: This bill would appropriate sufficient funds to equip each state trooper vehicle with a vehicle security cage.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Benoit of Sagadahoc

LR: 3001

Title: Resolve, To Allow John Jorgenson To Sue the State

Comments: This resolve would allow John Jorgenson, who was injured in a collision with a Department of Transportation vehicle, to sue the State and recover up to \$4,000,000 of any damages awarded by a jury.

LR: 3004

Title: An Act To Allow Choice of Benefited Property under the Maine Residents Property Tax Program

Comments: This bill would allow a person who owns more than one property in Maine and who qualifies for reimbursement of property taxes under the Circuitbreaker Program to choose which property would receive reimbursement of property taxes.

LR: 3094

Title: An Act To Allow Changes to Beneficiaries under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System

Comments: This bill would allow a retiree in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to change the designated beneficiary more than once.

LR: 3121

Title: An Act To Facilitate Consolidation of School Districts in the Lower Kennebec River Area

Comments: This bill would require the lower Kennebec River area regional school unit to raise an amount of revenue equal to 50% of an anticipated reduction in local tax burden for schools to offset local tax increases for education.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3031 Representative Percy

LR: 3174

Title: An Act To Facilitate Behavioral Reform within the Department of Corrections

Comments: This bill would implement an ankle bracelet program for nonviolent prisoners in county jails and require them to participate in the New Horizons Academy program.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3052 Representative Carter

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Benoit of Sagadahoc

LR: 3208

Title: An Act To Provide Federal Civil Service Retirees the Same Income Tax Deduction as Provided to Military Service Retirees

Comments: This bill would allow retirees receiving retirement benefits under the federal Civil Service Retirement System to deduct up to \$6,000 of those retirement benefits from their adjusted gross income on their state income tax returns without having to offset that deduction by any Social Security benefits they are also receiving.

LR: 3212

Title: An Act To Exempt from Sales Tax Garbage Bags Required To Be Purchased by Municipalities

Comments: This bill would exempt from the sales tax garbage bags purchased by users in municipalities that require the use of those garbage bags.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Berry of Bowdoinham

LR: 3240

Title: An Act To Prevent the Theft and Recycling of Certain Metals

Comments: This bill would require scrap dealers to authenticate that copper, beer kegs or catalytic converters brought to them for processing are not stolen property.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2875 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2955 Representative Thibodeau

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3141 Representative Koffman

LR: 3248

Title: An Act To Create a Mental Health Homicide Review Board

Comments: This bill would create a mental health homicide review board in conjunction with the Attorney General's office similar to the domestic violence review board that currently exists.

LR: 3304

Title: An Act To Allow the Public Utilities Commission To Change the Rates of a Utility Found To Engage in Misconduct

Comments: This bill would allow the Public Utilities Commission, upon a finding that a regulated utility has failed to disclose pertinent ratemaking information needed by the Public Utilities Commission to establish just and reasonable rates or has engaged in utility misconduct, to engage in retroactive ratemaking for the purpose of resetting the utility's rates to be just and reasonable. If the commission determines that the utility rates are unjust or unreasonable or if the utility had earnings in excess of its authorized rate of return, the Public Utility Commission would be authorized to require a refund.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Blanchette of Bangor

LR: 2965

Title: An Act To Protect Children from Secondhand Smoke

Comments: This bill would prohibit a person from smoking in a motor vehicle if there is a minor present.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2781 Representative Duprey

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Bliss of South Portland

LR: 2819

Title: An Act To Make the Lupine the Official Flower of Maine

Comments: This bill would replace the current state flower, the pine cone and tassel, with the lupine.

LR: 2926

Title: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Restrict Revaluations of Real Property

Comments: This resolution would stop all real property and attached building revaluations unless the property is sold or the land use is changed or intensified to increase income. If the land use is intensified to increase income, the revaluation of the property would be based only on the added investment value.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1494

LR: 2927

Title: An Act To Establish Consistent Consumer Protections for Cable and Video Programming Customers

Comments: This bill would require the Public Utilities Commission to adopt a uniform set of consumer protection standards for all cable and video services. This bill would also require the Public Utilities Commission to develop a model franchise agreement that a municipality could adopt to streamline the municipal franchising process, ensure consistency in customer service and encourage competition for the providing of video services.

LR: 3255

Title: An Act To Create the Municipal Real Estate Transfer Tax

Comments: This bill would create a municipal real estate transfer tax.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 761, 762 and 1649

LR: 3354

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Concerning the Maine Communications System Policy Board

Comments: This bill would allow the Maine Municipal Association to propose names for nomination for municipal officials for the Maine Communications System Policy Board.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Boland of Sanford

LR: 2734

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Required Implanting of a Microchip in a Person

Comments: This bill would prohibit a person from requiring an individual to receive a microchip implant into that individual's body and establish a civil violation with a fine of \$10,000 per offense that may be adjudged.

LR: 2849

Title: An Act To Extend the Tax Credit for College Loan Repayment to Students Attending Out-of-state Colleges

Comments: This bill would extend the tax credit for college loan repayment to students that attend an out-of-state school of higher education as long as they return to the State to work.

LR: 2957

Title: An Act To Inform Patients of Their Right To Decline To Be Vaccinated

Comments: This bill would require a health care provider to give written and oral notification to a patient who is to be vaccinated of the patient's right to decline to be vaccinated.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Bowman of York

LR: 3148

Title: An Act To Restrict the E-9-1-1 Fund to Use for E-9-1-1 Statewide and Local System Needs

Comments: This bill would articulate the sole permitted uses of the E-9-1-1 fund.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3307 Representative Wheeler

LR: 3150

Title: An Act To Improve the Compliance and Accountability of the Child Development Services System

Comments: This bill would require more frequent and more detailed reporting by the Department of Education regarding Child Development Services System sites that are either not in compliance with state law or are under state governance.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Brannigan of Cumberland

LR: 2813

Title: An Act To Repeal the Ban on the Sale and Furnishing of Hard Snuff

Comments: This bill would repeal the prohibition on the sale, furnishing or gifting of hard snuff.

LR: 2989

Title: An Act To Establish a Consumer Council System of Maine Consistent with the Riverview Psychiatric Center Consent Decree

Comments: This bill would establish a statewide consumer council in order to influence public policy and address community issues affecting the lives of consumers of mental health services.

LR: 3100

Title: An Act To Clarify the Election of Municipal Charter Commission Members

Comments: This bill would allow the election of municipal charter commission members no later than the next scheduled regular or special municipal or state election that is at least 90 days after a referendum authorizing a charter commission. The bill also would establish a method of determining the number of voter members on a charter commission.

LR: 3284

Title: An Act To Amend the Prescription Drug Practice Laws

Comments: This bill would exempt the MaineCare program from the provisions of the prescription drug practices laws governing pharmacy benefits management.

LR: 3313

Title: An Act To Authorize the City of Portland To Lease Submerged Lands for Longer than 30 Years

Comments: This bill would require the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Conservation to lease submerged lands under and adjacent to certain port facilities in the City of Portland to the city for not less than 75 years nor more than 99 years. It also would provide that the submerged lands may not be sold by the city but may only be leased and that the city shall manage the submerged lands in trust for the benefit of the public.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3332 Speaker Cummings

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Brannigan of Cumberland

LR: 3346

Title: An Act To Require Teaching of Mental Health Awareness in Maine's Middle Schools

Comments: This bill would require that mental health awareness be taught in all middle schools in Maine and would require the Department of Education to include the curriculum as prescribed by the National Institutes of Health's "The Science of Mental Illness" curriculum supplement series for grades 6 to 8 to enhance the understanding of mental illness from biological, psychological and environmental aspects in the classroom, making for healthier communities. It would assist children suffering from the disease, their peers, teachers and school staff, and families of those with the disease.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Brautigam of Falmouth

LR: 3035

Title: An Act To Provide Tax Treatment Consistency for Limited Liability and Subchapter S Corporations

Comments: This bill would credit a member of a limited liability corporation or a subchapter S corporation that member's share of the entity's tax paid to another state or taxing jurisdiction.

Closely Related CO: LD 1400

LR: 3113

Title: An Act To Reduce Health Care Costs and Improve Health Outcomes

Comments: This bill would prohibit a health care provider from billing a patient or any health plan or government benefit program in which that patient is enrolled for expenses incurred in treating conditions resulting from mistakes made by that provider. The bill would also prohibit a health care provider from billing a patient for expenses incurred in treating an infection acquired while in the care of the provider if the infection is of a type that is preventable.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2917 Representative Crockett

LR: 3217

Title: An Act To Protect Life Insurance Consumers

Comments: This bill would amend Maine's law on viatical settlements to be consistent with the recently adopted National Association of Insurance Commissioners Viatical Settlements Model Act by seeking a limited 5-year moratorium on certain life insurance settlements and requiring more robust disclosure requirements to policy owners.

LR: 3302

Title: An Act To Ensure Stability and Affordability within the Health Insurance Market

Comments: This bill would merge the individual and small group health insurance markets and would establish a reinsurance model designed to offset any increases in rates for small business that result from the merger of markets.

Closely Related CO: LD 1047

Closely Related CO: LD 1294

Closely Related CO: LD 1760

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Bromley of Cumberland

LR: 3147

Title: An Act To Allow Direct-to-consumer Wine Sales

Comments: This bill would allow direct-to-consumer sales of wine to state-registered buyers.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 143

LR: 3149

Title: An Act To Strengthen the Maine Small Business and Entrepreneurship Commission

Comments: This bill would improve the functioning of the Maine Small Business and Entrepreneurship Commission by enhancing members' terms and appointments and increasing the duties of the commission.

LR: 3182

Title: An Act Regarding the Board of Examiners in Physical Therapy

Comments: This bill would increase the number of physical therapists on the Board of Examiners in Physical Therapy from 2 to 3.

LR: 3310

Title: An Act To Provide Reasonable Notice to Consumers When Utility Services Are Interrupted for Repairs and Restored

Comments: This bill would require utility companies to provide better notice to consumers of those utilities when the services are scheduled for repairs and interruptions.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Browne of Vassalboro

LR: 2970

Title: An Act To Designate Certain Rules of the Bureau of State Police as Major Substantive Rules

Comments: This bill would change the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police rule-making authority designation regarding motor carrier safety to major substantive. Currently these rules are designated as routine technical rules.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

LR: 2990

Title: An Act To Require That Health Care Providers Follow "Do Not Resuscitate" Orders

Comments: This bill would require that health care providers follow "do not resuscitate" orders.

LR: 2991

Title: An Act To Appropriate Funds to the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention for Lyme Disease Prevention and Outreach

Comments: This bill would appropriate \$200,000 to the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention for Lyme disease prevention and outreach.

LR: 2992

Title: An Act To Establish Defined Reasonable Time Frames for Treating Regressive Disorders, Including Autism

Comments: This bill would establish defined reasonable time frames for treating regressive disorders, including autism.

LR: 2994

Title: An Act To Expand the Case Definition of Lyme Disease for Purposes of Compiling the Annual Lyme Disease Surveillance Report

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention to expand the case definition of Lyme disease for purposes of compiling the annual Lyme disease surveillance report.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2993 Representative Bryant, M.

LR: 2995

Title: An Act To Limit Annual Increases in Health Insurance Premiums to the Increase in the Cost of Living

Comments: This bill would limit annual increases in health insurance premiums to the increase in the cost of living.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

LR: 2996

Title: An Act To Authorize Regional Planning Committees To Submit Negotiated Cost-sharing Agreements as Part of Their Reorganization Plans

Comments: This bill would authorize regional planning committees, in the course of implementing the law regarding the consolidation of school administrative units, to submit negotiated cost-sharing agreements as part of their reorganization plans.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

LR: 2997

Title: An Act To Provide Child Development Services through Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would provide child development services for children from birth to school age through the regional school units established pursuant to Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX.

LR: 3107

Title: An Act To Clarify the Procedures for Repayment of School Construction Debt for an Addition and Renovation Project at the Region 9 School of Applied Technology

Comments: This bill would clarify the procedures for repayment of school construction debt incurred for an approved addition and renovation project at the Region 9 School of Applied Technology in Mexico, Maine. The bill would provide that in the event that the current members of Region 9 are merged into regional school units pursuant to Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX the regional school units will have authority to assess and collect the annual debt service for the project.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

LR: 3127

Title: An Act To Ensure Transparency in the Implementation of the Laws Governing School Administrative Unit Consolidation

Comments: This bill would amend the law governing the consolidation of school administrative units to specifically allow a reorganization plan to include proposals to reduce teaching staffs and to close schools.

LR: 3172

Title: An Act To Protect Persons Responding to the Loss of a Water Supply by a Water Utility

Comments: This bill would exempt from liability those persons responding to the sudden loss of a water supply by a water utility.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3245 Senator Hastings

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Bryant, M. of Windham

LR: 2841

Title: An Act To Require Disclosure Statements Regarding Proration of Property Taxes When Real Estate Is Sold

Comments: This bill would require closing agents in real estate transactions to disclose tax liability to the seller and the buyer prior to closing.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2785 Representative Sirois

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2838 Representative Craven

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2921 Representative Fletcher

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3055 Representative Savage, D.

LR: 2993

Title: An Act To Provide for the Testing of Deer Ticks for Lyme Disease

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Infectious Disease to provide for the testing of ticks for Lyme disease.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2994 Senator Bryant, B.

LR: 3137

Title: An Act To Amend the Shoreland Zoning Laws To Allow Carports

Comments: This bill would amend the shoreland zoning laws to allow carports.

LR: 3308

Title: An Act To Create a New Position in the Bureau of Warden Service

Comments: This bill would create a new position in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Bureau of Warden Service to patrol Sebago Lake and Long Lake and contiguous waterways.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2947 Representative Sykes

LR: 3309

Title: An Act To Require Education in Boating Safety

Comments: This bill would require mandatory boating safety education for all power boat operators in Maine.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2779 Representative Watson

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2945 Representative Sykes

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Bryant, M. of Windham

LR: 3314

Title: Resolve, To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Amend MaineCare Rules and Stay Review for Ongoing Eligibility for Nursing Facility Services To Permit an Exception Process for Late Submissions

Comments: This bill would require that the Department of Health and Human Services amend MaineCare rules and stay review for ongoing eligibility for nursing facility services to permit an exception process for late submissions.

LR: 3316

Title: Resolve, To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Provide Appropriate Cost-of-living Adjustments for Certain Medical and Remedial Private Nonmedical Institutions

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its principles of reimbursement for certain residential care facilities and certain medical and remedial private nonmedical institutions to provide these facilities with a 2% cost-of-living adjustment in fiscal year 2008-09.

LR: 3317

Title: An Act To Protect Maine Workers during Labor Disputes

Comments: This bill would allow workers locked out of their jobs during extensive labor disputes access to Maine unemployment insurance benefits after 60 days and the opportunity to pursue retraining opportunities that are typically available to laid-off employees after 120 days without resolution of the dispute.

LR: 3325

Title: An Act To Direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the University of Maine To Develop a Methodology To Reduce the Population of Deer Ticks

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the University of Maine to develop a methodology to reduce the population of deer ticks.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Burns of Berwick

LR: 2878

Title: An Act To Allow the Use of Municipal Equipment on Private Roads for Emergency Access

Comments: This bill would allow the voters in a town to authorize the use of the town's equipment and resources on private roads to ensure access by emergency service vehicles during an emergency as declared by the Governor.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 906

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Cain of Orono

LR: 3254

Title: An Act To Expand the Membership of the Juniper Ridge Landfill Advisory Committee
To Include a Member from Orono

Comments: This bill would expand the membership of the Juniper Ridge Landfill Advisory
Committee to include a member from Orono.

Sponsor: Representative Campbell of Newfield

LR: 3299

Title: An Act To Preserve Access to Assisted Living Services for Maine's Elderly and Disabled Citizens

Comments: This bill would preserve access to assisted living services for elderly and disabled citizens by amending MaineCare rules for reimbursement and adjusting MaineCare reimbursement rates as they relate to assisted living services.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Canavan of Waterville

LR: 2806

Title: An Act To Require Lobbyists To Disclose the Cost of Advertising for the Purpose of Influencing Any Legislative Action

Comments: This bill would require a lobbyist to include in the lobbyist's monthly report to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices the specific dollar amount of expenditures for solicitation.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1898

LR: 2807

Title: An Act To Amend the Law Governing Membership on the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices

Comments: This bill would change the way members of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices are chosen to the way originally enacted in law. In addition, this bill would prohibit the officers, directors or members of the boards of organizations that lobby the Legislature, or affiliates of such organizations, from serving as members of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3305 Speaker Cummings

LR: 2809

Title: An Act To Require the Enhanced Disclosure of the Costs of Lobbying

Comments: This bill would require that any person or entity who hires a lobbyist disclose to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices the amount of expenditures to the lobbyist to advance or defeat proposed legislation.

LR: 2923

Title: An Act To Facilitate the Diversion of Persons with Mental Illness and Substance Abuse Away from Incarceration through the Co-occurring Disorders Court

Comments: This bill would provide continued funding for the Kennebec County Co-occurring Disorders Court to allow it to continue the diversion of persons with significant mental illness, substance abuse disorders and criminal conduct from incarceration in county and state correctional facilities.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2924 Representative Canavan

LR: 2924

Title: An Act To Establish an Ombudsman for Mentally Ill Inmates

Comments: This bill would establish an ombudsman for mentally ill inmates.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2923 Representative Canavan

Sponsor: Representative Canavan of Waterville

LR: 3289

Title: An Act To Limit Outsourcing of Government Functions

Comments: This bill would prohibit the State from outsourcing to private contractors a function previously performed by state workers unless the private contractor provides proof of the contractor's ability to perform the function more efficiently than state workers.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Carter of Bethel

LR: 2755

Title: An Act To Provide a Rebate for Clean Energy Geothermal Heating Units

Comments: This bill would provide a rebate for the purchase and installation of geothermal heating units to Maine homes or businesses, similar to the one currently available for the purchase and installation of solar heating units.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2862 Senator Sherman

LR: 3027

Title: An Act To Establish a Combination Spirits License

Comments: This bill would allow a general store that has less than \$150,000 per year in gross sales, that has less than 1,250 square feet of sales area and that is the only general store within a municipality to purchase a combination beer and wine license for \$300 plus applicable fees.

LR: 3050

Title: Resolve, To Build a Public Dock on Mooselookmeguntic Lake

Comments: This resolve would direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to study the feasibility of building a dock for public use and summer rentals on Mooselookmeguntic Lake at the Toothaker Landing site to restore public access to the lake now that the current dock has been privately purchased.

LR: 3051

Title: An Act Regarding Off-road Diesel Fuel

Comments: This bill would permit users of off-road diesel fuel to receive a fuel tax exemption upon purchase rather than as an annual tax refund. The bill would require purchasers to show a certification document to sellers that verifies the fuel tax exemption for an amount of diesel equal to their previous year's consumption. The purchaser would then add dye to the tax-exempt fuel to ensure that the fuel is not used for on-road purposes.

LR: 3052

Title: An Act To Establish a Bracelet Monitoring Program for Persons Convicted of Minor Crimes

Comments: This bill would create a state bracelet program similar to the one now in the counties. The state program would also be able to accept qualified inmates from county jails that do not live in the county where incarcerated.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3174 Senator Benoit

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Casavant of Biddeford

LR: 2871

Title: An Act To Allow Disability Variances To Be Granted for Reasons Other than Ingress or Egress

Comments: This bill would amend zoning law to allow a disability variance to be granted for the construction of structures that assist a disabled person other than for ingress and egress to the property.

LR: 3177

Title: Resolve, To Create a Work Group Concerning Education Curricula and Social Networking Websites

Comments: This resolve would create a work group involving the education community and public safety community to report findings and suggested legislation concerning the social networking sites on the Internet and how they affect middle and high school students and education curricula.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Cebra of Naples

LR: 2803

Title: An Act To Extend All Deadlines Concerning the Consolidation of School Administrative Units by One Year

Comments: This bill would extend all deadlines and the application of penalties for not meeting the deadlines of the consolidation plan of school administrative units.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2797 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3221 Representative Clark

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3246 Representative Pratt

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3355 Senator Smith, D.

LR: 2804

Title: An Act To Waive All Penalties in the Plan for the Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would waive all penalties in the school administrative unit consolidation plan.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2798 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2801 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3012 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3130 Representative Treat

LR: 2892

Title: An Act To Allow a Holder of a Concealed Weapons Permit To Carry a Weapon Anywhere in the State

Comments: This bill would allow a holder of a concealed weapons permit to carry a concealed weapon anywhere in the State, without restriction.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2906 Representative Fischer

LR: 3117

Title: An Act To Require Municipal Reporting of Urban-Rural Initiative Program Funds Spending

Comments: This bill would require municipalities to report annually to the Department of Transportation on how Urban-Rural Initiative Program funds are spent by those municipalities.

LR: 3118

Title: An Act To Require Municipal Reporting Regarding Expenditures of Excise Tax Revenue for Road Projects

Comments: This bill would require municipalities to report annually to the Department of Transportation regarding those road projects that were funded with excise tax revenue.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Cebra of Naples

LR: 3120

Title: An Act To Cap Property Taxes

Comments: This bill would cap property taxes for Maine residents at 5% of their household income.

This bill would also require the Circuitbreaker Program application to be made part of the individual income tax form.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1588

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Chase of Wells

LR: 3371

Title: An Act To Make Maine Turnpike Tolls More Equitable

Comments: This bill would change the method of determining the tolls charged to a commuter pass on the Maine Turnpike by basing the toll on the average toll cost per mile of the turnpike. One cent of the toll would go to those municipalities in which or near which a toll barrier is located.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3209 Representative Marley

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Clark of Millinocket

LR: 2787

Title: An Act To Amend the Plan for the Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would amend the law governing the consolidation of school administrative units by specifying that it is the municipality, rather than the school administrative unit, that is responsible for forming a reorganization planning committee. This bill would also clarify that, unless specified exceptions apply, when circumstances justify an exception to the minimum size requirement of a school administrative unit, the unit must serve at least 1,200 students.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3059 Senator Hastings

LR: 2827

Title: An Act To Provide Members of the Armed Forces Who Are Not Residents of this State Privileges To Hunt and Fish Comparable to Those Provided to Members of the Armed Forces Who Are Residents

Comments: This bill would provide members of the armed forces who are not residents of this State privileges to hunt and fish comparable to those provided to members of the armed forces who are residents.

LR: 2828

Title: An Act To Provide Placards to Drivers Who for Medical Reasons Are Not Required To Wear Seat Belts

Comments: This bill would provide placards to drivers who for medical reasons are not required to wear seat belts.

LR: 2856

Title: Resolve, To Establish a Blue Ribbon Commission To Study On-ramp Speed Limits

Comments: This resolve would establish a blue ribbon commission to study the feasibility of decreasing the speed limits on the on-ramps to the interstate highways.

LR: 2857

Title: An Act To Protect the Rights of Leaseholders

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to protect the rights of leaseholders.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1576

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Clark of Millinocket

LR: 2901

Title: An Act To Grant Step-parents the Same Rights as Biological Parents

Comments: This bill would amend the law to grant step-parents the same rights held by biological parents with respect to decisions regarding a child, including decisions about medical treatment and education needs.

LR: 3128

Title: An Act To Allow Disabled Veterans To Have Flags on Their Registration Plates

Comments: This bill would allow any disabled veteran to have a flag on the veteran's registration plate.

LR: 3221

Title: An Act To Extend the Deadlines Concerning the Consolidation of School Administrative Units by 2 Years

Comments: This bill would extend the deadlines and the application of penalties for not complying with the deadlines of the consolidation plan of school administrative units.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2797 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2803 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3246 Representative Pratt

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3355 Senator Smith, D.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Cleary of Houlton

LR: 3136

Title: An Act To Assist Distressed Businesses Organized as Limited Liability Companies

Comments: This bill would allow a limited liability company, upon filing with the Secretary of State, to be excused from further filings with the Secretary of State as long as the company does not transact any business.

LR: 3239

Title: An Act To Allow Community Service in Lieu of Fines

Comments: This bill would allow the court to order a person who fails to pay a fine to complete a community service requirement.

LR: 3250

Title: An Act To Promote Boater Safety

Comments: This bill would require that all boats with an outboard motor have a propeller guard.

LR: 3252

Title: An Act To Reward Environmentally Efficient Tractor-trailer Trucks

Comments: This bill would allow tractor-trailer trucks to haul an additional 400 pounds if those trucks are environmentally efficient according to federal standards.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Connor of Kennebunk

LR: 2930

Title: An Act To Provide Degree-granting Authority to the Landing School of Boatbuilding and Design

Comments: This bill would give the Landing School of Boatbuilding and Design the authority to grant degrees.

LR: 3060

Title: An Act To Develop and Implement a Strategic School Capital Plan

Comments: This bill would streamline the process by which we spend our school capital dollars by working from a strategic statewide plan rather than a patchwork of local proposals. This bill would propose that the State do an inventory of all the school buildings in the State to assess their status and maintenance needs. This inventory would be periodically updated. Based on the inventory, the State would develop a strategic plan for school capital investments that implements a fix-it-first policy and encourages collaboration across town and district lines to use the capacity we have before creating more. This bill would also propose that the State develop a plan for the long-term sustainability of the School Revolving Renovation Fund.

LR: 3154

Title: An Act To Fund the Children's Immunization Program

Comments: This bill would provide funding for the children's immunization program so that the program can provide vaccines to children according to guidelines established by the federal Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Connor of Kennebunk

LR: 3219

Title: An Act To Return to Fair and Equitable Cost Sharing of the Additional Local Costs within Certain Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would provide that certain municipalities that form multimunicipal regional school units will share any additional costs using the pro rata state valuation allocation method.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

LR: 3220

Title: An Act To Protect Children from Lead Poisoning

Comments: This bill would expand the Lead Poisoning Control Act by requiring that all physicians screen children under 6 years of age at designated intervals and by requiring kindergartens to obtain evidence of screening for lead poisoning for every child.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3047 Representative Webster
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3102 Speaker Cummings

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Conover of Oakland

LR: 2742

Title: An Act To Prevent Health Insurers from Discriminating against Consumers

Comments: This bill would prohibit health insurers from using health surveys to discriminate against consumers.

LR: 2746

Title: An Act To Ensure That Children's Toys and Products Are Free of Lead

Comments: This bill would direct the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention to use a portion of the funds in the lead poisoning prevention fund to test products that are customarily used by children for lead.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2830 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2877 Representative Pingree

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Courtney of York

LR: 2778

Title: An Act To Provide Ongoing Funding for the Historic Preservation Tax Credit

Comments: This bill would identify adequate funding sources for future historic preservation tax credits by earmarking tax revenues generated in renovating or refurbishing properties and structures that receive the historic preservation tax credit. This bill would provide that structures previously used as mills would qualify for funding from these tax revenues.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1356

Closely Related CO: LD 262

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3344 Representative Koffman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3375 Representative Koffman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3379 Representative Koffman

LR: 3203

Title: An Act To Increase the Penalty for Operating under the Influence

Comments: This bill would amend current operating-under-the-influence laws by mandating a 10-year sentence for a death caused while operating under the influence after a prior conviction for operating under the influence, prohibiting operating under the influence from being plea-bargained to a lesser crime, and establishing reciprocity for operating under the influence committed in other states.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Craven of Lewiston

LR: 2837

Title: An Act To Encourage Access to Respite Care Services for Maine Families with Behavioral Health Needs

Comments: This bill would repeal the sliding fee scale for respite care services, which is based on ability to pay.

LR: 2838

Title: An Act To Protect Former Property Owners from Liens

Comments: This bill would require the buyer of a property to pay in advance, or to place in escrow, sufficient revenue to pay remaining property tax due for the current year, as agreed at the time of the closing transaction. The bill would also require lenders to determine the current ownership of the property, in addition to the deed holder on April 1st of the year of sale. If the property tax was prorated at the time of sale, and the new buyer signed the agreement, the former owner could not be held responsible, and a lien could not be filed against the former owner.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2785 Representative Sirois

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2841 Representative Bryant, M.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2921 Representative Fletcher

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3055 Representative Savage, D.

LR: 3025

Title: An Act To Enact the Homeless Youth Act of 2008

Comments: This bill would enact the Homeless Youth Act of 2008 to meet the emergency needs of homeless youth 12 to 21 years of age in the State by continuing to fund existing services and to create funding for more services.

LR: 3277

Title: An Act To Ensure Coverage of Care for Individuals with Acquired Brain Injuries

Comments: This bill would require a health insurer to provide coverage for services related to an acquired brain injury and require the insurer to provide adequate training to the insurer's employees responsible for preauthorization of coverage.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 722 and 1782

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Craven of Lewiston

LR: 3342

Title: Resolve, To Create a Blue Ribbon Commission To Study Long-Term Home-based Care

Comments: This bill would establish a blue ribbon commission on the future of long-term home-based and community-based care to examine and make recommendations on the development of choices to meet unmet needs and financing options to ensure access and affordability.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Cray of Palmyra

LR: 3218

Title: An Act To Establish a Centralized Fingerprint Database of Those Employees Required To Be Fingerprinted for Employment

Comments: This bill would establish a centralized fingerprint database of those employees required to be fingerprinted for employment.

LR: 3329

Title: An Act To Permit School Buses To Travel at the Speed Limit on the Interstate

Comments: This bill would allow a school bus, with students on board, to travel at the 65 miles per hour speed limit while on Interstates 95 and 295.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Crockett of Augusta

LR: 2893

Title: An Act To Establish the Crime of Negligent Motor Vehicle Homicide

Comments: This bill would establish a new Class D crime with permissive sentences of up to 364 days incarceration and a \$2,000 fine for death caused by the negligent operation of a motor vehicle or while committing a traffic violation.

LR: 2917

Title: An Act To Prohibit Hospitals from Charging for Treatment To Correct Medical Mistakes

Comments: This bill would prohibit hospitals from charging for care to correct medical mistakes, such as leaving an instrument in a patient or operating on the wrong body part.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3113 Representative Brautigam

LR: 2952

Title: An Act To Better Coordinate and Reduce the Cost of the Delivery of State and County Correctional Services

Comments: This bill would establish the Joint State-County Corrections Authority, which would be empowered to do the following: 1. Direct the management of the inmate populations of the county and state corrections facilities and programs as necessary to achieve maximum utilization of existing resources, consistent with best correctional practices and public safety; 2. Oversee the transport of inmates by county and state correctional facilities in order to reduce the overall cost of inmate transport in the State, consistent with the interests of security, other governmental agencies, including the courts, and the needs of the inmates; 3. Ensure that the counties and the State maximize the use of alternatives to incarceration, consistent with best correctional practices and the protection of public safety; 4. Review and approve all requests for construction of new or expanded county or state correctional facilities through a certificate of need process; and 5. Conduct inspections of and to accredit county and state correctional facilities.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2846 Representative Gerzofsky

LR: 2953

Title: An Act To Allow Day Care Facilities To Charge in Advance for a Maximum of 2 Weeks

Comments: This bill would allow day care facilities to charge in advance for a maximum of 2 weeks.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Crockett of Augusta

LR: 2954

Title: An Act To Provide Age-appropriate Instruction in Protection against and Awareness of Sexual Predators to Students

Comments: This bill would add to the requirements of the system of learning results a curriculum of age-appropriate instruction regarding how to protect oneself from and be aware of the dangers of sexual predators for students in kindergarten to grade 12.

LR: 2968

Title: An Act To Increase the State Subsidy for Adult Education within the Department of Education

Comments: This bill would increase the state subsidy for adult education within the Department of Education.

LR: 2969

Title: An Act To Protect Maine Contractors

Comments: This bill would require a construction contract to identify the bonding agent and how that agent may be contacted. It also would require that an action on a bond for a construction project in this State be litigated in this State and arbitration in connection with a construction project in this State be conducted in the State.

Closely Related CO: LD 1038

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3002 Representative Haskell

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

LR: 2843

Title: An Act To Ensure Family Child Care Providers the Freedom To Jointly Negotiate with the State

Comments: This bill would enable family child care providers, including state-certified home day care providers and legal, unlicensed providers who participate in the State's child care subsidy programs for low-income families, to jointly negotiate with the State concerning the provision of quality child care services. It would establish procedures for a fair election and certification of an exclusive representative to participate on the providers' behalf in these negotiations and provide for the conduct and subjects of negotiations. It would help to ensure that providers are not restricted from engaging in joint activities to improve access to and the delivery of quality child care services.

LR: 2853

Title: An Act To Promote Transparency and Accountability in Campaigns and Governmental Ethics

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to promote transparency and accountability in campaigns and governmental ethics.

LR: 2889

Title: Resolve, Directing the Bureau of Financial Institutions To Study the Impact of Identity Theft and Data Security Breaches in the State

Comments: This resolve would direct the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Financial Institutions to study the effect of data security breaches on Maine consumers, financial institutions and credit unions, including the damages suffered as a result of these breaches, and to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than February 1, 2009.

LR: 2890

Title: An Act To Improve the Health of Maine Communities and Reduce Emergency Care Burdens

Comments: This bill would create pilot projects with community health centers in the State in order to work to improve the health of communities.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

LR: 2939

Title: An Act To Protect Home Ownership and Prevent Foreclosures

Comments: This bill would establish a Home Foreclosure Task Force, which would include a representative from the Department of the Attorney General, the Maine State Housing Authority and the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Office of Consumer Credit Regulation. The purpose of the task force would be to work with consumers and lenders to avoid foreclosures.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2752 Representative Priest

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2940 Speaker Cummings

LR: 2940

Title: An Act To Prevent Home Foreclosures and Provide Consumer Assistance

Comments: This bill would provide consumer counseling services and free legal service resources for consumers caught in the subprime predatory lending boom.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2752 Representative Priest

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2939 Speaker Cummings

LR: 2942

Title: An Act To Improve the Elections Process under the Maine Labor Relations Board Laws

Comments: This bill would amend the Maine Labor Relations Board laws to change the timing of elections.

LR: 3102

Title: An Act To Inform Consumers of, and Protect Children from, Hazardous Lead-based Paint

Comments: This bill would enact measures to increase child safety by reducing exposure to lead-based paint in residential properties and by imposing lead poisoning prevention fees on manufacturers and wholesalers of paint sold in the State. Money from the fees would support activities for lead hazard prevention.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3047 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3220 Representative Connor

LR: 3189

Title: An Act To Promote the Production of Wine in Maine

Comments: This bill would remove some of the restrictions on the taste-testing of wine on the premises of farm wineries. It would also remove some of the restrictions on the taste-testing of wine on the premises of fine wine stores for a maximum of one wine-tasting per week.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Speaker Cummings of Portland

LR: 3305

Title: An Act To Provide for Removal of Members of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices

Comments: This bill would provide the Governor with authority to remove a member of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2807 Representative Canavan

LR: 3332

Title: An Act To Authorize the City of Portland To Lease Submerged Lands for Longer than 30 Years

Comments: The bill would allow the City of Portland to lease submerged lands for longer than 30 years.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3313 Senator Brannigan

LR: 3380

Title: An Act To Ensure Affordable Health Care for Maine Citizens

Comments: This bill would raise the cigarette tax by \$.50, and would dedicate that increase to funding the Dirigo Health Plan.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Damon of Hancock

LR: 2888

Title: An Act Regarding Axle Weight on Tri-axle Farm Trucks

Comments: This bill would expand the axle tolerance limit for tri-axle farm trucks to 64,000 pounds. The bill would not make any changes to the gross weight limit and is for tri-axle trucks with farm registrations only.

LR: 3214

Title: An Act To Preserve the Cobscook Bay Scallop Fishery

Comments: This bill would require the suspension of a person's scallop fishing license if that person is convicted of 3 or more violations of the scallop fishing laws in Cobscook Bay. This bill would also establish a mandatory fine for violations of scallop fishing laws in Cobscook Bay.

LR: 3230

Title: An Act To Amend the Animal Welfare Laws Pertaining to Breeding Kennels

Comments: This bill would distinguish between the various types of animal breeders, such as volume, backyard and hobby or show, and regulate each differently based on the type of breeding being done. Certain volume breeding would be prohibited. This bill would also redefine "kennel" as used for breeding purposes.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2754 Representative Pratt

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3026 Representative Pieh

LR: 3243

Title: An Act To Restore Diadromous Fish in the St. Croix River

Comments: This bill would require the Commissioner of Marine Resources and the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to ensure that by May 1, 2008 the fishways on the Woodland Dam and the Grand Falls Dam are configured in a manner that allows the passage of alewives.

LR: 3263

Title: An Act To Make Marine Resources Management More Responsive

Comments: This bill would change the rules that are adopted to limit the taking of a marine organism for the purpose of protecting another marine organism from major substantive to routine technical in order to allow the Department of Marine Resources to respond more effectively to fisheries management needs.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Diamond of Cumberland

LR: 3231

Title: An Act To Ensure Access to Necessary Health Care Services in Maine

Comments: This bill would eliminate the capital investment fund, which is a cap limiting the amount of capital spending that hospitals and physicians may make for health care projects that are subject to the certificate of need law.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1517

Closely Related CO: LD 1047

Closely Related CO: LD 1760

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3089 Senator Weston

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Dill of Cape Elizabeth

LR: 3281

Title: An Act To Prohibit Discrimination Based on Familial Status and Responsibilities

Comments: This bill would amend the Maine Human Rights Act to prohibit employment discrimination based on marital status, parental status and family responsibilities.

LR: 3283

Title: An Act To Create a Judicial Cascade Account

Comments: This bill would provide long-term funding for the judicial branch by creating a mini-cascade account that would be designated for judicial capital projects.

LR: 3286

Title: An Act To Minimize Power Outages in Future Development

Comments: This bill would require that future development projects run power lines underground.

Closely Related CO: LD 398

LR: 3288

Title: An Act To Improve the Services of Charitable Organizations by Providing a Sales Tax Exemption

Comments: This bill would exempt a charitable organization from paying sales tax on materials purchased by the organization to provide charitable services.

LR: 3292

Title: An Act To Improve the Safety of Passengers in Wheelchairs on Public Transportation

Comments: This bill would require wheelchair manufacturers and distributors to disclose to customers purchasing, renting or leasing wheelchairs and similar aids whether the product is "WC19" compliant and encourage the use of WC19-compliant products in order to minimize transportation risks to passengers in wheelchairs and to other public transportation passengers and operators.

Sponsor: Senator Dow of Lincoln

LR: 3241

Title: An Act To Include the Town of Nobleboro within the Service Area of the Great Salt Bay Sanitary District

Comments: This bill would include the Town of Nobleboro within the service area of the Great Salt Bay Sanitary District.

Sponsor: Representative Driscoll of Westbrook

LR: 2769

Title: An Act To Allow Online Registration of Watercraft

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to allow Maine residents to register their watercraft online.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Duchesne of Hudson

LR: 3279

Title: An Act To Reestablish Fairness in Corporate Taxation

Comments: This bill would require real estate investment trusts to pay income taxes at the same rates as corporations.

LR: 3334

Title: An Act To Clarify Jurisdiction over Solid Waste Facilities Involved in Large-scale Composting Operations

Comments: This bill would clarify that the Department of Environmental Protection has jurisdiction over any agricultural composting facility that accepts or handles 30 or more cubic yards in any consecutive 30-day period.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Duprey of Hampden

LR: 2780

Title: An Act To Ensure Fairness for Child Care Centers

Comments: This bill would require market surveys that the Department of Health and Human Services does to determine the average market rate at which child care centers are reimbursed to be performed every year rather than every other year.

LR: 2781

Title: An Act To Protect Children

Comments: This bill would prohibit smoking in vehicles in which children under 18 years of age are present.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2965 Representative Blanchette

LR: 2802

Title: An Act To Protect Children in Schools, Day Care Centers and Churches

Comments: This bill would require all registered sex offenders to notify school office staff or day care directors of the sex offender's registration status if the sex offender is to be picking up the sex offender's own children or children authorized to be picked up at a school or a day care center. Registered sex offenders will be prohibited from being unescorted in a school or a day care center. A sex offender must also notify church office staff of registry status if the sex offender wishes to teach Sunday school for children under 18 years of age at a church. Violation would be a Class D crime.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Eaton of Sullivan

LR: 3162

Title: An Act To Repeal the School District Consolidation Law

Comments: This bill would repeal the law requiring school districts to consolidate.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2796 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2937 Senator Weston

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3116 Senator Smith, D.

LR: 3167

Title: An Act To Promote Revitalization and Redevelopment

Comments: This bill would create a program to make strategic investments for downtowns and main streets. The program would be modeled on the Land for Maine's Future program.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 918

LR: 3328

Title: An Act To Require Large Retailers To Disclose the State's Implied Warranty Law to Customers

Comments: This bill would require large retailers to disclose the State's implied warranty law to customers.

LR: 3359

Title: An Act To Facilitate Formation of Regional School Unit No. 7

Comments: This bill would encourage the formation of Regional School Unit No. 7, comprised of 2 or more of the following school administrative units: the City of Ellsworth and the towns of Otis, Mariaville, Waltham, Eastbrook, Hancock, Lamoine, Trenton, Surry, Franklin, Gouldsboro, Sorrento, Steuben, Sullivan and Winter Harbor. This bill would provide that the reorganization plan prepared by the reorganization planning committee for Regional School Unit No. 7 may include a cost-sharing formula applicable to all or a portion of the regional school unit's locally raised funds based on evaluation, number of pupils or other factors, and may include other cost-sharing transition provisions as determined by the reorganization planning committee.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Eberle of South Portland

LR: 2911

Title: Resolve, Authorizing the President of the Maine Community College System To Sell
Two Parcels of Real Property in South Portland

Comments: This bill would authorize the Maine Community College System to sell two parcels of
land in South Portland "as is," with no representations of warranties, by quit claim deed
without covenant.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Edgecomb of Caribou

LR: 2801

Title: An Act To Eliminate Penalties to School Systems Concerning Consolidation of School Administrative Unit Deadlines

Comments: This bill would eliminate the penalties that exist in the school administrative unit consolidation plan for school systems that haven't met the deadlines.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2798 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2804 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3012 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3130 Representative Treat

LR: 2962

Title: An Act To Allow Certain Schools To Negotiate Their Own Cost-sharing Formulas

Comments: This bill would allow the schools of Caribou, School Administrative District 20, Limestone, Caswell, Woodland, New Sweden and Westmanland to negotiate their own cost-sharing formulas.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

LR: 2733

Title: An Act To Ensure Fairness in Credit Card Practices

Comments: This bill would prohibit certain unfair practices of credit card companies.

LR: 2747

Title: An Act To Preserve Competition in the Financial Services Market

Comments: This bill would preserve competition in the financial services market.

LR: 2959

Title: An Act To Restrict the Inclusion and Display of Social Security Information and Other Personal Information in Records Filed in Registries of Deeds

Comments: This bill would prohibit the inclusion of personally identifiable information in documents that are recorded in registries of deeds. This bill would also authorize a registry of deeds to redact personally identifying information from records that were filed in the past and are accessible on the registry's publicly accessible Internet site.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2932 Representative Tardy

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3301 Representative Hayes

LR: 3016

Title: An Act To Enhance Economic Development in Maine's Aviation Industry

Comments: This bill would exempt the sale and lease of aircraft and the sale of aircraft parts and equipment from state sales tax.

LR: 3036

Title: An Act To Correct the Law Regarding Portability of Pension Benefits for Law Enforcement Officers and Firefighters

Comments: This bill would correct an error in the law that was intended to allow law enforcement officers and firefighters to move among jobs at the state and local level without losing the value of the service credits they had earned with a prior employer.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

LR: 3044

Title: An Act To Allow Certain Purchased Retirement Service Credit To Count as Pre-1993 Service

Comments: This bill would allow a person to purchase retirement service credit for time served in the Peace Corps, VISTA, Head Start and other such programs and have that service count towards pre-1993 service.

LR: 3233

Title: An Act To Expand Economic Development Opportunities

Comments: This bill would add the Town of Freeport to the list of communities that are eligible for designation as military redevelopment zones, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 5250-I, subsection 11-A.

LR: 3237

Title: An Act To Strengthen Criminal Laws against Domestic Violence

Comments: This bill would amend Public Law 2007, chapter 436 to implement the intent of the proponents of the law. It would ensure that instances of domestic violence that occurred before the effective date of the law are considered when determining whether an assault or other violence that occurs after the effective date is part of a course of conduct that justifies a higher criminal penalty.

LR: 3249

Title: Resolve, To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Promote Awareness of Parkinson's Disease

Comments: This resolve would require the Department of Health and Human Services to design and implement a program to educate people about Parkinson's disease and how to respond to crisis situations for persons with Parkinson's disease. The education programs would be directed toward people who work in the fields of health care, emergency services, public transportation and crisis intervention.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

LR: 3251

Title: An Act Relating to State Valuation of Certain Municipalities

Comments: This bill would provide that a municipality containing a chartered village corporation is entitled to an adjustment to its state valuation for purposes of revenue sharing and education funding if the municipality is required to rebate a certain portion of the property taxes collected within the village corporation territory back to the village corporation.

LR: 3257

Title: An Act To Address the Affordability and Comprehensiveness of Health Coverage in Maine

Comments: This bill would enact concepts in the National Association of Insurance Commissioners model act that address the affordability and comprehensiveness of health coverage in the nongroup and small group marketplace in the State.

LR: 3261

Title: Resolve, To Establish the Maine Guaranteed Health Coverage Commission

Comments: This resolve would create the Maine Guaranteed Health Coverage Commission to design a guaranteed health coverage program that provides affordable quality health coverage to all Maine residents. The commission would report its recommendations, with accompanying legislation to create the program, to the 124th Legislature by March 15, 2009.

LR: 3262

Title: An Act To Ensure Continued Operation of the Poison Hotline

Comments: This bill would appropriate funds to the Department of Health and Human Services for a grant to the Northern New England Poison Center to continue operation of the poison hotline. The amount of the appropriation would be \$170,000 in fiscal year 2008 and \$680,000 in fiscal year 2009.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: President Edmonds of Cumberland

LR: 3294

Title: An Act To Increase Public Confidence in Government by Expanding Public Disclosure

Comments: This bill would expand the list of information that Legislators and executive branch officials are required to list on financial disclosures to include interest in real estate, the value of various investments, positions as officers and directors of corporations and names of spouses and dependents.

LR: 3357

Title: An Act To Meet the Emergency Needs of Maine Veterans

Comments: This bill would increase the amount of emergency assistance that the Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services may provide to a veteran for medical needs from \$500 to \$5,000.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Emery of Cutler

LR: 2736

Title: An Act To Require Elementary and Secondary Education Personnel To Be Trained To Recognize Signs of Child Abuse and Neglect

Comments: This bill would require all elementary and secondary school teachers and other educational personnel to be trained to recognize signs of child abuse and neglect.

LR: 2887

Title: An Act To Develop and Implement the Marine Fisheries Stock Enhancement Fund

Comments: This bill would establish a council of 7 members to oversee and disburse money in the Marine Fisheries Stock Enhancement Fund for applied research, development, production of harvested species, infrastructure, monitoring and assessment.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Faircloth of Bangor

LR: 2896

Title: An Act To Improve School Nutrition

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Education to adopt the Institute of Medicine's recommendations for school nutrition standards.

LR: 2977

Title: An Act To Increase Access to Dental Care

Comments: This bill would provide a 5-year income tax exemption and sales tax exemption for dental equipment supplies purchased by a dentist who: is licensed to practice in Maine; agrees to practice in underserved areas in Maine as determined by the Department of Health and Human Services; and establishes a new dental practice or joins an existing practice.

LR: 3326

Title: An Act To Clarify the Rights and Obligations of Regional School Units Concerning the Transfer and Subsequent Reassignment of Teachers and Other Employees

Comments: This bill would clarify the rights and obligations of regional school units concerning the reassignment of teachers and other employees of the regional school unit in the transitional period from the operational date of the regional school unit until the completion of negotiations for a collective bargaining agreement in which uniformity and consistency are achieved.

Closely Related CO: LD 1931

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2967 Senator Rosen, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3319 Representative Lansley

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Farrington of Gorham

LR: 3103

Title: An Act To Clarify Budget Validation Referendum Procedures in Charter Municipalities

Comments: This bill would clarify the provisions of the school district consolidation law that require municipal school budgets to be adopted using the budget validation referendum process by making it clear that the initial budget meeting in that process is a meeting of the town or city council or other municipal legislative body as established by municipal charter and making it clear that the required use of the cost center summary budget format does not change a local charter's allocation of school budget authority between the municipal council or its legislative body and the municipal school committee or school board. It would not affect the requirement that the budget be approved at a budget validation referendum.

LR: 3200

Title: An Act To Exclude Collectively Bargained and Job Promotion Increases from the Earnable Compensation Limitation for Retirement Purposes

Comments: This bill would exclude collectively bargained salary or wage increases and salary or wage increases that are a result of a job promotion from the limitation on earnable compensation for retirement purposes.

LR: 3216

Title: An Act To Clarify the Application of the Budget Validation Process for School Administrative Units Spending at or Less than the Essential Programs and Services Model

Comments: This bill would exempt those school administrative units that are spending less than the level of funding outlined in the essential programs and services funding model from the newly passed budget validation process until they exceed that funding level.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Finch of Fairfield

LR: 2772

Title: An Act Regarding Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would amend the law governing the consolidation of school administrative units, which was enacted in the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

LR: 2949

Title: An Act Regarding the Application of Term Limits for the State Board of Education

Comments: This bill provides that term limits for members of the State Board of Education apply to current members as well as future appointees and that, if a person is appointed to fill a vacancy on the board and serves more than 1/2 of an unexpired term, that service counts as one term for the application of term limits.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2928 Senator Mitchell

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Finley of Skowhegan

LR: 3173

Title: An Act To Require Certain Persons To Wear Reflective Vests at Night

Comments: This bill would require recreational walkers and joggers to wear a reflective vest at night when jogging or walking on secondary roads that do not have a sidewalk.

LR: 3333

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Sale of Nonenergy-efficient Fluorescent Light Bulbs

Comments: This bill would ban the sale of nonenergy-efficient fluorescent light bulbs beginning in 2010.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3131 Senator Strimling

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Fischer of Presque Isle

LR: 2905

Title: An Act To Provide Incentives for Motorcyclists To Wear Helmets

Comments: This bill would require insurance companies to offer a credit on motorcycle insurance to policyholders who wear helmets

LR: 2906

Title: An Act To Protect the Second Amendment of the United States Constitution during Times of Emergency

Comments: This bill would prohibit the seizure or confiscation of a firearm from a person lawfully in possession of that firearm, even during a declared state of emergency.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2892 Representative Cebra

LR: 3125

Title: An Act Regarding Storm Water Standards for York's of Houlton

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection to apply a particular storm water standard to York's of Houlton due to the unique circumstances of the project site. Under this bill, York's of Houlton would be required to meet all other applicable standards.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Fletcher of Winslow

LR: 2919

Title: An Act Regarding Private Line Construction

Comments: This bill would clarify that electric utilities must provide a detailed quote that includes all costs to each residential, commercial or industrial customer to build a line extension, rather than relying on per-foot average pricing.

LR: 2920

Title: An Act To Provide Returnable Container Flexibility for Small Commercial Establishments

Comments: This bill would change the "initiator of deposit" fee to \$50 per year for small business retail sales that place a deposit requirement on specialty containers subject to the returnable criteria if the annual total volume of containers labeled for deposit is less than 50,000 containers. The initiator of deposit in this category would be able to affix self-stick labels as is currently permitted for low-volume wine producers and distributors in the State.

LR: 2921

Title: An Act To Ensure Timely Recognition of Title Transfer for Purposes of Property Tax Liability

Comments: This bill would require that municipalities record the change of ownership of a property within 60 days of receipt of a title transfer notification so that the new owners of the property are recorded as the responsible parties for property tax liabilities.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2785 Representative Sirois

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2838 Representative Craven

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2841 Representative Bryant, M.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3055 Representative Savage, D.

LR: 2922

Title: An Act To Require Legislative Approval of Department of Environmental Protection Rules Implementing the Carbon Dioxide Cap-and-trade Program of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Act of 2007

Comments: Under current law, rules adopted to implement the carbon dioxide cap-and-trade program of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Act of 2007 are designated as routine technical rules. This bill would change those rules from routine technical rules to major substantive rules.

Sponsor: Representative Fletcher of Winslow

LR: 2976

Title: An Act To Allow Agency Liquor Stores 2 Exterior Advertising Signs

Comments: This bill would allow agency liquor stores to have 2 exterior advertising signs instead of the one allowed under current law.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Flood of Winthrop

LR: 2866

Title: An Act To Provide Grants to Persons with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Comments: This bill would establish and fund a grant program for persons with autism spectrum disorders. Funding would be \$50,000 and would be provided in grant amounts from \$100 to \$500.

LR: 2980

Title: An Act To Repeal the Cap on Rental Rates for State Submerged Lands

Comments: This bill would repeal the current cap of \$1,200 per year on rental rates for submerged lands leased from the State.

LR: 3133

Title: An Act To Provide Parents of Special Needs Children Access to Ombudsman Services

Comments: This bill would provide funding for ombudsman services in the Department of Education and require school systems to provide notice to parents of special needs children of the availability of such services.

LR: 3134

Title: An Act To Require a Natural Resource Protection Laws Permit for Certain Gravel Pits and Quarries

Comments: This bill would amend the performance standards for gravel pits and quarries to clarify that a variance may be granted for excavations close to a protected natural resource only with a permit under the natural resource protection laws.

LR: 3135

Title: An Act To Clarify the Application of Protections under Significant Wildlife Habitats Pertaining to Nonmetallic Mining Activities

Comments: This bill would clarify that the law that offers new protections to significant wildlife habitat does not apply to nonmetallic mineral mining activities that were permitted or otherwise authorized by the State prior to the effective date of the law.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Gerzofsky of Brunswick

LR: 2744

Title: An Act Regarding the Sale of Firearms to Minors

Comments: This bill would prohibit the sale of a firearm to a person 16 years of age or older and under 18 years of age. It provides an exception for a sale by a parent, foster parent or guardian or a sale approved by a parent, foster parent or guardian.

LR: 2846

Title: An Act To Reduce Property Taxes, Eliminate Duplication and Streamline Government by Unifying the State Prisons and County Jails

Comments: This bill would merge the county jails and state prisons under one unified state agency.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2952 Representative Crockett

LR: 3029

Title: An Act To Protect Public Health and Promote a Healthy Shellfish Industry

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Marine Resources to establish rules that permit the purchase of soft-shell clams at landings by certified shellfish dealers.

LR: 3030

Title: An Act To More Quickly Reopen Clam Flats

Comments: This bill would give municipalities the option to hire private laboratories to engage in extra water sampling so that more shellfish growing areas can be analyzed and, if they are clean, utilized.

LR: 3106

Title: An Act To Modify the Law Governing the Sex Offender Registry

Comments: This bill would make changes to the law governing the sex offender registry to ensure that the registry is both constitutional and effective.

Closely Related CO: LD 446

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3188 Representative Pinkham

LR: 3266

Title: An Act To Clarify the Law Regarding the Collection of DNA

Comments: This bill would clarify recently enacted provisions of law regarding the collection of DNA from persons convicted of felony crimes prior to January 1, 1996.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Giles of Belfast

LR: 2913

Title: An Act To Amend the Circuitbreaker Program

Comments: This bill would expand who would qualify for the Circuitbreaker Program. Persons who make up to \$85,000 and couples who make up to \$120,000 would qualify to participate in the Circuitbreaker Program.

LR: 2914

Title: An Act To Establish the Wellness Tax Credit

Comments: This bill would give a tax credit of \$100 per employee for a business that institutes a wellness program in the workplace.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Gooley of Franklin

LR: 2859

Title: An Act To Eliminate the Income-producing Requirement for Land in the Farm and Open Space Program

Comments: This bill would eliminate the requirement that land enrolled in the farm and open space program produce revenue in order to qualify.

LR: 2981

Title: Resolve, To Reimburse Edgewood Rehabilitation and Living Center for Services Rendered

Comments: This resolve would appropriate \$16,500 to be used to reimburse Edgewood Rehabilitation and Living Center in Farmington for the care rendered to a resident of the center.

LR: 3350

Title: An Act To Require a Seller of a Gas Station To Provide an Update Inspection Prior to Sale of the Property

Comments: This bill would require the seller of a gas station to provide the prospective buyer with an updated inspection of the condition of the storage tanks.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Greeley of Levant

LR: 3022

Title: An Act To Exempt Items Purchased under the United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program from Sales Tax

Comments: This bill would exempt items purchased under the United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program from the sales tax.

LR: 3023

Title: An Act To Exempt Military Reenlistment Bonuses from Income Tax

Comments: This bill would exempt from income tax any military reenlistment bonuses.

LR: 3024

Title: An Act Pertaining to the Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would provide regional school units with school choice communities to make the amount over the regional school unit's high school tuition a regional school unit assessment. This bill would also allow a parent to pay the tuition if the tuition funds were not approved by the municipalities. This bill would also protect a student who is already a tuition student at another school from being taken out of that school. The student would be grandfathered from the new law.

LR: 3037

Title: An Act To Legalize Mixed Martial Arts Competitions

Comments: This bill would legalize mixed martial arts competitions.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2757 Representative Tuttle

LR: 3095

Title: An Act To Provide Notice to Law Enforcement Officers That a Driver Is on Probation

Comments: This bill would notify a law enforcement officer that a driver is on probation when that officer performs a Maine driver's license query.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Grose of Woolwich

LR: 3126

Title: An Act To Provide Relief to the Counties of the State

Comments: This bill would require the State to return percentages of funds collected for traffic violations to the counties to enable the counties to hire more part-time staff in the sheriffs' offices.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2751 Representative Makas

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Harlow of Portland

LR: 2865

Title: An Act To Improve Health and Safety in Maine

Comments: This bill would require motorists to give pedestrians on the side of the road at least 3 feet clearance while passing those pedestrians.

LR: 3101

Title: An Act To Clarify the Authority of Municipalities To Assess and Collect Property Taxes and Allow School Administrative Units To Spend Funds

Comments: For any school administrative unit whose voters fail to approve a budget before the relevant fiscal year begins, this bill would establish the current fiscal year's budget as adjusted by a departmentally approved Consumer Price Index factor as the budget used to authorize expenditures and to set the tax rate and commitment for that unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2891 Representative Weddell

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Haskell of Portland

LR: 3002

Title: An Act To Amend the Public Works Contractors' Surety Bond Law

Comments: This bill would increase the threshold amount of a contract to construct or repair a public building at which bonds are required from \$100,000 to \$250,000. This bill would also allow a letter of credit to be used in lieu of a bond, at the discretion of the public entity awarding the contract.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2969 Representative Crockett

LR: 3097

Title: An Act To Authorize Municipal Licensing Boards under the Liquor Laws

Comments: This bill would authorize a municipality to enact an ordinance establishing a municipal licensing board to hear and decide applications for new or renewal liquor licenses and special permits for music, dancing and entertainment in facilities that have a liquor license. Prior to the enactment of an ordinance by a municipality's legislative body, the municipal officers must submit a written policy on liquor licensing for approval by the Department of Public Safety, Liquor Licensing and Compliance Division.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Hastings of Oxford

LR: 2788

Title: An Act To Amend the Informed Growth Act

Comments: This bill would add an option for a municipality to waive the right to apply the provisions of the Informed Growth Act at any time by its legislative body. This bill would also require that if the legislative body is a town council or city council the vote must be approved by the citizens at a referendum.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2789 Senator Hastings

LR: 2789

Title: An Act To Repeal the Informed Growth Act

Comments: This bill would repeal the Informed Growth Act.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2788 Senator Hastings

LR: 2894

Title: An Act To Amend the Freedom of Access Laws To Provide Attorney's Fees in Certain Successful Appeals

Comments: This bill would allow a person bringing an appeal under the freedom of access laws to recover attorney's fees if the court determines certain actions were willful.

LR: 3028

Title: An Act To Clarify the Sales Tax on Prepared Meals

Comments: This bill would amend the definition of retail sale in the laws governing sales tax to exclude the serving of prepared food by a youth camp licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services.

LR: 3059

Title: An Act To Clarify the Population Density Parameter under the Laws Governing School Administrative Unit Consolidation

Comments: This bill would specify that, for purposes of the law governing school administrative unit consolidation, a population density of less than 100 persons per square mile constitutes a justification for a proposed school unit's serving fewer than 2,500 students.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2787 Representative Clark

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Hastings of Oxford

LR: 3090

Title: An Act To Authorize Acreage in the Town of Baldwin To Be Designated as a Pine Tree Development Zone

Comments: This bill would authorize acreage in the Town of Baldwin to be designated as a Pine Tree Development Zone. The bill would change the classification of the labor market of the Town of Baldwin from the Portland market to a more appropriate market.

LR: 3196

Title: An Act To Establish the Transition Adjustment for Fiscal Year 2008-09

Comments: This bill would require the Commissioner of Education to establish the transition adjustment for fiscal year 2008-09 at the same level as the adjustment in fiscal year 2007-08.

LR: 3245

Title: An Act To Limit the Liability of Water Utilities Operating outside Their Service Charter in Response to Emergency Situations

Comments: This bill would limit the liability of water utilities and their staffs who perform water utility work and service outside their service charter in response to emergency situations.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3172 Senator Bryant, B.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Hayes of Buckfield

LR: 2858

Title: An Act To Exempt from Taxation Sales of Veterans' Memorials To Be Installed on Public Property

Comments: This bill would exempt from taxation sales of veterans' memorials that are to be installed on public property.

LR: 3104

Title: An Act To Assist Certain School Administrative Districts To Become More Favorable Partners for School District Consolidation

Comments: This bill would amend the school administrative regionalization requirements to include financial options for certain school units, such as Maine School Administrative District No. 39, to make those units more appealing partners for consolidation by not penalizing property taxpayers in the towns of any proposed regional school unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

LR: 3301

Title: An Act To Protect Personally Identifying Information

Comments: This bill would allow a person who prepares for filing in a public office a document that contains another individual's personal information, such as social security number or driver's license number, to be held liable for compromising that individual's identity.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2932 Representative Tardy
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2959 President Edmonds

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Hill of York

LR: 2848

Title: An Act To Strengthen the Crime of Visual Sexual Aggression against a Child

Comments: This bill would strengthen the crime of visual sexual aggression against a child by adding to the crime exposure made in a public place as well as a private place. This bill will close a loophole that prohibited prosecution of a person who exposed that person's self to a child in a public place.

LR: 3353

Title: An Act To Require the Accurate Designation of Flood Plain Areas

Comments: This bill would require that the most current topographical and GIS data available be used when making municipal maps and changes to those maps.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Hinck of Portland

LR: 2775

Title: An Act To Conserve Gasoline and Preserve Clean Air

Comments: This bill would prohibit idling by motor vehicles for certain lengths of time based on the outside air temperature and would make Maine law consistent with the laws in New Hampshire and Massachusetts on vehicle idling.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 533

LR: 2784

Title: An Act To Preserve Successful Historic Neighborhood Schools

Comments: This bill would allow the State to exempt a historic neighborhood school from some requirements of existing energy standards if the school can achieve substantial compliance with the standards or otherwise demonstrates substantial energy efficiencies or other education, social or environmental benefits over alternative school siting proposals. The analysis under the amended law would factor in the embodied energy in an existing building and energy use as part of school transportation if the alternative proposals involve construction of a new school or a school in a more remote location.

LR: 2861

Title: An Act To Require Certain Sex Offenders To Register Their Online Identifiers

Comments: This bill would require convicted pedophiles to provide their online identifiers such as e-mail addresses and other electronic identities for inclusion on registries of convicted sex offenders; allow limited release of online identifier information in the sex offender registry to a limited number of entities such as Internet service providers, instant messaging companies and social networking sites; and establish the crime of age misrepresentation with intent to solicit a minor. Those subject to the requirement to register would be limited to convicted sex offenders whose victims at the time of the violation were 15 years of age or younger.

Closely Related CO: LD 446

LR: 3163

Title: An Act To Protect Public Health and the Environment with Safer Alternatives to Lead Wheel Weights

Comments: This bill would require the use of nonlead wheel weights, phased in over a 2-year period.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Hinck of Portland

LR: 3297

Title: An Act To Shield Journalists' Confidential Sources

Comments: This bill would protect a journalist's confidential sources. Under certain circumstances, a court may compel the disclosure of the identity of a source.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Hobbins of York

LR: 2986

Title: An Act To Correct the Uniform Limited Partnership Act of 2007

Comments: This bill would correct a gap in the Uniform Limited Partnership Act of 2007 inadvertently created by Public Law 2005, chapter 543. Current law is ambiguous with regard to what law applies to existing limited partnerships that do not elect to be covered by the new law before July 1, 2008.

LR: 3098

Title: An Act To Authorize a Budget Process for Municipal School Units Governed by Municipal Charters

Comments: This bill would allow municipal school units that have submitted an alternate plan to consolidation that has been approved by the Department of Education and that have a budget process established by a municipal charter to follow that budget process. These municipal school units would still have to comply with the budget preparation and formatting required by state law for all school units.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3337 Representative Silsby

LR: 3223

Title: An Act To Allow School Districts in Regional School Units To Develop Individual Cost-sharing Agreements

Comments: This bill would allow individual school districts to develop local cost-sharing formulas that remediate or eliminate cost-sharing problems that are encountered in the effort to consolidate into an approved regional school unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
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Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Hobbins of York

LR: 3235

Title: An Act Regarding the Administration of Medication to Children with Allergies and Asthma

Comments: This bill would provide immunity to governmental agencies and their subdivisions and personnel with respect to administering prescriptions or other medications to children with allergies or asthma.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Hogan of Old Orchard Beach

LR: 2873

Title: An Act To Require the Recording of all Public Entities When in Executive Session

Comments: This bill would require that all meetings held in executive session by public entities be recorded and kept on file for one year.

LR: 3005

Title: An Act To Allow School Districts Forming a Regional School Unit To Develop Individual Cost-sharing Agreements That Provide Equity in Local Funding

Comments: This bill would allow individual school districts to develop local cost-sharing formulas that remediate or eliminate cost-sharing problems that are encountered in the effort to consolidate into an approved regional school unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes
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Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Jackson of Allagash

LR: 2874

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Sale of Energy Drinks to Minors

Comments: This bill would prohibit the sale of energy drinks to minors.

LR: 2912

Title: An Act Regarding Educational Testing and Evaluations

Comments: This bill would provide that the deadline of 60 days in which to conduct an education evaluation applies to school days only and removes weekend days and school vacation days from the calculation of the deadline.

LR: 3056

Title: An Act To Allow Certain Assistance to Bear Hunters

Comments: This bill would allow certain assistance to bear hunters.

LR: 3184

Title: An Act To Provide a Tax Credit for Businesses and Homeowners Who Build Windmills

Comments: This bill would provide a tax credit to businesses and homeowners who build windmills.

Closely Related CO: LD 349

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Jacobsen of Waterboro

LR: 3018

Title: Resolve, To Ensure the Future Supply of Domestic and Industrial Electric Power Generated within the State

Comments: This resolve would establish an advisory committee to determine whether future power needs could be met by using nuclear power generation. The advisory committee would determine whether nuclear power is a reasonable replacement for power generated by oil, gas and biomass by examining various economic and environmental factors.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2845 Representative Walker

LR: 3019

Title: Resolve, To Make Lake Arrowhead in the Town of Waterboro and the Town of Limerick the Primary Location for Developing and Testing Methods of Eradicating Milfoil and Other Invasive Aquatic Species

Comments: This resolve would make Lake Arrowhead in the Town of Waterboro and the Town of Limerick the primary location for developing and testing methods of eradicating milfoil and other invasive aquatic species. The resolve would establish a committee to expedite the regulatory process, make recommendations to the Department of Environmental Protection and oversee the results. The resolve would be funded through the milfoil sticker program.

LR: 3020

Title: An Act To Include School Bus Drivers in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System

Comments: This bill would include school bus drivers in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

LR: 3021

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources To Determine whether Ethanol Production in this State Would Benefit Maine Agriculture

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to determine whether ethanol production in this State would benefit Maine agriculture and, if it determines that it would, to make recommendations regarding ethanol production.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Kaenrath of South Portland

LR: 2966

Title: An Act To Increase the Time Period for Motor Vehicle Inspections to 2 Years

Comments: This bill would require a motor vehicle registered in the State to be inspected every 2 years, instead of the current annual requirement.

LR: 3043

Title: An Act To Create the Crime of Producing Graffiti

Comments: This bill would create the Class D crime of producing graffiti.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Knight of Livermore Falls

LR: 2737

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to Road Associations

Comments: This bill would amend the laws pertaining to road associations by tying in the present law with the adoption of comprehensive bylaws so that all aspects of a road association may be dealt with. The bill would also amend the current law to allow people on public easements to form a road association. The bill would also require that road association assessments be based not only on property assessments but on use and property assessments, determined by a majority vote of the road association at a meeting.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3092 Senator Nass, R.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

LR: 2960

Title: An Act To Reduce the Volume and Toxicity of Solid Waste through Promotion of Biobased Plastics

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing solid waste to: 1. Require the State to give preference in purchasing to avoidance of disposable products made with or packaged in plastic, unless such materials are biobased plastics; 2. Prohibit the use of disposable plastic cups for retail sale of iced beverages unless they are made from biobased plastics; 3. Establish a goal of ultimately sourcing biobased plastics from Maine-grown agricultural and forest products; 4. Establish a goal that biobased plastics used or sold in the State should meet all relevant sustainability guidelines; and 5. Define biobased plastics as polymeric materials that are petroleum-free, nontoxic and biocompostable at the end of their useful life.

LR: 2988

Title: An Act Regarding Reclamation of Native Brook Trout Waters

Comments: This bill would permit the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to capture native brook trout from native brook trout waters, breed them in a hatchery and release them and their progeny back into native brook trout waters.

LR: 3000

Title: An Act To Restore Maine's Status as a Premier Fishing Destination

Comments: This bill would restore Maine's former national reputation as a premier destination for serious anglers from around the world, and thereby strengthen Maine's outdoor tourism-based economy, by improving visitors' fishing experiences through state fisheries regulations and management measures.

LR: 3141

Title: An Act To Regulate Scrap Metal Processors

Comments: This bill would define scrap metal processors, their responsibility to segregate scrap material and, upon receipt of scrap metal loads, their responsibility to photograph and maintain records of the specific loads and the vehicles delivering those loads.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2875 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2955 Representative Thibodeau

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3240 Representative Berry

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

LR: 3171

Title: An Act To Enhance the Availability of Landlocked Salmon in Their Original Waters

Comments: This bill would establish management tools such as protective slots, maximum size limits and catch and release to enhance the availability of landlocked salmon in their original waters.

LR: 3201

Title: An Act To Update the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative

Comments: This bill would amend the definition of "fossil fuel fired" electrical generating units to comply with the definition in the final version of the model rules for the regional greenhouse gas initiative.

LR: 3207

Title: An Act To Reduce Litter, Preserve Landfill Space and Protect Wildlife Habitat

Comments: This bill would implement a fee on plastic grocery shopping bags of 20 cents each. Customers who provide their own cloth bags would be given a 20-cent credit per bag. If the grocery store provided biodegradable, starch-based bags, the store could keep 10 cents of the fee. The balance would be forwarded to the Department of Environmental Protection for its waste management program.

LR: 3280

Title: An Act To Clarify the Enforcement Authority of the Board of Underground Storage Tank Installers in Addressing Uncertified Practices

Comments: This bill would amend the law governing certification of underground oil storage tank installers by the Board of Underground Storage Tank Installers. It would give the board authority, consistent with the authority enjoyed by other state boards and commissions under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, section 8003-C, to pursue disciplinary action for uncertified practice.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

LR: 3344

Title: An Act To Preserve Maine's Historic Buildings

Comments: This bill would charge a \$2.50-per-ton tax on fuel comprised of processed construction and demolition debris, the proceeds from which will be collected by the Bureau of Revenue Services for deposit in an historic commercial rehabilitation fund, which is devoted solely to the historic tax credit program refunds and administration. The tax will take effect on January 15, 2009. The provisions of this bill will not apply to contractual relationships between the State of Maine and the supplier of fuel for Red Shield Environmental in Old Town, Maine.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1356

Closely Related CO: LD 262

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2778 Senator Courtney

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3375 Representative Koffman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3379 Representative Koffman

LR: 3369

Title: An Act To Clarify the Waste Motor Oil Disposal Site Remediation Program

Comments: This bill would require specific definition of what types of fluids and what types of motor vehicles are to be charged under the Waste Motor Oil Disposal Site Remediation Program

LR: 3375

Title: An Act To Promote the Restoration of Historic Buildings

Comments: This bill would provide a funding source for Maine's historic tax credit program by imposing a real estate transfer tax on sales of property. The rate of the tax would vary based on the cost of the property.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1356

Closely Related CO: LD 262

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2778 Senator Courtney

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3344 Representative Koffman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3379 Representative Koffman

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Koffman of Bar Harbor

LR: 3379

Title: An Act To Restore Maine's Historic Buildings

Comments: This bill would change the amount a county would receive from the transfer tax on real property from 10% of the amount received to 10% of the first 0.44% of the amount received. It also would require that 50% of the revenue received by the State attributable to the tax on the first 0.44% be credited to the Maine State Housing Authority and the remainder credited to the General Fund. The bill would also reduce the tax credit to home buyers to \$1,000 and dedicate the additional forecasted proceeds to a historical commercial rehabilitation fund.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1356

Closely Related CO: LD 262

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2778 Senator Courtney

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3344 Representative Koffman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3375 Representative Koffman

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Lansley of Sabattus

LR: 2938

Title: An Act To Implement State Funding Accountability and Transparency

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to establish a publicly accessible website that includes budget and expenditure information such as the department making the expenditure, the amount, the recipient and the source of the funds as well as copies of contracts or agreements entered into by the State.

LR: 3300

Title: An Act To Reduce Taxes for Maine Residents

Comments: This bill would decrease the top 2 individual income tax rates over a 3-year period until both rates are 4.5%; the loss in revenue would be offset by deappropriations to various state agencies. This bill would also allocate any excess sales tax revenue to various accounts for the reduction of income and property taxes.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1670

Closely Related CO: LD 952

Closely Related CO: LD 1582

Closely Related CO: LD 1833

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3168 Senator Smith, D.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3351 Representative Pingree

LR: 3319

Title: An Act To Establish the Department of Education as Bargaining Agent and Payroll Agent for School Districts and Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would establish the Department of Education as the payroll, human resources and bargaining agent for all school units. Salaries for teachers would be determined by the labor market distribution currently in place and funded by the department.

Closely Related CO: LD 1931

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2967 Senator Rosen, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3326 Representative Faircloth

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Lewin of Eliot

LR: 3159

Title: An Act To Require the State To Bear Expenses Associated with the Implementation of the Law Governing the Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would require the State to bear the costs associated with the implementation of the law governing the consolidation of school administrative units.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2881 Representative McFadden
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2958 Representative MacDonald
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3014 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3041 Senator Rosen, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3046 Representative Webster
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3376 Representative Babbidge

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Lundeen of Mars Hill

LR: 2929

Title: An Act To Amend the Criteria for Exceptions for Higher Performing and Highly Efficient Schools

Comments: This bill would amend the criteria for exceptions concerning school administrative unit consolidations for higher performing and highly efficient schools by making the choice of having 3 higher performing schools in a district or having improved spending percentages and no longer requiring both.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2899 Senator Sherman

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative MacDonald of Boothbay

LR: 2776

Title: An Act To Exempt Certain Municipalities from the Minimum Revenue Contributions to Education Costs

Comments: This bill would exempt those municipalities that contain a school administrative district that has a minimum per-pupil expenditure of 125% of the state average from the requirement that the municipality contribute a minimum of 2 mills for education costs.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2800 Representative MacDonald

LR: 2800

Title: An Act To Eliminate the Requirement That a Community Raise 2 Mills for Education Purposes

Comments: This bill would eliminate the requirement that a community raise a minimum of 2 mills for education purposes.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2776 Representative MacDonald

LR: 2950

Title: An Act To Adjust Property Valuations in Consolidated School Districts To Achieve Parity

Comments: This bill would require Maine Revenue Services to determine the percentage by which towns are at or below the actual market value for their towns. The consolidated district finance officer, or someone at the state level, would then adjust the values for the towns to a number substantially equal to the real market value of the property for that town so that all towns are at parity. Only after this is done would the district then assign costs to each town in the district, and only for the portion of cost due to property valuation.

LR: 2958

Title: An Act To Require the State To Reimburse a Municipality That Incurs Increased Education Costs Solely Due to School Administrative Consolidation

Comments: This bill would require the State to reimburse a municipality that incurs increased education costs solely due to school administrative consolidation.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2881 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3014 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3041 Senator Rosen, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3046 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3159 Representative Lewin

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3376 Representative Babbidge

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative MacDonald of Boothbay

LR: 3033

Title: An Act To Require Capture and Sequestration of Carbon Dioxide Emissions from New Coal-powered Industrial Facilities in the State

Comments: This bill would, to meet Maine's climate goals and to promote development of new clean energy and carbon reduction technologies, prohibit development of new coal-powered industrial facilities in the State unless such facilities capture and permanently isolate 90% of the carbon dioxide emissions that contribute to global warming.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3222 Senator Strimling

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Makas of Lewiston

LR: 2748

Title: An Act To Define the Need To Vote Again on Referendum Questions

Comments: This bill would require a follow-up vote on certain referendum questions that are approved on election day but not immediately implemented. If in the interim circumstances of the subject of the referendum have changed, another vote must be held within a specific period.

LR: 2749

Title: An Act To Bring Insurance Reimbursement Rates Up-to-date for Screening and Treating Newborns and Preschool Children for Hearing Loss for MaineCare

Comments: This bill would increase the reimbursement rates to bring them up-to-date to current costs concerning screening and treating newborns and preschool children for hearing loss for MaineCare.

LR: 2750

Title: An Act To Require Correct Labeling of Out-of-state Bypass Waste

Comments: This bill would require a restriction on the amount of out-of-state bypass waste brought into the State that can be eventually considered as Maine waste.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2948 Representative Wagner

LR: 2751

Title: An Act To Return a Percentage of Speeding Ticket Money to the Municipality

Comments: This bill would dedicate a percentage of money paid for a speeding ticket to the municipality where the moving violation occurred. The money would be strictly for municipal law enforcement costs for salaries and overtime payments.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3126 Representative Grose

LR: 2765

Title: An Act To Control the Costs of College Textbooks

Comments: This bill would prohibit the practice of bundling, which requires the purchase of other items with a textbook. It would require publishers to indicate textbook prices for educators to know when recommending textbooks and it would strengthen ethics issues in the textbook community.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Makas of Lewiston

LR: 2867

Title: An Act To Provide Education on Internet Safety

Comments: This bill would require that schools in Maine provide education on Internet safety.

LR: 2941

Title: An Act To Include Occupational Therapists in the Educators for Maine Program

Comments: This bill would include occupational therapists in the Educators for Maine Program.

LR: 3287

Title: An Act To Protect School Children from Dangerous or Abusive Restraint and Seclusion

Comments: This bill would require a teacher who restrains a student to meet certain requirements currently contained in Department of Education rules.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Marley of Portland

LR: 2770

Title: An Act To Repeal the Annual Indexing of the Fuel Tax

Comments: This bill would repeal the annual adjustment of the fuel tax for inflation.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 89

LR: 2771

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Family Medical Leave To Include Siblings

Comments: This bill would include siblings of an employee as persons for whose care the employee could request family medical leave.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2761 Representative Tuttle

LR: 2773

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Study the Corrosive Effects of Chemicals Used by the Department in Inclement Weather

Comments: This resolve would require the Department of Transportation to study the corrosive effect on vehicles and infrastructure of magnesium chloride used on roads.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2738 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2793 Representative Weddell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3087 Representative Schatz

LR: 2790

Title: An Act To Establish a Credit To Offset the Harbor Maintenance Tax

Comments: This bill would provide a tax credit to offset the harbor maintenance tax that is imposed on Maine companies shipping their goods through Maine's ports.

LR: 2879

Title: Resolve, To Study the Effect of Changes in Retirement Benefits on Teachers

Comments: This resolve would direct the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to study the effect of changes in retirement benefits for those teachers who were employed as such when changes to the calculation of retirement benefits took effect, but who missed the cutoff by 30 days or less. Maine Public Employees Retirement System would report with methods of allowing those teachers to attain the "pre-cliff" benefits.

Closely Related CO: LD 1693

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Marley of Portland

LR: 2918

Title: An Act To Meet the Growing Need for Special Education Teachers

Comments: This bill would allow universities and colleges in the State to offer dual certification for both elementary education and special education.

LR: 3096

Title: Resolve, To Study a Road User Fee

Comments: This resolve would direct the Maine Department of Transportation to seek federal funding to finance a mileage fee pilot project in the Portland area. The study would be modeled upon the successful one-year pilot project recently done by the Oregon Department of Transportation in the Portland, Oregon area.

LR: 3209

Title: An Act To Allow Congestion Pricing by the Maine Turnpike Authority

Comments: This bill would allow the Maine Turnpike Authority to base variable tolls on the time of the day.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3371 Representative Chase

LR: 3210

Title: An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Governor's Task Force on Passenger Rail Funding

Comments: This bill would implement the recommendations of the Governor's Task Force on Passenger Rail Funding.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Marrache of Kennebec

LR: 2816

Title: An Act To Prevent the Closing of Store Road in Somerset County

Comments: This bill would require that a county road in Somerset County, Store Road, be kept open.

LR: 2817

Title: Resolve, To Review the Maine Juvenile Code for Effectiveness Concerning Penalties

Comments: This resolve would direct the Department of Corrections to review the penalties established for juveniles and determine the penalties' effectiveness in helping juveniles. The department is to report to the Legislature with suggested changes.

LR: 2818

Title: An Act To Prevent Minors from Accessing Mature Videos

Comments: This bill would require minors to show valid identification in order to rent videos and movies with an R rating or higher.

LR: 2895

Title: Resolve, To Require that the Department of Economic and Community Development Establish an Independent Review Board

Comments: This bill would require that the Department of Economic and Community Development establish an ongoing and permanent review board to review studies submitted by research and development companies

LR: 3356

Title: An Act To Clarify Procedures within the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for Transgendered Individuals

Comments: This bill would allow a person to change the sexual gender assignment on a driver's license when the transgendered person applies for a new license with a name change instead of when the full transgender procedure is complete.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 180

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Martin of Aroostook

LR: 2832

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing agricultural marketing and bargaining.

LR: 2833

Title: An Act To Create the Public Power Delivery System

Comments: This bill would establish a public power delivery system under which the State would take over the delivery of electricity in the State.

LR: 2933

Title: An Act Pertaining to Labor Relations

Comments: This bill would provide for an appeals process between an employer and an employee in the private setting.

LR: 2934

Title: An Act To Amend the Provisions for All-terrain Vehicles

Comments: This bill would allow a landowner to decide who can cross the landowner's property with an all-terrain vehicle and still continue to receive the protection of the State.

LR: 3063

Title: An Act To Consolidate the Cultural Agencies To Promote Accountability and Citizen-centered Delivery of Services

Comments: This bill would consolidate the cultural agencies to promote accountability and citizen-centered delivery of services.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Martin of Aroostook

LR: 3215

Title: An Act Relating to the Office of Substance Abuse

Comments: This bill would elevate the Office of Substance Abuse to a cabinet-level agency in order to address the substance abuse problem in this State. This cabinet-level agency would address the cost of substance abuse in this State and the effects of substance abuse on health care costs, workers' compensation, economic development and the reputation of the Maine workforce. This bill would allow the State to coordinate statewide substance abuse and addiction policies at a high level.

LR: 3228

Title: An Act To Require a Waiting Period from the Close of Divorce Mediation before a Valid Mediation Agreement Is Signed

Comments: This bill would require a period of 24 hours to lapse from the close of mediation in a divorce before the parties may sign a mediation agreement.

LR: 3229

Title: An Act To Exempt Certain Facilities from Life Safety Code Sprinkler Requirements

Comments: This bill would grandfather existing facilities from the sprinkler requirement of the National Fire Protection Association Life Safety Code.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3146 Senator Mitchell

LR: 3274

Title: An Act To Extend the Deadline for Applications for Costs Associated with the Remediation of a Waste Oil Site in Plymouth

Comments: This bill would extend from 180 to 365 the number of days provided for those seeking to borrow funds from the Finance Authority of Maine to apply for funding to assist with the remediation of the Plymouth Waste Oil Site.

LR: 3364

Title: An Act To Protect Electricity Consumers of Northern Maine

Comments: This bill would amend portions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A to increase the power and duties of the Public Utilities Commission to more fully protect the electricity consumers of northern Maine from further price increases, to diminish recent price increases to these consumers and to make energy infrastructure decisions that protect northern Maine electricity consumers.

Closely Related CO: LD 1248

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Mazurek of Rockland

LR: 2759

Title: Resolve, To Direct the Department of Transportation To Do a Feasibility Study To Provide a 2nd Story to the Parking Lot at the State Ferry Terminal in Rockland

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Transportation to do a feasibility study to provide a 2nd story to the parking lot at the State Ferry Terminal in Rockland.

LR: 2777

Title: An Act To Tax Only the Interest Received on Annuities

Comments: This bill would tax only the interest received on an annuity once it is cashed in and not the amount that was used to purchase the annuity.

LR: 2805

Title: An Act Relating to Insurance Coverage for Colorectal Cancer Early Detection

Comments: This bill would require all health insurance policies, contracts and certificates to provide coverage for colorectal cancer screening tests.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3318 Representative Sirois

Sponsor: Senator McCormick of Kennebec

LR: 3017

Title: An Act To Eliminate the Sheltering of Values in State Valuation Associated with Tax Increment Financing

Comments: This bill would amend the duties of the State Tax Assessor with respect to the determination of each municipality's "equalized valuation," sometimes referred to as "state valuation." Under current law, the assessor must subtract from a municipality's valuation certain values associated with property in various tax increment financing districts. The discounting or sheltering of those values provides an advantage to those municipalities and a relative disadvantage to their municipal counterparts with respect to school subsidy, municipal revenue sharing and county assessments. This bill would eliminate the sheltering of those values from the determination of each municipality's equalized valuation.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative McDonough of Scarborough

LR: 2774

Title: An Act To Compute Automobile and Boat Excise Tax Based on the Actual Purchase Price

Comments: This bill would change the method of computing the excise tax that is levied on motor vehicles and boats registered in the State.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 79, 459, 558, 1460 and 1905

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2795 Representative Pilon

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3053 Representative Savage, D.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative McFadden of Dennysville

LR: 2875

Title: An Act To Require That Sellers of Scrap Metal Provide Identification

Comments: This bill would require that sellers of scrap metal provide identification in an effort to prevent the rising theft of copper and other increasingly expensive metals.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2955 Representative Thibodeau

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3141 Representative Koffman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3240 Representative Berry

LR: 2880

Title: An Act To Provide Equity in Labor Markets and School Administrative District Consolidation

Comments: This bill would require all schools or towns in a regional school unit to have the same labor market assessment as averaged in the State.

LR: 2881

Title: An Act To Protect Schools and Towns from Unfair Debt Service

Comments: This bill would prevent schools and towns joining a regional school unit from taking on more debt service than required by the State.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2958 Representative MacDonald

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3014 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3041 Senator Rosen, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3046 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3159 Representative Lewin

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3376 Representative Babbidge

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative McKane of Newcastle

LR: 3122

Title: An Act To Amend the School District Consolidation Laws Regarding Special Education Funding

Comments: This bill would restore the 5% minimum or special education subsidy for minimum receivers in order to make those minimum receivers favorable partners for consolidation. This bill would also amend the requirement that school districts raise 2 mills for contribution to the regional school unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2741 Representative Percy

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2984 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3013 Representative Miramant

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative McLeod of Lee

LR: 2854

Title: An Act To Create a Duty To Report Serious Injuries

Comments: This bill would require a person who observes that another person has received a serious injury to immediately report that condition and request first aid by the quickest means of communication available to a police department, emergency dispatch center, licensed medical facility or licensed medical provider.

LR: 3160

Title: An Act To Allow the Maine School and Library Network To Provide Services to the Central Offices of the Newly Established Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would allow the Maine School and Library Network to provide services to the central offices of the newly established regional school units.

LR: 3161

Title: An Act To Remove Fiscal Impediments to the Consolidation of School Administrative Units for the Communities of Bancroft, Burlington, Carroll Plantation, Chester, Drew Plantation, East Millinocket, Edinburg, Enfield, Glenwood, Howland, Lakeville, Lee, Lincoln, Lowell, Macwahoc Plantation, Mattawamkeag, Maxfield, Medford, Medway, Millinocket, Passadumkeag, Reed Plantation, Seboeis Plantation, Springfield, Webster Plantation, Winn and Woodville

Comments: This bill would remove fiscal impediments to the consolidation of school administrative units for the communities of Bancroft, Burlington, Carroll Plantation, Chester, Drew Plantation, East Millinocket, Edinburg, Enfield, Glenwood, Howland, Lakeville, Lee, Lincoln, Lowell, Macwahoc Plantation, Mattawamkeag, Maxfield, Medford, Medway, Millinocket, Passadumkeag, Reed Plantation, Seboeis Plantation, Springfield, Webster Plantation, Winn and Woodville.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Miller of Somerville

LR: 3270

Title: An Act To Clarify the Qualifications of Installers under the Solar Energy Rebate Program

Comments: This bill would clarify who qualifies as a qualified solar thermal system installer since currently installers who are required to take a qualification course still need a plumber to approve installations.

LR: 3293

Title: An Act To Allow the Administration of Emergency Medication to Children by Municipal Employees

Comments: Similar to the law that allows school personnel to administer epinephrine, this bill would allow trained municipal employees to administer epinephrine to children using "epi-pens" in the event of an emergency.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Millett of Waterford

LR: 3242

Title: An Act To Amend the Charter of the Norway Water District

Comments: This bill would expand the territory of the Norway Water District so that it conforms with the actual service area of the district.

LR: 3335

Title: An Act To Clarify the Filing Requirements for Certain Not-for-profit Whitewater Rafting Organizations

Comments: This bill would amend the filing requirements for noncommercial whitewater rafting organizations by having the initial filing limited to the requested information from the club's officers, directors and trustees, with a subsequent filing for all dues-paying members at the end of the rafting season each year, not later than December 31st.

LR: 3336

Title: An Act To Ensure That State Government Is a Model Employer of People with Disabilities

Comments: This bill would reestablish the position of Disability Employment Services Coordinator within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to review hiring and promotion procedures for workers with disabilities, expand outreach efforts, increase efforts to accommodate workers with disabilities and seek to increase the number of workers with disabilities within State Government.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Mills, J. of Farmington

LR: 3178

Title: An Act To Require Registration of Persons Lobbying the Office of the Attorney General

Comments: This bill would require registration and disclosure of lobbying costs for those who lobby the Office of the Attorney General.

LR: 3179

Title: An Act Regarding the Transfer Between Jails of Pretrial Detainees

Comments: This bill would address an inconsistency in current law regarding the transfer between jails of pretrial detainees.

LR: 3180

Title: An Act To Clarify the Definition of "Dumpster" as Used in the Maine Tort Claims Act

Comments: This bill would clarify the definition of "dumpster" as used in the Maine Tort Claims Act.

LR: 3276

Title: An Act To Require Inspections of Automobiles Licensed as Antiques

Comments: This bill would require some minimal safety inspections of vehicles designated antiques by the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles that are driven on public ways.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1748

LR: 3278

Title: An Act To Allow Nondangerous Drivers To Obtain a Work-restricted License

Comments: This bill would expand the availability of work-restricted licenses for habitual offenders and those convicted of driving to endanger or operating after suspension.

LR: 3373

Title: An Act To Allow Pregnant Minors To Obtain Prenatal Care

Comments: This bill would allow a pregnant minor to obtain prenatal care without the consent of the minor's parent.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Mills, J. of Farmington

LR: 3374

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Use of Maine Clean Election Fund Money for Payment to Family Members

Comments: This bill would disallow payment of Maine Clean Election Fund money to spouses and close family members as salary for campaign work.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2756 Representative Piotti

LR: 3378

Title: An Act To Avoid the Expense of Unnecessary Medical Facility Inspections

Comments: This bill would clarify that state inspections of medical facilities and survey visits are not called for unless there is a documented complaint regarding a specific problem.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Mills, P. of Somerset

LR: 3062

Title: An Act To Facilitate the Formation of the Northwest Maine Regional School Unit

Comments: This bill would encourage the formation of a regional school unit in northwest Maine comprised of Maine School Administrative District No. 12, Maine School Administrative District No. 13, the Town of Greenville, the Town of Shirley, Pleasant Ridge Plantation, Dennistown Plantation, Kingsbury Plantation, the Town of Beaver Cove, the Town of Caratunk, the Forks Plantation, West Forks Plantation and portions of the unorganized territory, including Rockwood. The bill would provide that the reorganization plan prepared by the Reorganization Planning Committee may include a cost-sharing formula applicable both to required local contributions and additional local funds based on valuation, number of pupils or other factors, and may include other cost-sharing transition provisions as determined by the Reorganization Planning Committee. The bill would authorize the Commissioner of Education to approve a reorganization plan for the proposed Northwest Regional School Unit with less than 1,200 resident pupils on the basis of geography, demographics, transportation and population density, but subject to a plan to reorganize administrative functions and noninstructional personnel so that projected expenditures for system administration, transportation, special education and facilities and maintenance will not have an adverse impact on the instructional program.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3153 Representative Pinkham

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3366 Senator Smith, D.

LR: 3360

Title: An Act To Authorize the Department of Transportation To Recover for the Highway Fund Any Money Recovered from Those Responsible for Doing Damage to State Roads and Bridges

Comments: Currently, if the Department of Transportation recovers funds from motorists and others who do damage to highways, the money must be turned over to the General Fund. This bill would make it clear that the Department of Transportation has both the right and the duty to recover such sums for the exclusive benefit of the Highway Fund.

LR: 3361

Title: An Act To Authorize Low-stakes Cribbage Games at Charitable and Fraternal Organizations

Comments: This bill would authorize nonprofit, charitable and fraternal organizations to administer cribbage games as games of chance by charging \$15 per evening for a maximum of 60 participants, as long as the total amount wagered for the evening does not exceed \$300. This bill would address the recent determination by the Department of Public Safety that cribbage games conducted by groups such as the American Legion and the Eagles Club, with low-stakes prizes for a license fee of \$15 are not in compliance with current state law.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Mills, P. of Somerset

LR: 3362

Title: An Act To Raise the Per Diem Rate for Members of the Board of Environmental Protection and the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission

Comments: This bill would increase from \$55 to \$100 the per diem fees for members of the Board of Environmental Protection and the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission

LR: 3363

Title: Resolve, To Establish a Statewide Protocol for the Early Detection and Treatment of Autism

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services within their existing resources to establish a uniform statewide protocol for the screening of all children between 18 and 30 months of age for signs of autism. For each child who tests positive, this bill would implement through the 16 Child Development Services System sites guidelines jointly adopted by the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services incorporating best practices as supported by evidence-based clinical trials.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Miramant of Camden

LR: 2738

Title: An Act To Ban the Use of Liquid Calcium on Roads

Comments: This bill would ban the use of liquid calcium on roads.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2773 Representative Marley

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2793 Representative Weddell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3087 Representative Schatz

LR: 2739

Title: An Act To Require That a Person Who Testifies before a Committee Must Be Sworn In

Comments: This bill would require that anyone who testifies before a committee must be sworn in.

LR: 2815

Title: An Act To Provide Equity in Reimbursement for Health Care Services

Comments: This bill would prohibit insurance companies from distinguishing between preferred and nonpreferred health care providers and hospitals in order to prevent inequities in billing between insured individuals and insurance companies. The bill would provide the same relationship to insured individuals as that claimed by insurance companies with respect to health care providers and hospitals regarding terms of reimbursement.

LR: 3009

Title: An Act To Ensure That the Requirement of Airport Manager Training Does Not Affect the Issuance of an Annual Registration Certificate until January 1, 2009

Comments: This bill would delay the implementation of the requirement that an airport manager not be issued an annual registration certificate before completing airport manager training to January 1, 2009.

LR: 3010

Title: An Act To Allow a Municipality To Withdraw from a School Administrative Unit

Comments: This bill would allow a municipality to withdraw from a school administrative unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2943 Senator Raye

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Miramant of Camden

LR: 3011

Title: An Act To Allow Multiple Board Representation from Smaller Towns within Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would allow districts to override the 2% requirement in the interests of broader local representation within regional school units.

LR: 3012

Title: An Act To Lessen the Penalties That a District Would Incur If It Does Not Join a School Administrative Unit

Comments: This bill would lessen the penalties assessed on a school district that does not join a school administrative unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2798 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2801 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2804 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3130 Representative Treat

LR: 3013

Title: An Act To Ensure Support of a Minimum Special Education Subsidy

Comments: This bill would require that low receiving school administrative units would continue to receive funding to maintain a minimum special education subsidy.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2741 Representative Percy

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2984 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3122 Representative McKane

LR: 3014

Title: An Act To Compensate Towns for Financial Losses due to School Administrative Consolidation

Comments: This bill would compensate a town for any financial loss that the town may have incurred due to school administrative consolidation.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2881 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2958 Representative MacDonald

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3041 Senator Rosen, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3046 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3159 Representative Lewin

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3376 Representative Babbidge

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Miramant of Camden

LR: 3015

Title: An Act To Allow for Alternative Cost-sharing Options in a New School Administrative Unit

Comments: This bill would grant school administrative units the flexibility to develop cost-sharing formulas if the essential programs and services model does not equitably distribute costs.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

LR: 3232

Title: An Act To Clarify Recent Changes to the Law Concerning Payments for Business or Farm Displacements

Comments: This bill would clarify that recent changes to the law concerning fixed payments for business or farm displacements up to \$100,000 are for Federal Highway Administration-related projects only; otherwise, the maximum amount allowed is \$20,000 for all other federal agency issues.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Mitchell of Kennebec

LR: 2829

Title: An Act To Fully Fund School Breakfast from Kindergarten to Grade 12

Comments: This bill would require that all public schools from kindergarten to grade 12 have a full school breakfast program, and provides funding for the program.

LR: 2904

Title: An Act To Provide Accessible Higher Education Assistance for Maine Families

Comments: This bill would amend certain provisions of the Finance Authority of Maine's existing authority to finance educational loans to ensure the ability of the Finance Authority of Maine to originate such loans.

LR: 2928

Title: An Act To Clarify Term Limits for Members of the State Board of Education

Comments: This bill would clarify that the 2 5-year term limit also applies to the current members of the State Board of Education.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2949 Representative Finch

LR: 3003

Title: An Act To Create the York County Regional Development Authority

Comments: This bill would create a regional development authority that would have as its eligible members any municipalities located within York County that vote, pursuant to procedures specified in the laws creating the authority, to become members of that authority. The regional development authority would have broad authority to engage in activities to promote, facilitate and conduct economic development through the creating of jobs, educational programs, workforce housing and other related activities that would all take place through a coordinated, cooperative regional effort among members of the regional development authority.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Mitchell of Kennebec

LR: 3110

Title: An Act To Facilitate the Process of Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would allow members of newly consolidated units to negotiate valuation issues with each other and would require a referendum in a budget only if it exceeds guidelines for essential programs and services.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

LR: 3146

Title: An Act Regarding the Life Safety Code for Existing Places of Assembly

Comments: This bill would exempt places of assembly existing before the effective date of the 2006 Life Safety Code from the sprinkler installation requirement.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3229 Senator Martin

LR: 3320

Title: An Act To Advance the Maine Economy

Comments: This bill would implement specific programs to attract, retain and expand business opportunities in the State through the creation of a Maine expansion fund; development of an advanced entrepreneurial training program; streamlining environmental permitting at the state and local levels; development of the Maine Green Energy Investment Fund, to be similar to the Massachusetts Green Energy Fund; better alignment of Maine's business development network with the State's potential economic growth areas; and enhancing connections between Maine's industry needs and workforce development programs, including the community college system and university system.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Moore, G. of Standish

LR: 2975

Title: An Act To Exempt Commercial Logging Equipment from the State Sales Tax

Comments: This bill would exempt from the sales tax commercial logging equipment.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Nass, R. of York

LR: 2839

Title: An Act To Require That Persons Who Perform Engineering Work in Commercial Buildings Be Licensed

Comments: This bill would require that a person who installs air conditioning units in commercial buildings be licensed by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers.

LR: 2963

Title: An Act To Establish Limited Liability for Landowners for Owners of Noncommercial Airstrips

Comments: This bill would establish limited landowner liability for the owners of noncommercial airstrips. The limited liability would be modeled on the law currently applicable to owners of land on which people conduct recreational activities such as hiking, snowmobiling and biking.

LR: 3092

Title: An Act Relating to Access on Private Roads

Comments: This bill would allow owners of property on a private way to meet to determine what improvements need to be made to bring the road to municipal standards.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2737 Representative Knight

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Nass, R. of York

LR: 3142

Title: An Act To Amend the School Funding Formula To Facilitate School District Consolidation

Comments: This bill would allow the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs to look at the obstacles to consolidation, which include, but are not limited to, the cost of implementing consolidation to individual school administrative units. The committee is authorized to submit legislation that allows local school administrative units to develop cost-sharing agreements for regional school units to hold harmless districts that are penalized by the new consolidation and allow all partners to benefit from the cost reductions from consolidation.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

LR: 3384

Title: An Act Concerning Vapor Recovery Requirements

Comments: This bill would supply a repeal date for the gasoline station vapor recovery requirements.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Norton of Bangor

LR: 3198

Title: An Act To Provide Postsecondary Institutions with More Authority To Protect Higher Education Personnel from Internet and Technology-based Defamation

Comments: This bill would authorize the trustees of postsecondary institutions to prohibit harassment of their faculty or staff, including harassment carried out via new technologies.

LR: 3199

Title: An Act To Require Bereavement Leave in the Event of Miscarriage or Death of a Fetus

Comments: This bill would require an employer that employs 25 or more employees to allow an employee who has experienced a miscarriage or the death of a fetus 5 days' paid bereavement leave.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Nutting, J. of Androscoggin

LR: 3151

Title: An Act To Prohibit Bicyclists from Passing Stopped School Buses

Comments: This bill would make it illegal for a bicyclist to pass a stopped school bus that has its flashers on and would provide the same penalties for infractions as those prescribed for motor vehicles.

LR: 3202

Title: An Act To Clarify the Qualifications of Mental Health Examiners

Comments: This bill would add nurse practitioners, advanced practice nurses and physician assistants to the list of medical personnel authorized to conduct involuntary commitment examinations.

Sponsor: Representative Patrick of Rumford

LR: 3253

Title: An Act Regarding International Trade Agreements

Comments: This bill would require legislative approval before the State is required to adhere to government procurement rules, service sector rules and investment rules of an international trade agreement.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Pendleton of Scarborough

LR: 2987

Title: Resolve, To Determine Methods of Securing a Trained Laboratory Workforce for Maine

Comments: This resolve would require the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Innovation to convene a working group to study and report back to the Legislature with methods of overcoming a shortfall of trained laboratory workers.

LR: 3265

Title: An Act To Reduce Municipal Property Taxes

Comments: This bill would require the State to reimburse municipalities for the portion of the taxes they have lost as a result of tax-exempt property. The State would create a classification system for tax-exempt property. Local town assessors would use the classification system to assess the value of tax-exempt property. The State would reimburse municipalities for the lost property taxes based on the new classification system.

LR: 3275

Title: An Act To Protect Nurses from Mandatory Overtime and Other Requirements

Comments: This bill would prohibit employers from disciplining or removing any right, benefit or privilege of a registered nurse, licensed practical nurse or licensed nursing assistant for refusing to work overtime. The bill would also regulate the practice of requiring nursing staff to be on call.

LR: 3282

Title: An Act To Provide Child Care for Students in Maine's Community Colleges and the University of Maine System

Comments: This bill would establish on-site child care facilities at all major facilities of the Maine Community College System and the University of Maine System in order to increase educational opportunities for returning and older students with children. In smaller locations, where creating an on-site facility is impossible, students with child care needs would be provided with subsidies for child care assistance.

LR: 3285

Title: An Act To Create the Position of Braille Transcriber and Assistant

Comments: This bill would create the position of Braille Transcriber and Assistant in the Department of Education.

Sponsor: Representative Peoples of Westbrook

LR: 3345

Title: An Act To Require Ignition Interlock Systems for Drivers Convicted of Operating Under the Influence

Comments: This bill would require that all persons convicted of operating under the influence be required to install an ignition interlock device on their vehicle for a period of 2 years as a condition of having their license reinstated.

Closely Related CO: LD 856

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Percy of Phippsburg

LR: 2741

Title: An Act Relating to the Minimum Special Education Adjustment

Comments: This bill would amend the minimum special education allocation by removing the 5% adverse economic impact requirement for municipalities.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2984 Representative Walker

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3013 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3122 Representative McKane

LR: 2835

Title: Resolve, Establishing the Local and Organic Food, Fish and Farm Task Force

Comments: This resolve would establish the Local and Organic Food, Fish and Farm Task Force to develop a plan containing policy and funding recommendations for expanding and supporting a statewide local and organic food system and for assessing and overcoming obstacles to an increase in locally grown food and local organic food production.

LR: 2836

Title: An Act To Develop Guidelines for Use in Implementing a Program of Instruction on Financial Literacy in Secondary Schools and To Provide for the Establishment of a Fund To Receive Public and Private Contributions for Financial Literacy Instruction

Comments: This bill would direct the State Board of Education to develop guidelines for school administrative units to use in implementing a program of instruction on financial literacy within courses currently offered in secondary schools. It also would provide for the establishment of a fund to receive public and private contributions for financial literacy instruction.

LR: 2936

Title: An Act To Provide Equity for Educational Interpreters for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing

Comments: This bill would formalize the status and definition of educational interpreters for the deaf and hard-of-hearing in Maine public schools. The bill would ensure oversight of the interpreters by the Department of Education, including qualifications, review, hiring, training and compensation levels.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Percy of Phippsburg

LR: 3031

Title: An Act To Equalize the Tax Burden for Education across Municipalities of the Lower Kennebec River Area

Comments: This bill would enact a mechanism to equalize the tax burden for education across municipalities authorized to regionalize in the lower Kennebec River area pursuant to Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 25. The bill would also authorize limiting choice for students from municipalities that join the regional school unit after the initial date of consolidation.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3121 Senator Benoit

LR: 3260

Title: An Act To Safeguard the Natural Communities of Pitch Pine, Semi-dune and Wetland

Comments: This bill would provide protection for unique areas that are of geological interest and are botanic and wildlife habitats in Maine coastal areas. The guidelines for protecting these areas would be jointly developed by the Natural Areas Program and the Maine Geological Survey, both within the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Geology and Natural Areas; the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; and the Department of Environmental Protection.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Perry, A. of Calais

LR: 2882

Title: An Act To Authorize the State Board of Nursing To Order the Physical or Mental Examination of a Licensed Nurse

Comments: This bill would authorize the State Board of Nursing to order the physical or mental examination of a licensed nurse.

LR: 2883

Title: An Act To Clarify the Licensure of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

Comments: This bill would change the language providing for authority to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse. Under the bill, licensure would be a one-step process rather than the two-step process currently in place.

LR: 2884

Title: An Act To Clarify the Status of Household Pharmaceuticals Collected for Disposal

Comments: This bill would clarify that household pharmaceuticals collected for disposal pursuant to Public Law 2003, chapter 369 constitute "household waste" rather than "hazardous waste."

LR: 2885

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Parking of Recreational Vehicles

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to address the issues presented by the overnight parking of recreational vehicles in areas other than authorized campgrounds.

LR: 3049

Title: An Act To Increase MaineCare Payments to Dentists

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Health and Human Services annually to incrementally adjust the MaineCare reimbursement rates for dental services over the next 5 years until the rates reach the 50th percentile of the fees published in the most recent "Survey of Dental Fees, New England Region," published by the American Dental Association and after that adjust the fee annually for inflation.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Perry, A. of Calais

LR: 3138

Title: An Act To Increase the Reimbursement of Nurse Practitioners as Primary Care Providers

Comments: This bill would require health maintenance organizations to reimburse nurse practitioners who are primary care providers.

LR: 3139

Title: An Act To Implement a Consent Judgment Regarding Oxycontin Abuse

Comments: This bill would require the Treasurer of State to transfer funds received from a consent judgment in the amount of \$719,000 to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Substance Abuse for the purpose of funding prescription drug abuse prevention programs which the funds are intended for in the consent judgment.

LR: 3259

Title: An Act To Provide Support for At-risk Children

Comments: This bill would create a program within the juvenile court system to address punishment and proactive treatment of at-risk youth.

LR: 3330

Title: An Act To Enhance Public Safety and Savings through Expanded Alternatives to Incarceration

Comments: This bill would require the implementation of expanded screening and assessment in which all offenders convicted of a felony offense would participate in an evidence-based substance abuse screening and assessment process. The bill would require that the results of any screening and assessment of an offender be provided to the court prior to sentencing and would require treatment for substance abuse if considered necessary and appropriate.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Perry, J. of Penobscot

LR: 2876

Title: An Act To Protect Maine's Lakes and Ponds through a Property Tax Incentive

Comments: This bill would provide a 10% reduction in property taxes for a person who owns waterfront property.

LR: 3291

Title: An Act To Encourage the Use of Environmentally Safe Drain Cleaners

Comments: The bill would enact measures designed to encourage the use of environmentally safe drain cleaners.

LR: 3296

Title: An Act To Hold Private Snowplow Contractors Liable for Failure To Perform Their Duties

Comments: This bill would hold private snowplow contractors liable for damages resulting from failure to perform the duties outlined in their contracts.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Pieh of Bremen

LR: 3026

Title: An Act Concerning Animal Welfare

Comments: This bill would amend the animal welfare laws to change the requirement concerning vendors' licenses for selling cats and dogs for sales of one litter or part of a litter. This bill would also direct the Attorney General and the Bureau of Public Safety to implement a reporting program when a motor vehicle hits or injures a pet animal, patterned after the program concerning motor vehicles striking a moose or deer.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2754 Representative Pratt

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3230 Senator Damon

LR: 3034

Title: An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy

Comments: This bill would implement the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy regarding training requirements for police officers.

LR: 3088

Title: Resolve, To Conduct an Objective and Independent Review of the Department of Education

Comments: This bill would create a task force whose charge would be to objectively and independently examine the role, responsibilities and functions of the Department of Education. The task force would examine the capacity of the department to fulfill its responsibilities, the administrative organization of the department, the adequacy of the department's budget and the expenditures of department funds and the impact that the department has on improving education for all Maine students. The task force would report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Pilon of Saco

LR: 2794

Title: An Act To Create a Tax Deferral Program for Maine Residents 65 Years of Age or Older

Comments: This bill would create a tax deferral program for Maine residents 65 years of age or older if the resident is eligible.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 527, 1412, 1433, 1557, 1559, 1708, 1770 and 1925

Closely Related CO: LD 276

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3099 Representative Rand

LR: 2795

Title: An Act To Alter the Method of Calculating the Excise Tax on Automobiles

Comments: This bill would alter the method of calculating the excise tax on automobiles.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 79, 459, 558, 1460 and 1905

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2774 Representative McDonough

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3053 Representative Savage, D.

LR: 2998

Title: An Act To Ban Large Power Boats from Inland Waters

Comments: This bill would ban large boats, as determined by length and horsepower, from lakes and other inland waters in Maine.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2782 Representative Sykes

LR: 2999

Title: An Act To Tie the Travel Reimbursement Rate for Legislators to the Federal Reimbursement Rate

Comments: This bill would annually adjust the mileage reimbursement rate for Legislators to make it equal to the federal mileage reimbursement rate.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Pingree of North Haven

LR: 2830

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Sale of Toys That Have Been Recalled by the Federal Consumer Product Safety Commission

Comments: This bill would prohibit the sale of toys that have been recalled by the federal Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2746 Representative Conover

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2877 Representative Pingree

LR: 2834

Title: An Act To Lower Energy Costs and Increase Renewable Energy in Maine

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to develop more sustainable and affordable energy policies for the State. These measures may include methods to increase access to renewable energy; reduce energy costs; and utilize energy partnerships to maximize resources and production.

LR: 2877

Title: An Act To Protect Children's Health and the Environment from Toxic Chemicals in Toys and Children's Products

Comments: This bill would create a system for identifying, testing and listing known dangerous chemicals in products sold in the State that are intended for children.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2746 Representative Conover

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2830 Representative Pingree

LR: 3114

Title: An Act To Decrease Energy Costs on Downeast Islands

Comments: This bill would allow island electric cooperatives on Swans Island and Frenchboro Island to sell wholesale electric generation service to reduce their cost of providing retail service.

LR: 3115

Title: An Act To Make Changes to the Working Waterfront Use Laws

Comments: This bill would make changes to the working waterfront property taxation laws.

Closely Related CO: LD 1298

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Pingree of North Haven

LR: 3143

Title: An Act To Continue Maine's Leadership in Providing Health Insurance Coverage to the Uninsured

Comments: This bill would reform the individual health care insurance market and establish an ongoing funding source for Dirigo Health.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1890

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2825 Representative Priest

LR: 3144

Title: An Act To Establish a Cost-sharing Arrangement for Mount Desert Island High School

Comments: This bill would enact a cost-sharing arrangement for Mount Desert Island High School.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

LR: 3145

Title: An Act To Encourage Cost-sharing in Maine Schools

Comments: This bill would encourage cost-sharing in Maine schools.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
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Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Pingree of North Haven

LR: 3351

Title: An Act To Lower Maine's Tax Burden on Maine People

Comments: This bill would reform Maine's income tax by reducing the top rate, raising the threshold for the top rate, raising the personal exemption, making the credit from the Maine Residents Property Tax Program a refundable credit on the income tax and making the earned income tax refundable and balance these reductions in revenue increases.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1670

Closely Related CO: LD 952

Closely Related CO: LD 1582

Closely Related CO: LD 1833

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3168 Senator Smith, D.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3300 Representative Lansley

LR: 3352

Title: An Act To Protect Maine Electricity Consumers

Comments: This bill would amend Maine public utilities laws within the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, and would also amend certain private and special laws to ensure that the State has authorized its agencies and others to fully protect electricity consumers in the current era of state deregulation and increased federal preemption.

Closely Related CO: LD 1098

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Pinkham of Lexington Township

LR: 3152

Title: An Act To Authorize County Commissioners To Enact Ordinances To Provide Road Services and Maintenance

Comments: This bill would specifically authorize the county commissioners of a county to enact an ordinance for the purposes of providing road services and maintenance.

Closely Related CO: LD 885

LR: 3153

Title: An Act To Authorize Formation of the Northwest Maine Regional School Unit

Comments: This bill would encourage the formation of a regional school unit in northwest Maine comprised of Maine School Administrative District No. 12, Maine School Administrative District No. 13, the Town of Greenville, the Town of Shirley, Pleasant Ridge Plantation, Dennistown Plantation, Kingsbury Plantation, the Town of Beaver Cove, the Town of Caratunk, the Forks Plantation, West Forks Plantation and portions of the unorganized territory, including Rockwood. The bill would provide that the reorganization plan prepared by the Reorganization Planning Committee may include a cost-sharing formula applicable both to required local contributions and additional local funds based on valuation, number of pupils or other factors, and may include other cost-sharing transition provisions as determined by the Reorganization Planning Committee. The bill would authorize the Commissioner of Education to approve a reorganization plan for the proposed Northwest Regional School Unit with less than 1,200 resident pupils on the basis of geography, demographics, transportation and population density, but subject to a plan to reorganize administrative functions and noninstructional personnel so that projected expenditures for system administration, transportation, special education and facilities and maintenance will not have an adverse impact on the instructional program.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3062 Senator Mills, P.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3366 Senator Smith, D.

LR: 3188

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Sex Offender Registry

Comments: This bill would repeal requirements for sex offenders to register retroactively for crimes committed prior to September 17, 2005, except for those registrations specifically required under federal law. This bill would eliminate required registration in those instances where it would violate the state or federal constitution as suggested by John Doe v. District Attorney, which was decided September 25, 2007 by the Maine Law Court.

Closely Related CO: LD 446

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3106 Representative Gerzofsky

Sponsor: Representative Piotti of Unity

LR: 2756

Title: An Act To Ensure Integrity in Financing Publicly Funded Campaigns

Comments: This bill would prohibit a publicly financed candidate for Governor or the Legislature from directing state funds to a spouse, domestic partner or other contributor to the candidate's household finances for services provided. This bill would also prohibit a publicly financed candidate from directing state funds to a business owned by that family member for services.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3374 Representative Mills, J.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Plowman of Penobscot

LR: 2863

Title: Resolve, To Create a Commission To Study the Real Estate Holdings of the Department of Transportation

Comments: This resolve would create a commission to study the real estate holdings of the Department of Transportation. The commission would be charged with evaluating Department of Transportation locations and making recommendations regarding the sale or retention of real estate.

LR: 2864

Title: An Act To Encourage the Education of All Maine Students

Comments: This bill would provide that a regional school unit that requires a member school unit to send secondary students to the secondary school of that regional school unit must accept all the secondary students of that member school unit.

LR: 3213

Title: An Act To Protect Landlords from Frivolous Eviction Appeals

Comments: This bill would require a tenant that is appealing an eviction to put rent payments for the duration of the appeal process in escrow.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Pratt of Eddington

LR: 2754

Title: An Act To Ensure Ethical and Humane Dog Breeding in the State

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to address the inhumane breeding standards of so-called "puppy mills" in the State. This bill would outlaw the most egregious dog breeding practices and would establish a Maine humane dog breeding standard.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3026 Representative Pieh

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3230 Senator Damon

LR: 3236

Title: An Act To Secure Access to Publicly Owned Lands

Comments: This bill would require that Maine residents be able to access public reserve lands for day use without having to pay gate or road fees. It would require the Department of Conservation to ensure that access to public reserve lands located inside larger tracks of land such as the North Maine Woods gate system would be accessible to residents for day use free of charge.

LR: 3238

Title: An Act To Amend the Whitewater Rafting Allocation System

Comments: This bill would prohibit the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife from removing, revoking or suspending allocations from a whitewater rafting outfitter for any reason other than to protect public safety or for continued or serious violation of the outfitter's license. The department could not remove, revoke or suspend allocations for what it determines to be the failure of the outfitter to continue using its allocations productively or for other subjective reasons.

LR: 3246

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would move back the deadline for the finalization of the consolidation of school administrative units one year. The Commissioner of Education would be required to create a new timeline based on this new deadline. The current cost savings related to the consolidation of school administrative units for fiscal year 2008-09 must be maintained.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2797 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2803 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3221 Representative Clark

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3355 Senator Smith, D.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Pratt of Eddington

LR: 3372

Title: An Act To Provide Flexible Financial Aid and Create a Revolving Loan Fund for
Nondependent Students

Comments: This bill would provide flexible financial aid and create a revolving loan fund to cover
nonacademic expenses necessary to enable nondependent students to attend school.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Priest of Brunswick

LR: 2752

Title: An Act To Protect Homeowners from Equity Stripping during Foreclosures

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to protect homeowners from equity stripping during foreclosures.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2939 Speaker Cummings

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2940 Speaker Cummings

LR: 2824

Title: An Act To Establish an Office of the Health Care Insurance Advocate in the State

Comments: This bill would establish a Health Care Insurance Advocate for the State, based on a similar program in Connecticut. The advocate would aid citizens in the State with their health care insurance issues and would be funded by a levy on health insurance companies.

LR: 2825

Title: An Act To Appropriate Funds to the Dirigo Health Program

Comments: This bill would appropriate sufficient funds to the Dirigo Health Program in order to enable it to self-administer.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3143 Representative Pingree

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Rand of Portland

LR: 3099

Title: An Act To Authorize Municipal Property Tax Deferral Programs in Municipalities

Comments: This bill would authorize municipalities to establish property tax deferral programs.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 527, 1412, 1433, 1557, 1559, 1708, 1770 and 1925

Closely Related CO: LD 276

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2794 Representative Pilon

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Raye of Washington

LR: 2943

Title: An Act To Allow a Municipality To Withdraw from a School Administrative Unit in Order To Join a Regional School Unit

Comments: This bill would allow a municipality to withdraw from a school administrative unit in order to join a regional school unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3010 Representative Miramant

LR: 3042

Title: Resolve, To Rename the Milbridge Bridge the "Harold West Bridge"

Comments: This resolve would rename the great south bridge in Milbridge the "Harold West Bridge."

LR: 3057

Title: An Act To Give Municipalities Control of Mussels Located in Intertidal Zones

Comments: This bill would include mussels located in intertidal zones on the list of species that are under the control of municipalities.

LR: 3112

Title: An Act To Address Taxation of Severance Pay

Comments: This bill would provide an exemption from state income tax for severance pay.

LR: 3129

Title: An Act To Create the Starboard Water District

Comments: This bill would create the Starboard Water District.

LR: 3205

Title: An Act To Provide for the Construction of a Warehouse in Eastport

Comments: This bill would provide \$1,200,000 to the Department of Transportation for the construction of a warehouse at the port of Eastport.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Rector of Thomaston

LR: 2735

Title: An Act Regarding the Sentencing of Certain Persons Convicted of Gross Sexual Assault against Victims under 12 Years of Age

Comments: This bill would require an enhanced prison sentence for a person who, knowing that he or she has a sexually transmitted disease, commits gross sexual assault against a child.

LR: 3331

Title: An Act To Ensure Support for a Model of Consolidated and Integrated Secondary and Postsecondary Education

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Education to select a model school unit and provide support and an assurance of funding so that the unit can serve as a model of consolidated and integrated secondary and postsecondary education to other districts throughout the State.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Richardson, W. of Warren

LR: 2791

Title: An Act To Ensure Liability Coverage for Day Care Centers

Comments: This bill would require that all day care centers show proof of liability insurance coverage in order to be licensed.

LR: 2792

Title: Resolve, To Establish a Reporting Method of the Statistics of Diseases

Comments: This bill would require that the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention establish a reporting method of the numbers of diseases or illnesses acquired in hospitals in the State compared to the total percentage of patients treated in the hospital to help consumers make better decisions for patient health care.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Robinson of Raymond

LR: 3123

Title: An Act To Ensure Safe Sound Levels on Motorcycles

Comments: This bill would limit the decibel level allowed for motorcycles.

LR: 3124

Title: An Act To Ensure Digital Telephone Access in Rural Areas

Comments: This bill would ensure digital telephone access in rural areas.

Closely Related CO: LD 305

LR: 3155

Title: An Act To Promote Sustainable Prosperity by Streamlining and Modernizing State Government

Comments: This bill would find savings within State Government through streamlining and modernization of current practices.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1021

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Rosen, K. of Bucksport

LR: 2783

Title: An Act To Exempt General Merchandise from Sales Tax for One Week in August

Comments: This bill would exempt general merchandise from sales tax for one week in August.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 829

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3054 Representative Savage, D.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Rosen, R. of Hancock

LR: 2897

Title: An Act To Amend the Lucerne-in-Maine Village Corporation Charter

Comments: This bill would amend the Lucerne-in-Maine Village Corporation charter to add certain parts of Peakes Hill Road to the confines of the village.

LR: 2967

Title: An Act To Enhance Flexibility for the Employment of Personnel in Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would remove the provisions of Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX that relate to employment contracts in school administrative units that join regional school units.

Closely Related CO: LD 1931

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3319 Representative Lansley

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3326 Representative Faircloth

LR: 3041

Title: An Act To Exempt Host Municipalities from Financial Obligations as a Result of Offering Secondary School Choice within Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would ensure that municipalities without secondary school choice are not financially obligated by a regional school unit for expenditures that are used to support student attendance at a high school other than the regional school unit's.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2881 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2958 Representative MacDonald

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3014 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3046 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3159 Representative Lewin

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3376 Representative Babbidge

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Rotundo of Androscoggin

LR: 3111

Title: An Act To Adjust the Valuation Calculation Used in Determining Local Share of State Education Funding

Comments: This bill would temper spikes in property valuation used in determining local share for education by implementing a 3-year average.

LR: 3256

Title: An Act To Simplify the Transfer of Retirement Funds

Comments: This bill would require written consent from an individual in order for a company to hold money in a retirement money market account beyond the time of transfer of the manager of the retirement funds.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Samson of Auburn

LR: 3298

Title: An Act To Encourage the Transition from Welfare to Work

Comments: This bill would raise the income threshold at which an individual is no longer eligible for welfare to ensure that the individual secures employment with an income that fully sustains the individual. The bill would also direct the State to convene a study group to examine welfare-to-work and welfare diversion policies and programs, service delivery, data collection and monitoring systems to identify how and where to target resources.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Savage, D. of Falmouth

LR: 3053

Title: An Act To Adjust the Excise Tax on Motor Vehicles

Comments: This bill would calculate the excise tax on motor vehicles by applying the tax to only 90% of the manufacturer's suggested retail price, or "MSRP," rather than the full MSRP.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 79, 459, 558, 1460 and 1905

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2774 Representative McDonough

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2795 Representative Pilon

LR: 3054

Title: An Act To Create a Sales-tax-free Weekend

Comments: This bill would create a weekend for shopping that is sales-tax-free and is based on Massachusetts law.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 829

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2783 Representative Rosen, K.

LR: 3055

Title: An Act To Require the Purchaser To Pay All Property Taxes

Comments: This bill would require the purchaser to be solely responsible for paying the property taxes on property.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2785 Representative Sirois

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2838 Representative Craven

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2841 Representative Bryant, M.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2921 Representative Fletcher

LR: 3306

Title: An Act To Require Insurance Carriers To Pay a Minimum Amount for Emergency Treatment

Comments: This bill would require insurance carriers to pay at least 80% of the cost of emergency medical services rendered when an emergency occurs more than 100 miles from the residence of the insured patient.

LR: 3311

Title: Resolve, To More Clearly Define Vernal Pools and What the Best Distances Are for Protection

Comments: This resolve would require that the Department of Environmental Protection to propose a clearer definition of "vernal pool" and better scientific parameters of accurate distances needed to protect the vernal pools.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Saviello of Wilton

LR: 3006

Title: An Act To Reduce the Budget of the Department of Education To Reflect the Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Education to cut its budget by 20% by 2009 and by a total of 50% by 2010.

LR: 3007

Title: An Act To Ensure Continued Access to and Maintenance of Rest Areas on Maine Highways

Comments: This bill would require that the costs to maintain rest areas in the State be shared by the Department of Transportation and the Department of Economic and Community Development. This bill would also require that maintenance of the rest areas be performed by prison inmates.

LR: 3008

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Adopt Rules Governing the Use of Lakes by Licensed Child Care Facilities

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt rules governing the use of lakes by licensed child care facilities.

LR: 3175

Title: An Act To Create Equitable Flexible Cost-sharing Formulas for the Formation and Support of Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would allow regional school unit directors to negotiate a cost-sharing formula that includes ratios of student numbers and valuation that will distribute costs in an equitable way. The bill also allows cost-sharing formulas to be reviewed annually.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

LR: 2796

Title: An Act To Repeal the Consolidation of School Administrative Units Law

Comments: This bill would repeal the school administrative unit consolidation requirements enacted into law in the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2937 Senator Weston

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3116 Senator Smith, D.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3162 Representative Eaton

LR: 2797

Title: An Act To Extend the Deadline for School Administrative Unit Consolidation

Comments: This bill would extend the deadlines imposed in the school administrative unit consolidation requirements by 3 years.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2803 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3221 Representative Clark

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3246 Representative Pratt

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3355 Senator Smith, D.

LR: 2798

Title: An Act To Remove Penalties from the School Administrative Unit Consolidation Law

Comments: This bill would eliminate the penalties imposed on school districts if the districts haven't yet met all the school administrative unit consolidation requirements.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2801 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2804 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3012 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3130 Representative Treat

LR: 2850

Title: An Act To Allow Law Enforcement Agencies To Use Devices That Record a Vehicle's Speed and License Plate Number in Order To Reduce Speeding

Comments: This bill would allow law enforcement agencies to use devices on roads that indicate to a driver the driver's speed, take a picture of the driver's license plate and facilitate the issuance of a speeding ticket, if appropriate, in an effort to reduce the incidence of speeding, particularly on rural roads.

LR: 2851

Title: An Act To Allow Regional School Units To Be Organized as School Unions

Comments: This bill would allow regional school units to be organized as school unions.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

LR: 2979

Title: An Act To Allow a Regional School Unit with More than One Secondary School To Charge Different Tuition Rates

Comments: This bill would allow a regional school unit with more than one secondary school to charge municipalities that send students to those schools different tuition rates for those secondary schools.

LR: 3087

Title: An Act To Eliminate the Use of Calcium Chloride on Roads

Comments: This bill would eliminate the use of calcium chloride in the course of winter maintenance on roads.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2738 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2773 Representative Marley

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2793 Representative Weddell

LR: 3204

Title: An Act To Repeal the Premium Imposed on Motor Vehicle Oil Changes

Comments: This bill would repeal the premium imposed last session on motor vehicle oil changes.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2985 Representative Thomas

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3367 Senator Smith, D.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Schneider of Penobscot

LR: 2764

Title: An Act To Protect Public Safety, Provide for the Prudent Use of Landfill Capacity and Save Taxpayers Money

Comments: This bill would limit to 50,000 pounds the weight of trucks delivering trash to state-owned landfills that have been expanded or built out. It also would direct the Executive Department, State Planning Office and the Department of Environmental Protection to calculate the solid waste disposal capacity needs of the State.

LR: 2831

Title: Resolve, To Determine Appropriate Buffer Zones for Landfill Construction and Expansion

Comments: This resolve would require the Executive Department, State Planning Office and the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt major substantive rules regarding buffer zones for landfill construction and expansion. These rules must protect the public and nearby property owners from the visual effects, odor and noise of landfills. The State Planning Office and the Department of Environmental Protection must hold public hearings in conjunction with the development of these rules.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Sherman of Aroostook

LR: 2862

Title: An Act To Provide a Tax Credit for the Installation of Geothermal Systems in Residential Dwellings

Comments: This bill would provide a tax credit for the installation of geothermal systems in residential dwellings.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2755 Representative Carter

LR: 2899

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Consolidation of School Administration to Expand the Definition of Efficient, High-performing Districts

Comments: The bill would expand the definition of efficient, high-performing school districts. The bill would change the current requirement that such a district contain "at least 3 schools" identified as higher-performing so as not to unfairly eliminate a district with fewer than 3 schools in the entire district.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2929 Representative Lundeen

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Silsby of Augusta

LR: 3258

Title: An Act To Improve School Administrative Unit Consolidation

Comments: This bill would create an appeals process under the laws governing the consolidation of school administrative units for school districts that were denied approval of their proposed consolidation or alternative plan by the Commissioner of Education.

LR: 3337

Title: An Act To Clarify the Budget Validation Process Concerning Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would allow a municipality that already follows a municipal charter for adoption of a budget to use that budget and not follow the budget validation process in the plan established in the school administrative consolidation laws.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3098 Senator Hobbins

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Simpson of Auburn

LR: 2869

Title: An Act To Ensure the Integrity of Maine Clean Election Fund Expenditures

Comments: This bill would require all Maine Clean Election Fund candidates to file receipts of clean elections money expenditures.

LR: 2870

Title: An Act To Protect Student Athletes

Comments: This bill would require certain safety precautions and training for extracurricular activities, including prohibiting the return of a student to a practice or competition during which the student became unconscious.

LR: 3272

Title: An Act To Provide Safe Driving Incentive for Young Drivers

Comments: This bill would require that if a driver under 18 years of age has a moving violation, the driver's license must be suspended until the driver turns 18 years of age.

LR: 3273

Title: An Act To Protect against Identity Theft

Comments: This bill would direct the State Archivist to adopt rules to clarify what is a public record and establish a process to track state records and who accesses them. This bill would also direct nonpublic entities that hold sensitive personal information to adopt policies to protect it.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Sirois of Turner

LR: 2785

Title: An Act To Protect Sellers in Residential Real Estate Transactions

Comments: This bill would protect the seller of a residential real estate transaction from penalties due to any buyer's financial problems.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2838 Representative Craven

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2841 Representative Bryant, M.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2921 Representative Fletcher

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3055 Representative Savage, D.

LR: 3318

Title: An Act To Ensure Early Detection of Colorectal and Prostate Cancers

Comments: This bill would require that all health insurance companies providing coverage to Maine residents must cover early detection exams and procedures referred by primary care physicians for colorectal and prostate cancers.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2805 Representative Mazurek

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Smith, D. of Piscataquis

LR: 3116

Title: An Act To Repeal the School District Consolidation Laws

Comments: This bill would repeal the school district consolidation laws.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2796 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2937 Senator Weston

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3162 Representative Eaton

LR: 3168

Title: An Act To Reduce Income Tax Rates

Comments: This bill would phase in, over a 3-year period, a reduction in individual income tax rates.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1670

Closely Related CO: LD 952

Closely Related CO: LD 1582

Closely Related CO: LD 1833

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3300 Representative Lansley

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3351 Representative Pingree

LR: 3169

Title: An Act To Create Tax Equity for Working Spouses

Comments: This bill would institute a flat 4.25% individual income tax on second wage earners for those filing a married joint return.

LR: 3355

Title: An Act To Postpone the Effects and Implementation of the School District Consolidation Law for One Year

Comments: This bill would postpone the effects and implementation of the school district consolidation law, suspend any funding of the law, halt meetings and suspend deadlines.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2797 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2803 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3221 Representative Clark

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3246 Representative Pratt

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Smith, D. of Piscataquis

LR: 3366

Title: An Act To Facilitate Formation of the Northwest Maine Regional School Unit

Comments: This bill would encourage the formation of a regional school unit in northwest Maine comprised of School Administrative District No. 12, School Administrative District No. 13, the Town of Greenville, the Town of Shirley, Pleasant Ridge Plantation, Dennistown Plantation, Kingsbury Plantation, the Town of Beaver Cove, the Town of Caratunk, the Forks Plantation, West Forks Plantation and portions of the unorganized territory.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3062 Senator Mills, P.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3153 Representative Pinkham

LR: 3367

Title: An Act To Cap the Additional Charge on All Motor Vehicle Oil Changes

Comments: This bill would cap the additional charge on all motor vehicle oil changes to one dollar per service.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2985 Representative Thomas

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3204 Representative Schatz

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Smith, N. of Monmouth

LR: 3166

Title: An Act To Ensure That State Policies Promote Sustainable Development To Enhance Communities, Reduce the Cost of Government and Achieve State Climate Goals

Comments: This bill would require all state agencies and departments to identify all governing statutes and regulations to ensure that they promote compact, mixed-use development, reduce automobile dependence and are consistent with the State's greenhouse gas reduction goals and the state climate action plan. The agencies would identify problem areas in the laws that discourage these goals and report to the 124th Legislature proposing legislation.

LR: 3181

Title: An Act Regarding the Maine Regulatory Fairness Board

Comments: This bill would allow the members of the Maine Regulatory Fairness Board to be reimbursed for their expenses.

LR: 3247

Title: An Act To Encourage Successful Efforts To Consolidate School Administrative Units by Focusing on Educational Excellence and Realistic Savings Opportunities

Comments: This bill would change a number of provisions in the laws governing the consolidation of school administrative units in Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX to allow for more realistic cost savings to be achieved for productive merger discussions to continue and for educational excellence to remain the top priority for schoolchildren in this State.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Snowe-Mello of Androscoggin

LR: 3061

Title: An Act To Increase Deductibles for Plans Offered by Health Maintenance Organizations

Comments: This bill would allow health maintenance organizations to offer plans with deductibles up to \$2,500.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Soctomah of Passamaquoddy Tribe

LR: 2810

Title: An Act To Establish Native American Veteran Day

Comments: This bill would officially make June 6th of every year Native American Veteran Day.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Strang Burgess of Cumberland

LR: 3327

Title: An Act To Prevent and Treat Cancer in Maine by Implementing Critical Portions of the Comprehensive Cancer Program

Comments: This bill would provide an ongoing General Fund appropriation for a comprehensive cancer screening, detection and prevention program. The program would be funded by equalizing taxes on loose, or "roll your own," tobacco and the price of prerolled cigarettes. This bill would require all tobacco products other than cigarettes to be taxed at the rate of \$1 per ounce.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Strimling of Cumberland

LR: 2753

Title: An Act To Require the State To Divest Itself of Funds from Companies Doing Business with Iran

Comments: This bill would require the State to divest itself of funds from companies that do business with Iran.

LR: 3131

Title: An Act To Diminish Global Warming

Comments: This bill would prohibit the sale or use of incandescent light bulbs beginning in 2010.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3333 Representative Finley

LR: 3222

Title: An Act To Require the State To Consider Carbon Dioxide Effects when Permitting Projects

Comments: This bill would require state permitting agencies to consider and provide preference to projects that diminish carbon dioxide production, as compared to oil and coal.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3033 Representative MacDonald

LR: 3358

Title: An Act To Protect the Health of and Prevent the Incidence of Skin Cancer for Maine Adolescents

Comments: This bill would ban the use of tanning beds for Maine youths under 18 years of age. It would also augment requirements for posting of rules and enhance penalties for violation of the rules.

LR: 3365

Title: An Act To Promote Competition in Maine's Electric Industry

Comments: This bill would allow persons other than transmission and distribution utilities to compete with any transmission and distribution utilities that are affiliated with persons who own or operate electrical generation in the State.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Sullivan of York

LR: 2820

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Bottle Redemption and Establish the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources as the Agent in the State for Purposes of Bottle Redemption

Comments: This bill would increase by one cent the amount that may be retained by redemption centers that are licensed and authorized through the State, and it would establish the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources as the agent in the State for purposes of bottle redemption.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD'S 748, 749, 1657 and 1696

LR: 2821

Title: An Act To Establish a Statewide Bank System for Returnable Bottles

Comments: This bill would establish a "statewide bank" system for returnable bottles within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. Under this system, distributors would no longer be directly responsible for the empty containers or for reimbursement of applicable fees.

LR: 2898

Title: An Act To Prevent Domestic Violence and Protect Our Citizens

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to prevent domestic violence and to protect the citizens of the State, including establishing county domestic violence advocacy offices, the funding of attorney services for victims of domestic violence, increased funding for safe houses and crisis assistance, the establishment of a statewide registry of perpetrators and the creation of a task force to undertake a comprehensive review of the criminal code related to domestic violence.

LR: 3368

Title: An Act To Amend the Insurance Scoring and Rating Laws

Comments: This bill would provide an exemption to actions generated by insurers requesting rescoring.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Sutherland of Chapman

LR: 3185

Title: An Act To Ensure the Availability of Health Care Providers in Rural Areas

Comments: This bill would provide incentives, such as tax credits for tuition paid to non-Maine colleges and universities, to health care providers working in rural Maine.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1815

LR: 3186

Title: An Act Regarding Deposits for Spaying and Neutering Animals Rescued from Shelters

Comments: This bill would require a person adopting an unaltered animal from an animal shelter to pay the deposit directly to the veterinary hospital performing the spaying or neutering.

Closely Related CO: LD 680

LR: 3187

Title: An Act To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Provide Written Reasons for Denial of Certain Benefits

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to provide in writing the reasons for denial of ASPIRE-TANF benefits.

LR: 3295

Title: An Act To Promote First-generation College Students

Comments: This bill would create scholarships for first-generation students of both traditional and nontraditional college age. The scholarship money would be funded through racino revenues.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Sykes of Harrison

LR: 2782

Title: An Act To Impose a Horsepower Restriction for Boat Motors on Long Lake and Brandy Pond

Comments: This bill would limit the horsepower of boat motors operated on Long Lake and Brandy Pond in the towns of Bridgton, Harrison and Naples in Cumberland County.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2998 Representative Pilon

LR: 2945

Title: An Act To Enact a Safe Boating Education Act

Comments: This bill would enact a statewide safe boating act based on other states' model acts.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2779 Representative Watson

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3309 Representative Bryant, M.

LR: 2946

Title: An Act To Enact Guidelines for Operating a Boat

Comments: This bill would require the same guidelines for operating personal watercraft when operating all motorboats.

LR: 2947

Title: An Act Concerning Seasonal Wardens and Boating Safety

Comments: This bill would allow a municipality to hire seasonal wardens to help patrol the waters for increased boater safety.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3308 Representative Bryant, M.

LR: 2971

Title: An Act To Restrict the Operation of Certain Motorboats to Persons 16 Years of Age or Older

Comments: This bill would require that operators of motorboats with motors of more than 10 horsepower be at least 16 years of age.

LR: 2972

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Retail Sale or Distribution of Novelty Lighters

Comments: This bill would prohibit the retail sale or distribution of novelty lighters.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Tardy of Newport

LR: 2932

Title: An Act To Help Prevent Identity Theft

Comments: This bill would require that any state or federal tax lien or other documents required to contain personally identifiable information not include the complete information or number on the document.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2959 President Edmonds

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3301 Representative Hayes

LR: 3156

Title: An Act To Eliminate Property Tax Exemptions for Commercial Processors of Septic Waste

Comments: This bill would require that property taxes be paid on commercial processors of septic waste.

LR: 3157

Title: An Act To Allow the Regional Purchase of Health Insurance

Comments: This bill would allow businesses and individuals to purchase health insurance from outside the State.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1517

Closely Related CO: LD 1760

Closely Related CO: LD 1047

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3089 Senator Weston

LR: 3244

Title: An Act To Allow Limited Charitable Solicitations by Law Enforcement Associations

Comments: This bill would allow limited charitable solicitations by law enforcement associations in the event of a catastrophic illness, injury or event suffered by a law enforcement officer.

LR: 3271

Title: An Act To Allow Students To Attend a School in Another Regional School Unit under Certain Circumstances

Comments: This bill would allow a secondary school student to attend a school outside of that student's regional school unit if the student's regional school unit does not offer academic or fine arts programs sought by that student.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Theriault of Madawaska

LR: 2951

Title: Resolve, To Authorize the State To Convey an Unused Parcel of Land in Frenchville to an Abutting Neighbor

Comments: This resolve would authorize the sale of a parcel of unused state property in Frenchville to an abutting neighbor.

LR: 3176

Title: An Act To Promote Fly-fishing among Youth

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to create a pilot program and stock a private or public body of water for educating Maine youth in fly-fishing.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Thibodeau of Winterport

LR: 2955

Title: An Act To Reduce the Theft of Catalytic Converters

Comments: This bill would require a person possessing or transporting a used catalytic converter or a new catalytic converter that was removed from a vehicle to provide the make, model and vehicle identification number of the vehicle to which the catalytic converter was attached to a law enforcement officer upon the request of that officer. Failure to do so would be a Class E crime. The bill also would require licensed recycling yards to keep a record of the names of the sellers and vehicle identification numbers connected with catalytic converters that they purchase.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2875 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3141 Representative Koffman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3240 Representative Berry

LR: 3158

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Crime of Soliciting a Child by a Computer To Commit a Prohibited Act

Comments: This bill would increase from a Class D crime to a Class C crime the crime of soliciting a child by a computer to commit a prohibited act when the child is less than 14 years of age.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Thomas of Ripley

LR: 2847

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Wetlands and Wildlife Habitats

Comments: This bill would reduce from 250 feet to 75 feet the setback requirements that apply to wetlands and would eliminate the setback requirements that apply to forested wetlands. This bill would also require that the least restrictive guidelines apply to manmade wetlands, and would require that, before an area may qualify as a wildlife habitat, it must be demonstrated that the area is inhabited by such wildlife.

LR: 2956

Title: An Act To Protect Landlords against False Statements

Comments: This bill would allow a quicker eviction of a nonpaying tenant if that tenant made a false statement on a rental agreement.

LR: 2985

Title: An Act To Establish an Exemption from the Premium Imposed on Motor Vehicle Oil Changes

Comments: This bill would exempt oil changes performed by the owner of a motor vehicle from the premium imposed on motor vehicle oil changes.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3204 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3367 Senator Smith, D.

LR: 3058

Title: An Act To Amend the Law Governing the Superpack Hunting License

Comments: This bill would permit a hunter with a superpack license to shoot only one deer with a firearm. The hunter may, however, enter the any-deer lottery. Currently, a superpack licensee may take 2 deer, one buck and one antlerless, with an option of entry into the any-deer lottery.

LR: 3119

Title: An Act To Clarify the Exemption of Retail Sales of Kerosene from the Sales Tax

Comments: This bill would specifically exempt from the sales tax kerosene that is sold at retail outlets and stored in individual containers of 5 gallons or less.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Treat of Farmingdale

LR: 2925

Title: An Act To Expand Access to Foreign Language Instruction in State Schools

Comments: This bill would assist teachers of modern and classical languages whose primary language is not English to retain certification while receiving support to pass the required Praxis test. It would establish alternative standards for certification while maintaining high standards and meeting the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

LR: 3130

Title: An Act To Further the Goals of Consolidation by Removing Financial Disincentives

Comments: This bill would address various financial issues associated with implementing school district consolidation where the districts involve both school administrative districts and municipal districts. The bill would remove financial roadblocks to fully implementing the goals of the 2007 school district consolidation laws and give districts actively working to implement their consolidation plans additional time to finalize these financial changes.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2798 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2801 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2804 Representative Cebra

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3012 Representative Miramant

LR: 3140

Title: Resolve, To Reimburse School Administrative District No. 11 for the State Share of Retirement Contributions Paid in Error

Comments: This resolve would authorize and direct the Commissioner of Education to make a state subsidy adjustment to School Administrative District No. 11 for contributions to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System that should have been paid by the department from state funds, but which were instead paid in error by School Administrative District No. 11 from local funds.

Sponsor: Representative Trinward of Waterville

LR: 3315

Title: Resolve, To Study Community Child Care Alternatives

Comments: This resolve would create a study commission to review the availability of community programming throughout Maine when public schools are not in session due to storm cancellations or school breaks. It will assess the need of working parents statewide who choose to stay home with their children in the event of a school cancellation or break and risk losing pay or shifts at work. Further, the study commission will make recommendations on how the Department of Education may support communities, children and working parents through the development of pilot programs for alternative activities for school-age children.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Turner of Cumberland

LR: 2915

Title: An Act To Modify the Use of Educational Tax Credits

Comments: This bill would limit the tax credit allowed under the job creation through educational opportunity program in 2 ways. First, the bill would establish a maximum of \$1,000,000 per year, beginning in fiscal year 2009-10. Second, the credit would be allowed only for those jobs that are critical to the State's economic growth or development.

LR: 2916

Title: An Act To Provide a State Income Tax Credit to Dentists for Military Pensions

Comments: This bill would establish a state income tax credit for dentists collecting a military pension. The credit could be claimed only if: 1. The dentist continues to practice at least 1/2 time; and 2. The dentist accepts MaineCare patients.

LR: 3032

Title: An Act To Further Facilitate School Administrative Unit Consolidation

Comments: This bill would provide the Commissioner of Education the authority to approve changes to the formulas that outline the financial commitment each community must make as a member of a regional school unit. The commissioner would be able to blend student counts, municipal evaluations and any other measures considered necessary by the commissioner to ensure equity for all the municipalities of the regional school unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2983 Representative Walker
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3110 Senator Mitchell
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3142 Senator Nass, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3144 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3145 Representative Pingree
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

Sponsor: Senator Turner of Cumberland

LR: 3338

Title: An Act Regarding the Training of Applicants for a Limited Radiographer License by
Licensed Practitioners

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing medical radiation health and safety as they
relate to the award of a limited radiographer license by the Radiologic Technology
Board of Examiners to provide that an applicant may train in the use of fluoroscope
equipment if under the direct supervision of a licensed practitioner.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

LR: 2757

Title: An Act To Allow the Maine Athletic Commission To Regulate Mixed Martial Art Competitions in the State

Comments: This bill would allow the Maine Athletic Commission to regulate mixed martial art competitions in the State.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3037 Representative Greeley

LR: 2758

Title: An Act To Create a Wild Boar Game Ranch in Piscataquis County

Comments: This bill would authorize the licensing of one additional commercial large game shooting area, which would be located in Piscataquis County.

LR: 2760

Title: An Act To Create a Lobster Stock Rebuilding Program

Comments: This bill would create a lobster stock rebuilding program.

LR: 2761

Title: An Act To Amend the Family Medical Leave Laws To Include Siblings

Comments: This bill would allow an employee to take family medical leave for a sibling with a serious health condition.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2771 Representative Marley

LR: 2763

Title: An Act To Create a Catastrophic Illness Fund To Help Firefighters, Police Officers, Emergency Medical Technicians, Paramedics and Their Families

Comments: This bill would create a catastrophic illness fund to help firefighters, police officers, emergency medical technicians, paramedics and their families.

LR: 2768

Title: An Act To Require the Maine Economic Research Institute To Report Financial Matters to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices

Comments: This bill would require the Maine Economic Research Institute to report its financial matters to the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices as do political action committees.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

LR: 2822

Title: An Act To Amend the Law Regarding First Responders for Emergency Services

Comments: This bill would allow a private ambulance company to respond first to a medical emergency if that company is closer than a municipal company and available.

LR: 2823

Title: An Act Regarding the Use of MaineCare Insurance during Catastrophic Illness

Comments: This bill would allow a person on disability to qualify for MaineCare insurance in the event of catastrophic illness.

LR: 2826

Title: Resolve, To Name the Springvale Veterans Cemetery the Roger Landry Veterans Cemetery

Comments: This resolve would rename the veterans cemetery in Springvale the Roger Landry Veterans Cemetery.

LR: 2931

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Research the Feasibility of a Special Bass Fishing Trail

Comments: This resolve would direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to conduct a study and report back to the next Legislature concerning the feasibility of establishing a special bass fishing trail similar to one in the state of Georgia.

LR: 2935

Title: An Act To Require Helmets for Motorcyclists

Comments: This bill would require that all motorcyclists wear helmets and would require that this change in the law be submitted to the citizens of the State for ratification at a referendum to be held in 2008.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

LR: 3038

Title: An Act To Improve the Working Conditions, Health and Personal Safety of Dispatchers at the Maine State Police Barracks in Gray, Maine

Comments: This bill would enact measures designed to improve the working conditions, health and personal safety of dispatchers at the Maine State Police barracks in Gray, Maine.

LR: 3040

Title: Resolve, Directing Maine Emergency Medical Services To Study Methods To Protect Emergency Medical Services Personnel during the Transportation of Persons with Mental Illness

Comments: This resolve would establish a commission to study methods of protecting emergency medical services personnel during the transportation of persons with mental illness.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Wagner of Lewiston

LR: 2948

Title: An Act Regarding the Disposal of Out-of-state Construction and Demolition Debris Waste

Comments: This bill would prohibit a municipal landfill from accepting out-of-state construction and demolition debris waste. Out-of-state construction and demolition debris waste may only be disposed of in a state-owned facility. The bill would change the definition of out-of-state waste to provide that the sorting of out-of-state construction and demolition debris waste at an in-state facility does not convert that waste into in-state waste.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2750 Representative Makas

LR: 2978

Title: Resolve, To Change the Name of the South Bridge between Lewiston and Auburn

Comments: This resolve would change the name of the South Bridge between Lewiston and Auburn.

LR: 3264

Title: An Act To Provide for Enforcement of the Office Paper Recycling Program

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management to enforce the office paper recycling program. The bureau would report to the Legislature on a biannual basis. Penalties would be established for noncompliance. Funds from penalties would be used to pay or defray the cost of enforcement.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Walker of Lincolnville

LR: 2845

Title: An Act To Establish the Maine Nuclear Power Council

Comments: This bill would establish the Maine Nuclear Power Council to explore the need for carbon-free alternatives for power generation such as nuclear power in the State to lessen the State's dependency on foreign oil and natural gas sources. The council would also facilitate the planning for, locating of and study of the environmental impacts for the construction of a nuclear power facility and coordinate and expedite compliance with appropriate federal requirements.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3018 Representative Jacobsen

LR: 2964

Title: An Act To Secure Patient Access to MaineCare

Comments: This bill would use half of the General Fund money that is currently used as seed money to pay for noncategorical MaineCare patients to increase reimbursement for physicians.

LR: 2983

Title: An Act To Modify the Cost-sharing Formula for Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would allow regional school units to use a cost-sharing formula other than the essential programs and services rate, as long as the alternate formula was approved in the final reorganization plan for that regional school unit.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2962 Representative Edgecomb

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2996 Senator Bryant, B.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3005 Representative Hogan

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3015 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3032 Senator Turner

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3104 Representative Hayes

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Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3175 Representative Saviello

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3219 Representative Connor

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3223 Senator Hobbins

Sponsor: Representative Walker of Lincolnville

LR: 2984

Title: An Act To Ensure Maintenance of a Minimum Special Education Subsidy

Comments: This bill would require the special education subsidy for a regional school unit to be at least the same amount previously received by the school district in the new regional school unit that received the greatest subsidy.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2741 Representative Percy

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3013 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3122 Representative McKane

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Watson of Bath

LR: 2779

Title: An Act To Require Boating Safety Education

Comments: This bill would require mandatory boating safety education for all power boat operators in Maine.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2945 Representative Sykes

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3309 Representative Bryant, M.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Webster of Freeport

LR: 3045

Title: An Act To Make Clam Flat Status Notification More Efficient, Cost-effective and Economically Beneficial to the Shellfish Industry

Comments: This bill would make the shellfish hotline the mechanism by which the Department of Marine Resources would notify shellfish harvesters of the opening and closing of clam flats.

LR: 3046

Title: An Act To Ensure Tax Fairness for Taxpayers during Consolidation of School Administrative Units

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Education to develop a mechanism that will ensure a mitigation of the tax shifting effect.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2881 Representative McFadden
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2958 Representative MacDonald
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3014 Representative Miramant
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3041 Senator Rosen, R.
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3159 Representative Lewin
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3376 Representative Babbidge

LR: 3047

Title: An Act To Address Lead Poisoning of Infants and Children in Maine Rental Housing Stock

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a mechanism that would allow for early detection and intervention in housing stock containing lead that is poisoning infants and children.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3102 Speaker Cummings
Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3220 Representative Connor

LR: 3048

Title: An Act To Protect Shellfish Harvesters from Coastal Pollution

Comments: This bill would require that a failing septic system be repaired before the sale of a home.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Weddell of Frankfort

LR: 2793

Title: Resolve, To Require the Department of Transportation To Examine the Feasibility of Discontinuing the Use of Brine on Roads

Comments: This resolve would require the Department of Transportation to examine the feasibility of discontinuing the brine-based solution used on roads in inclement weather.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2738 Representative Miramant

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2773 Representative Marley

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3087 Representative Schatz

LR: 2891

Title: An Act To Amend the Approval Process for School Budgets

Comments: This bill would require that, when a secret ballot election vote is taken on an annual school budget and an article pertaining to that budget is defeated, a minimum of 50% of the total voters present for the secret ballot election must be present at any subsequent public meeting held to approve the school budget for that year. A failure to obtain 50% attendance would prevent a vote from being held. If a vote cannot be held due to the failure to obtain 50% attendance or if the vote is held and the article is defeated, the district would be required to hold a 3rd election, and this election must be by secret ballot election. Should that election result in the defeat of that article, the budget would remain unchanged from the previous year.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3101 Representative Harlow

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Weston of Waldo

LR: 2937

Title: An Act To Repeal the School Administrative Units Reorganization Law

Comments: This bill would repeal the school district reorganization provisions enacted in Part XXXX of Public Law 2007, chapter 240. This bill would repeal all of the statutory and unallocated provisions of that part of the law that were enacted to transform existing school administrative units and school unions to the regional school unit form of governance beginning on July 1, 2009. The bill would also repeal the mandatory budget validation, the cost center summary budget form and the regional collaboration provisions that were enacted. Finally, the bill would enact each of the statutory provisions that were repealed, including statutes pertaining to the governance and financing of school administrative districts, community school districts and school unions.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2796 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3116 Senator Smith, D.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3162 Representative Eaton

LR: 3089

Title: An Act To Expand Affordable Health Insurance Choices in Maine

Comments: This bill would permit certain out-of-state health insurers to offer their individual or group health plans for sale in this State, reform the guaranteed issuance requirement in the individual health insurance market, create the Comprehensive Guaranteed Access Health Insurance Association, permit individual health insurance carriers to forgo approval of premium rates if the carrier maintains a loss ratio of 68% over a continuous 36-month period, broaden the community rating laws for individual and small group health plans, repeal the savings offset payment, repeal the laws establishing the certificate of need program and the capital investment fund, repeal the hospital tax, repeal the premium tax on insurance companies with respect to health insurance, require the State to reimburse hospitals for all unpaid MaineCare hospital settlements, provide a deduction from income for certain premiums paid for health insurance and place a 5-year moratorium on the enactment of new mandated health insurance benefits.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1517

Closely Related CO: LD 1047

Closely Related CO: LD 1760

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3157 Representative Tardy

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3231 Senator Diamond

LR: 3091

Title: An Act To Increase Public Safety and Limit Liability for Businesses and Employees Who Work with Liquefied Petroleum Gas

Comments: This bill would limit the liability of marketers, transporters, handlers and sellers of propane gas for actual and punitive damages related to the installation, modification, repair or servicing of propane gas systems or appliances by any other person.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Weston of Waldo

LR: 3093

Title: An Act To Use Valid Risk and Preventive Factors for Youth Programs

Comments: This bill would require the State, in its biannual survey of students, to use the "Committees That Care" survey recommended by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

LR: 3197

Title: An Act To Reduce Wild Blueberry Theft

Comments: This bill would increase the penalties for violation of the laws regarding transportation and receipt of wild blueberries. The bill would also clarify the law regarding issuance of permits for transportation of wild blueberries.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Wheeler of Kittery

LR: 3303

Title: An Act To Provide Property and Excise Tax Relief to Disabled Maine Veterans

Comments: This bill would provide a property tax exemption and vehicle excise tax exemption to those veterans who are considered service-connected 100% permanently disabled.

LR: 3307

Title: An Act To Protect the Integrity of Maine's Statewide E-9-1-1 Fund

Comments: This bill would restrict the use of Maine's E-9-1-1 fund for the support of state E-9-1-1 database contracts and equipment updates. Any surplus funds beyond the contract and equipment updates could only be used to provide grants for equipment and software support for dispatch and public safety answering point centers.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 3148 Senator Bowman

LR: 3312

Title: An Act To Amend the Hunting Season for Ruffed Grouse

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to restrict the hunting season for ruffed grouse or partridge to the months of October and November.

LR: 3343

Title: An Act To Require a Hearing When a Fatality Results from a Motor Vehicle Accident

Comments: This bill would require the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to hold a hearing to investigate all motor vehicle accidents that result in a human fatality. This bill would also require the Secretary of State to review all such cases over the immediately preceding 12-month period to determine whether changes need to be made to the law.

PART 4

Carry Over Requests Approved as of June 22, 2007

LD	Title	Sponsors	Date Approved	Action
Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry				
<u>648</u>	An Act To Maintain the Amount of State Land That Is Open for Hunting	JACKSON	06/20/07	
<u>680</u>	An Act To Increase Funding for the Spaying and Neutering of Companion Animals	NUTTING J	06/20/07	
<u>1650</u>	An Act To Amend the Laws Concerning Genetically Engineered Plants and Seeds	SCHATZ	06/20/07	
<u>1684</u>	An Act To Create the Maine Agriculture Protection Act	SHERMAN	06/20/07	
<u>1930</u>	Resolve, Authorizing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Convey Certain Lands	BRYANT B	06/21/07	
Appropriations and Financial Affairs				
<u>63</u>	An Act To Increase Access to After-school Programs	BARSTOW	06/20/07	
<u>65</u>	An Act To Provide Funding for Mentoring Programs	FISCHER, EDMONDS	06/20/07	
<u>120</u>	An Act To Provide Transitional Support for the Downeast Heritage Museum in Calais	PERRY A, RAYE	06/20/07	
<u>186</u>	An Act To Provide Funding to the St. Francis Water District for New Wells	JACKSON, MARTIN	06/20/07	
<u>189</u>	An Act To Invest in an Allied Health Center at Northern Maine Community College	FISCHER, SHERMAN	06/20/07	
<u>305</u>	An Act To Increase the Availability of Cellular Telephone Service for Rural Residents	JACKSON, MARTIN	06/21/07	
<u>314</u>	An Act To Restore Funding for the Reading Recovery Program	MILLS P, SAVIELLO	06/20/07	
<u>425</u>	An Act Regarding the Accounting Procedure for Certain State Programs	HOLMAN	06/20/07	
<u>646</u>	An Act To Support and Expand Regional Teacher Development Centers and Early College Readiness Programs	MILLS J	06/20/07	
<u>721</u>	An Act To Restore Support for HIV and AIDS	CAIN, TURNER	06/20/07	

Treatment and Prevention

<u>744</u>	An Act To Stabilize and Expand Funding for the Graduate School of Biomedical Science at the University of Maine	CAIN	06/20/07
<u>782</u>	An Act To Establish a New Method of Determining the State Budget	JOY	06/20/07
<u>793</u>	An Act To Provide Essential Library Resources to All Maine Communities	EDMONDS	06/20/07
<u>804</u>	An Act To Ensure Responsible Government Spending and Investment	EDMONDS	06/20/07
<u>817</u>	An Act To Support the Maine Keeping Seniors Home Program	CAMPBELL	06/21/07
<u>925</u>	An Act To Provide Funds To Support Residential Programs for People with Developmental Disabilities	CRAVEN	06/20/07
<u>1065</u>	Resolve, To Enhance the Education Opportunities for Maine's Early Childhood Workers	SILSBY	06/20/07
<u>1190</u>	An Act To Promote Economic Growth through Education for Androscoggin County	ROTUNDO	06/20/07
<u>1268</u>	An Act To Fund the Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program and Fund	MAKAS	06/20/07
<u>1424</u>	An Act Requiring Long-range Budget Planning	WOODBURY	06/20/07
<u>1654</u>	An Act To Reduce the Cost of the Unfunded Liability of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Fund and To Reduce the Cost to Maine Citizens of Purchasing State Bonds	THOMAS	06/20/07
<u>1848</u>	An Act To Promote Sustainable Prosperity	EDMONDS	06/20/07
<u>1852</u>	An Act To Provide Taxpayer Relief	LANSLEY	06/20/07

Business, Research and Economic Developm

<u>270</u>	Resolve, Establishing the Task Force To Eliminate Outdated or Unnecessary Laws and Rules To Stimulate Job Creation	ROBINSON, BROMLEY	06/20/07
<u>790</u>	An Act To Strengthen Rural Community Investment	RAYE	06/20/07
<u>833</u>	An Act To Support the Maine Patent Program	FISCHER, HOBBS	06/20/07
<u>1038</u>	An Act To License Home Building and Improvement Contractors	HINCK	06/20/07
	An Act To Require Electronic Monitoring of	SMITH N,	

<u>1128</u>	Secondary Sales Transactions	PERRY J	06/20/07
<u>1210</u>	An Act Concerning the Diagnosis, Service and Repair of Motor Vehicles	DAMON	06/20/07
<u>1215</u>	An Act To Attract New Capital for Innovative Businesses through Equity Investment in Maine	MILLS P	06/20/07

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

<u>3</u>	An Act To Strengthen "Permissible Inference" in the Law Concerning Dissemination of Sexually Explicit Material	SYKES	06/21/07
<u>68</u>	An Act To Provide a Reward for Information Regarding the Murder of a Law Enforcement Officer	HARLOW	06/21/07
<u>71</u>	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Plea of Not Criminally Responsible by Reason of Insanity in Juvenile Cases	SYKES	06/21/07
<u>149</u>	An Act To Take into Account the Crime Committed That Facilitated a Sexual Assault	CROCKETT	06/21/07
<u>220</u>	An Act To Clarify and Expand Maine Criminal Laws Related to Sexual Assault	GERZOFISKY, SHERMAN	06/21/07
<u>239</u>	An Act To Provide a Felony Penalty for Assault on a Firefighter	DUCHESNE	06/21/07
<u>280</u>	An Act To Make a Conviction for a 6th Operating under the Influence Charge a Class B Crime	DIAMOND	06/21/07
<u>372</u>	An Act To Strengthen the Crime of Gross Sexual Assault as It Pertains to Persons Who Furnish Drugs to Victims	NUTTING J	06/21/07
<u>423</u>	An Act To Ensure the Safety of the Public and of Victims of Sexual Assault	JACOBSEN	06/20/07
<u>424</u>	An Act To Protect Children from Dangerous Drugs, Harmful Chemicals and Drug-related Violence	CLEARY	06/21/07
<u>446</u>	An Act To Improve the Use of Information Regarding Sex Offenders to Better Ensure Public Safety and Awareness	DIAMOND	06/20/07
<u>856</u>	An Act To Reduce Drunk Driving	BROMLEY, GERZOFISKY	06/20/07
<u>1240</u>	An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Criminal Law Advisory Commission		06/21/07
<u>1241</u>	An Act To Provide Uniform Treatment of Prior Convictions in the Maine Criminal Code		06/21/07

<u>1512</u>	An Act To Change the Statute of Limitations for Gross Sexual Assault by a Juvenile	BARTLETT	06/21/07
<u>1674</u>	An Act To Amend the Habitual Offender and Felony Operating Under the Influence Laws	DIAMOND	06/21/07
<u>1873</u>	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Stalking	EDMONDS, CUMMINGS	06/21/07
<u>1897</u>	An Act To Allow Blended Sentencing for Certain Juveniles	DIAMOND	06/21/07
<u>1902</u>	An Act Requiring the State Bureau of Identification To Report Persons Found To Be a Danger to Themselves or to Others to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System	FAIRCLOTH, NUTTING J	06/20/07

Education and Cultural Affairs

<u>123</u>	An Act To Establish a Labor Center within the University of Maine System	TUTTLE	06/20/07
<u>196</u>	An Act To Modify the Maine Learning Results System	FINCH	06/20/07
<u>672</u>	An Act To Strengthen the Scientific Research Support Capability of the Maine State Museum	MITCHELL,	06/20/07
<u>1041</u>	An Act To Improve the Essential Programs and Services Funding Formula	FINCH, MARRACHE	06/21/07
<u>1152</u>	An Act To Improve Public Education in Maine	NORTON, BOWMAN	06/20/07
<u>1426</u>	An Act To Enhance the Prekindergarten Experience for Maine Children	CAIN	06/20/07

Health and Human Services

<u>405</u>	An Act To Establish Necessary MaineCare Pharmacy Incentives	LEWIN	06/20/07
<u>519</u>	An Act To Provide Assistance to Family Members, Friends and Neighbors Who Provide Home Health Care for Senior Citizens	CAMPBELL, BRANNIGAN	06/20/07
<u>652</u>	Resolve, To Ensure Appropriate Personal Needs Allowances for Persons Residing in Long-term Care Facilities	BEAUDOIN	06/20/07
<u>1110</u>	An Act To Create the Maine Council on Poverty and Economic Security	EDMONDS	06/20/07
<u>1567</u>	Resolve, To Demonstrate Cost Savings by Preventing the Onset of Severe Mental Illness in Youth	EBERLE	06/20/07

<u>1687</u>	An Act To Increase Health Insurance Coverage for Front-line Direct Care Workers Providing Long-term Care	EDMONDS,	06/20/07
<u>1797</u>	An Act To Fund Maine's HealthInfoNet Program	PINGREE	06/20/07
<u>1843</u>	An Act To Improve the Quality of Health Care in Maine	MARRACHE, MILLER	06/20/07

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

<u>633</u>	An Act To Improve Funding for the State Snowmobile Trail System	CLARK, SHERMAN	06/20/07
<u>654</u>	An Act To Make License Requirements and Rules Consistent for Young Anglers	BRYANT M	06/20/07
<u>1838</u>	An Act To Ensure Safety on Freshwater Ferry Vessels	ROBINSON	06/20/07
<u>1858</u>	An Act To Protect Inland Water Access	JACKSON, BRYANT B	06/20/07

Insurance and Financial Services

<u>658</u>	An Act To Protect the Health of Infants	CURTIS	06/21/07
<u>1047</u>	An Act To Lower the Cost of Health Insurance	VAUGHAN	06/21/07
<u>1072</u>	An Act To Establish a Single-payor Health Care System	BEAUDOIN, SCHNEIDER	06/20/07
<u>1082</u>	An Act To Create a Maine-based Independent Nonprofit Health Insurance Company	PRIEST, MARTIN	06/20/07
<u>1203</u>	An Act To Amend the Laws Respecting Assignments for the Benefit of Creditors	HOBBS	06/20/07
<u>1294</u>	An Act To Establish a Health Care Bill of Rights	TREAT	06/21/07
<u>1667</u>	An Act To Require Health Insurers To Provide Coverage for Nutritional Wellness and Prevention	TUTTLE	06/20/07
<u>1760</u>	An Act To Restore Competition to Maine's Health Insurance Market	PILON	06/21/07

Judiciary

<u>1</u>	An Act To Increase Reimbursement for Jury Duty	NUTTING J	06/20/07
<u>367</u>	An Act To Protect Emergency Room Personnel from Civil Liability	MACDONALD	06/20/07
<u>461</u>	An Act To Implement the Recommendations		06/21/07

of the Human Trafficking Task Force

<u>469</u>	An Act To Disseminate "Lessons Learned" from Medical Injury Claims	BOWMAN,	06/20/07
<u>507</u>	An Act Recognizing Native American Religion in Maine Prisons and Jails	SOCTOMAH	06/20/07
<u>608</u>	An Act To Extend the Statute of Limitations for Certain Medical Malpractice Cases	ROTUNDO	06/20/07
<u>684</u>	An Act To Permit Medical Providers an Opportunity To Express Regret for a Medical Error	MILLS P	06/20/07
<u>857</u>	An Act To Create A Medical Malpractice Study Group	MARRACHE, MCKANE	06/20/07
<u>1271</u>	An Act To Establish Health Care Practitioner Immunity for Consulting Physicians in Critical Specialties or Subspecialties	WALKER	06/20/07
<u>1348</u>	An Act To Amend the Maine Tort Claims Act	HOBBINS	06/20/07
<u>1349</u>	Resolve, To Waive the Tort Claims Limitation on Damages Relative to the Traumatic Brain Injury of Lucas Tolliver	HOBBINS	06/20/07
<u>1505</u>	An Act To Adopt the Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act	HOBBINS	06/20/07
<u>1524</u>	An Act To Increase Judicial Salaries		06/20/07
<u>1540</u>	An Act To Guarantee Free Speech in Privately Owned Public Gathering Places	HINCK	06/20/07
<u>1747</u>	An Act To Enact the Uniform Power of Attorney Act	HOBBINS	06/20/07
<u>1792</u>	An Act To Limit the Compensation of Officers and Directors of Nonprofit Corporations	SCHNEIDER	06/20/07
<u>1881</u>	An Act To Improve Transparency and Accountability in Government	WESTON, TARDY	06/20/07
<u>1923</u>	An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee Creating the Public Access Ombudsman		06/20/07

Labor

<u>125</u>	Resolve, To Expedite a Workers' Compensation Case	TUTTLE	06/20/07
<u>297</u>	Resolve, Authorizing Elizabeth O'Connor To Rejoin the Maine State Retirement System	TUTTLE	06/20/07
<u>412</u>	An Act To Clarify the Application of Prevailing Wage Requirements	CLARK	06/20/07

<u>591</u>	An Act Regarding Occupational Safety and Health Training for Workers on State-funded Construction Projects	PATRICK	06/20/07
<u>869</u>	Resolve, Directing the Maine State Retirement System To Recalculate the Retirement Benefits of D'Lila Terracin	TUTTLE	06/20/07
<u>1032</u>	An Act To Improve Employment Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities in Maine	STRIMLING, TUTTLE	06/20/07
<u>1060</u>	Resolve, To Study the State's Career Center Network and Create a Sustainable System	SAVIELLO	06/20/07
<u>1223</u>	An Act To Provide a Uniform Retirement Plan for Corrections Officers and Mental Health Workers		06/21/07
<u>1275</u>	An Act To Promote Workplace Safety and Certainty within the Construction Industry by Authorizing the Workers' Compensation Board To Issue Construction Contractor Certificates	WATSON	06/20/07
<u>1345</u>	An Act To Simplify Standards for Determining Independent Contractor Status for Unemployment Compensation Purposes	MILLS J	06/20/07
<u>1454</u>	An Act To Care for Working Families	NORTON	06/20/07
<u>1585</u>	An Act To Assist the Independent Medical Examiner Program for Workers' Compensation	MARRACHE	06/20/07
<u>1672</u>	An Act Relating to Retirement and Death Benefits for Certain Law Enforcement Officers	EDMONDS	06/20/07
<u>1693</u>	An Act To Restore Equity to the Maine State Retirement System	EDMONDS	06/20/07
<u>1697</u>	An Act To Ensure Fair Wages	STRIMLING	06/20/07
<u>1931</u>	An Act To Protect Employee Choice of Collective Bargaining Agents in the Educational Unit Consolidation Process	MARTIN	06/20/07

Legal and Veterans Affairs

<u>701</u>	An Act To Authorize the Operation of Slot Machines on Indian Island in Old Town	LORING, SCHNEIDER	06/21/07
<u>1150</u>	An Act To Establish Random Audits of Voting Machines	PINGREE, EDMONDS	06/20/07
<u>1393</u>	An Act Regarding Lobbyist Disclosure		06/20/07
<u>1394</u>	An Act Regarding Campaign Finance Disclosure by Political Action Committees		06/20/07

<u>1744</u>	An Act To Join the Interstate Compact on the National Popular Vote	MARTIN	06/20/07
<u>1799</u>	An Act To Establish Open Ballot Voting in Maine	PINGREE	06/20/07
<u>1879</u>	An Act To Allow Additional Slot Machines at a Harness Horse Racing Track To Support Harness Horse Racing, Passenger and Freight Train Service on the Mountain Division Rail Line and Passenger Train Service Overseen by the Northern New	MOORE G, SNOWE- MELLO	06/20/07
<u>1924</u>	An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Committee To Review the Taxation of Slot Machine Revenues, Created by Executive Order 33 Fiscal Year 2006-07	EDMONDS	06/20/07

Marine Resources

<u>798</u>	An Act To Standardize Inshore Dragging Seasons for Scallops and Sea Cucumbers	DAMON	06/20/07
<u>1570</u>	An Act To Support Commercial Groundfishing	RECTOR	06/20/07
<u>1594</u>	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Closed Periods for the Hauling of Lobster Traps	PERRY A	06/20/07

Natural Resources

<u>810</u>	An Act To Improve Solid Waste Management	DUCHESNE	06/20/07
<u>1392</u>	An Act To Update the Dioxin Monitoring Program	MARTIN	06/20/07

State and Local Government

<u>1876</u>	Resolve, Regarding the Maine State Cultural Building in Augusta		06/20/07
<u>1878</u>	An Act To Generate Savings by Changing Public Notice Requirements	HAYES, SCHNEIDER	06/20/07

Taxation

<u>262</u>	An Act To Amend the Credit for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties	KOFFMAN, MARTIN	06/20/07
<u>276</u>	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Require the Legislature To Freeze the Valuation of Maine Primary Residence Land	PERRY J, PIOTTI	06/20/07
<u>349</u>	An Act To Provide a Tax Credit for the Purchase of Small Wind Power Generators for Personal or Small Business Use	BROWNE	06/21/07

<u>530</u>	An Act To Encourage Open Space through Current Use Taxation of Open Space Land Set Aside for Long-term Protection from Development	HILL	06/20/07
<u>531</u>	An Act To Improve the Method of Taxing Natural Gas for Highway Use	BLISS	06/20/07
<u>543</u>	Resolve, To Establish the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law Review Committee	SAVIELLO	06/20/07
<u>737</u>	An Act To Promote Forest Management Planning and Certification	WATSON, MARTIN	06/20/07
<u>788</u>	An Act To Dedicate 20 Percent of the Sales Tax on Motor Vehicles to the Highway Fund	THOMAS	06/20/07
<u>885</u>	An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Commission To Study the Costs of Providing Certain Services in the Unorganized Territories		06/20/07
<u>952</u>	An Act To Reduce the Income Tax	COURTNEY	06/21/07
<u>961</u>	An Act To Authorize an Alternative Calculation of the Property Growth Factor for Industrial Municipalities	THERIAULT	06/20/07
<u>1001</u>	An Act To Eliminate the Property Tax on Business Equipment Owned by Small Retailers	COURTNEY	06/20/07
<u>1094</u>	An Act To Exempt from the Sales Tax Water Used in Agricultural Production	PIOTTI	06/20/07
<u>1109</u>	Resolve, To Establish a Study Commission To Reform Taxes and Spending in Maine	BOWMAN	06/20/07
<u>1155</u>	An Act To Include Fuel Economy when Calculating the Excise Tax on Motor Vehicles	BABBIDGE, NASS R	06/20/07
<u>1214</u>	An Act To Improve the Competitiveness of Maine's Boat Building Industry	DAMON, MACDONALD	06/20/07
<u>1298</u>	An Act To Amend the Definition of "Working Waterfront Land" To Include Land Used for Marine Trades	MIRAMANT	06/20/07
<u>1400</u>	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Taxation of Partnerships	PERRY J	06/21/07
<u>1413</u>	An Act To Set Fees for Services for Tax-exempt Property in Municipalities	BLANCHETTE	06/20/07
<u>1556</u>	An Act To Recouple Maine Estate Tax with Federal Estate Tax	KNIGHT	06/20/07
<u>1582</u>	An Act Reduce Maine's Tax Burden over a 10-year Period	WOODBURY	06/20/07

<u>1584</u>	An Act To Authorize Arbitration of Property Tax Valuation Disputes	SMITH D	06/20/07
<u>1725</u>	An Act To Modernize the Alcohol Tax by Imposing It on a Per Drink Basis	BARSTOW	06/20/07
<u>1772</u>	An Act To Require Nonresidents To Pay Sales Tax on Snowmobiles and ATVs	MAREAN	06/20/07
<u>1788</u>	An Act To Equalize Tax Filing Status	WOODBURY	06/20/07
<u>1833</u>	An Act To Provide Property Tax and Income Tax Relief	HOTHAM	06/20/07

Transportation

<u>6</u>	Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Improve Guardrails on Portions of Interstate 295	MARLEY	06/20/07
<u>511</u>	An Act To Study the Feasibility of Locating a New Bridge in the St. David Area	THERIAULT	06/21/07
<u>599</u>	An Act To Create an Airport Authority	MARRACHE,	06/20/07
<u>775</u>	An Act To Create a Special License Plate To Support Breast Cancer Support Services	STRANG BURGESS, DAMON	06/20/07
<u>1726</u>	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Guarantee the Integrity of the Highway Fund	PRESCOTT	06/20/07
<u>1818</u>	An Act To Enhance Public Safety, Facilitate the Coordination of Traffic Control Signal Systems and Promote More Equitable Use of Public Highway Rights-of-way	DAMON, MARLEY	06/20/07

Utilities and Energy

<u>398</u>	An Act To Require Transmission Lines To Be Placed Underground near Certain Facilities	VALENTINO	06/20/07
<u>435</u>	An Act To Require Utilities and Competitive Service Providers To Pay Interest on Overestimates of Electric	NUTTING J	06/20/07
<u>1098</u>	An Act To Promote Electricity Transmission Independence	BLISS	06/20/07
<u>1099</u>	An Act To Encourage Wind Energy Development	STRIMLING	06/20/07
<u>1216</u>	Resolve, To Establish a Study Commission To Stimulate Telecommunications Investment, Economic Development and Job Creation	EDMONDS, BLISS	06/20/07
	An Act To Amend the Charter of the		

<u>1221</u>	Kennebunk Light and Power District	SULLIVAN	06/20/07
<u>1248</u>	An Act To Establish the Northern Maine Power Agency	SHERMAN	06/20/07
<u>1918</u>	An Act To Ensure Adequate Funding for the Oversight of Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage in Maine	BERRY	06/20/07

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PART 5

Legislative Study Commissions and Authorized Joint Standing Committee Interim Studies
Interim 2007

Study Name	Report Dates/Reports to:
Commission to Study the Promotion, Expansion and the Regulation of the Harness Racing Industry (LD 1073)	Final report to ACF by 12/5/07
Steering Committee to Streamline State Government (P.L. 2007, c. 240, Part QQQ)	1/8/08 to Legislative Council
Joint Select Committee on Future Maine Prosperity (H.P. 1018)	1/2/2008 to the Legislature
Committee Study of Business Compliance (Council authorized from LD 1163)	None
Committee Study of Outdated and Unnecessary Laws and Rules (by letter)	None
Committee Study of Prison Industries Program (H.P. 1334)	1/15/08 to the Legislature
Committee Study of Prison Overcrowding (by letter)	None
Committee Review of Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (by letter)	None
Commission to Develop Strategies to Increase Postsecondary Access, Retention and Completion for Low-wage, Low-skilled Adults (S.P. 717)	12/5/07 to Labor Committee and Education Committee
Legislative Youth Advisory Commission (P.L. 2001, c. 439 as amended by PL 2005, c. 662, Part C)	Annually to the Legislature
Alternative Education Programs Committee (LD 1758)	12/19/07 to Education Committee
Committee Study of MaineCare (S.P. 720)	None
Committee Review of Eligibility for and Transitioning of the MaineCare Program (S.P. 724)	None
Commission to Study Primary Care Medical Practice (S.P. 732)	12/5/07 to Health and Human Services Committee
Commission to Develop a Strategic Priorities Plan for Maine's Young Children (LD 755)	12/1/07 to HHS, BRED, TAX, EDU and AFA Committees
Working Group to Study the Effectiveness and Timeliness of Early Identification and Intervention for Children with Hearing Loss (LD 1239)	12/7/07 to Legislature
Advisory Council on Health Systems Development (LD 1849)	3/1/08 annually to the IFS and HHS Committees
Committee Review of Lyme Disease (Council authorized from LD 1521)	None

Legislative Study Commissions and Authorized Joint Standing Committee Interim Studies
Interim 2007

Study Name	Report Dates/Reports to:
Right to Know Advisory Commission (<i>P.L. 2005, c. 631</i>)	1/15 annually to JUD Committee and Chief Justice
Council on Financial Literacy (LD 216)	1/15/2009
Tribal-State Work Group (LD 1263)	12/5/07 to Governor, the Legislature and Tribal governments
Citizen Trade Policy Commission (<i>PL 2003, c. 699</i>)	Annually to Legislature, Gov and others
<u>Committee Study</u> of the Depletion of Finfish Stocks in the Gulf of Maine (S.P.726)	None
<u>Committee Study</u> of on Solid Waste (H.P. 1355)	None
Community Preservation Advisory Committee (P.L. 2001, c. 648, as reauthorized by LD 336)	Annually to NAT Committee
Technical Advisory Group on Surface Water Ambient Toxic Monitoring (LD 1845)	3/31 annually to Nat and MAR Committees
<u>Committee Review</u> of the Need for Sesquicentennial Commission (Council authorized from LD 1091)	None
<u>Committee Review</u> of Property Tax Assessment (Council authorized from LD 261)	12/1/07 to TAX Committee
Committee to Study Appropriate Funding of the State Police (SP 725)	12/5/07 to CRJ and TRA Committees
<u>Committee Study</u> of Certain Transportation-Related Matters (SP 731)	None
<u>Committee Study</u> of Motor Fuels (Council authorized from LD 1919)	None

123rd Legislature, Second Regular Session
Agency And Department Bills By Subject

A/O 10/17/2007 at 8:35:42AM

**Broad
Subject Major / Minor Subjects**

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

ANIMAL WELFARE

CRUELTY

3086 An Act To Amend the Animal Welfare Laws

POTATOES

POTATO BOARD

3085 An Act To Amend the Cull Pile Law

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

SPENDING

UTILITIES

3083 An Act To Secure the Sites Necessary for the Statewide Radio Network

FINANCE AUTHORITY

PROGRAMS

3064 An Act To Provide Accessible Higher Education Financial Assistance for Maine
Families

CORRECTIONS DEPT

PROCEDURES

3084 An Act To Amend the Laws Relating to the Department of Corrections

EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS

3324 An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding School Funding

SPECIAL EDUCATION

CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

3323 An Act To Enhance Early Childhood Special Education

TRUANTS AND DROPOUTS

HABITUAL TRUANCY

3190 An Act Regarding Education Laws

123rd Legislature, Second Regular Session
Agency And Department Bills By Subject

A/O 10/17/2007 at 8:35:42AM

Broad Subject	Major / Minor Subjects
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CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

PROTECTIVE SERVICES (CHILD)

3073 An Act To Clarify Provisions of Child Protection Laws

DEATH

CHILDREN

3193 An Act To Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services To Investigate Suspicious Deaths of Children

RECORDS

3321 An Act To Establish a Forensic Case Review Panel To Advise the Department of Health and Human Services

DISABLED PERSONS

PERSONS WITH HEARING IMPAIRMENT

3071 An Act To Enhance the Newborn Hearing Tracking Program

PERSONS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION

3194 An Act To Amend the Requirements for Approval of the Use of Physical Restraints

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPT

ADMINISTRATION

3195 Resolve, To Adopt Respectful Language in Maine Law Affecting Developmental Services

3322 An Act To Improve the Organizational Structure of the Department of Health and Human Services

PROCEDURES

3192 An Act To Change the Timing of the Health Care Occupations Report and To Add and Clarify Definitions Relating to Swimming Pools or Spas

HOMELESS PERSONS

YOUTH

3072 An Act To Amend the Provisions of the Homeless Youth Program

SMOKING

WORKPLACE

3070 Resolve, To Extend the Deadline To Adopt a Rule by the Department of Health and Human Services Regarding Smoking in the Workplace

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE DEPT

ADMINISTRATION

2852 An Act To Amend Certain Provisions of Fish and Wildlife Laws

WILDLIFE

HABITAT

3075 An Act To Streamline the Administration of Vernal Pool Protection

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Agency And Department Bills By Subject

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**Broad
Subject Major / Minor Subjects**

JUDICIARY

BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS

PARTNERSHIPS

- 3224 An Act To Amend the Laws Relating to Corporations, Limited Partnerships,
Limited Liability Companies and Limited Liability Partnerships

LABOR

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

PROVISIONS REVISED

- 3191 An Act To Make Technical Corrections to the Maine Employment Security Law

STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM

ADMINISTRATION

- 3349 An Act To Improve the Codification of Retirement Plans Administered by the
Maine Public Employees Retirement System

PARTICIPATING LOCAL DISTRICTS

- 3348 An Act To Clarify Retirement Programs for Participating Local Districts

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

ELECTIONS

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

- 3164 An Act To Improve the Campaign Finance Laws and Their Administration

VOTING PROCEDURES

- 3226 An Act To Amend the Election Laws

LOBBYISTS

DISCLOSURE

- 3165 An Act Regarding Lobbyist Disclosure

VETERANS

SERVICES

- 3066 An Act To Update Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency
Management Laws

MARINE RESOURCES

AQUACULTURE

LICENSING

- 3068 An Act To Make Technical Changes to Maine's Aquaculture Laws

MARINE RESOURCES DEPT

RULES

- 3067 An Act To Make Technical Changes to Maine's Marine Resources Laws

SHELLFISH

SCALLOPS

- 3069 An Act To Amend Maine's Scallop Laws

123rd Legislature, Second Regular Session
Agency And Department Bills By Subject

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Broad Subject	Major / Minor Subjects
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NATURAL RESOURCES

AIR QUALITY

FEES

3339 An Act To Streamline and Ensure Adequate Funding for the Air Program

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPT

ADMINISTRATION

3340 An Act To Amend Certain Laws Related to Environmental Protection

LAND USE

SITE LOCATION

3077 An Act To Prevent Contamination of Drinking Water Supplies

OILS

UNDERGROUND TANKS

3076 An Act To Conform Maine Law on Underground Oil Storage Tanks to the Requirements of the Federal Energy Policy Act

WATER QUALITY

WASTEWATER DISCHARGES

3341 An Act To Sustain Maine's Core Wastewater Licensing Program and Adjust Related Provisions

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

STATE GOVERNMENT

NOTARIES PUBLIC

3225 An Act To Amend the Conflict of Interest Laws for Notaries Public

TAXATION

INCOME TAX

CHECKOFFS

3065 An Act To Continue the Maine Military Family Relief Fund Voluntary Checkoff

FEDERAL CONFORMITY

3081 An Act To Conform the Maine Tax Laws for 2007 to the United States Internal Revenue Code

REVENUE SERVICES BUREAU

CONVEYANCES

3082 Resolve, Authorizing the State Tax Assessor To Convey the Interest of the State in Certain Real Estate in the Unorganized Territory

PROCEDURES

3079 An Act Concerning Technical Changes to the Tax Laws

3080 An Act To Make Minor Substantive Changes to the Tax Laws

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Agency And Department Bills By Subject

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Broad Subject	Major / Minor Subjects
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TRANSPORTATION

MOTOR VEHICLES

SALES AND TITLES

3227 An Act To Amend Motor Vehicle Laws

TURNPIKE AUTHORITY

POWERS

3347 An Act To Promote Tourism in Maine and the Purchase of Products Made in
Maine

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

ENERGY

PLANNING

3078 An Act To Improve the Energy Independence of State Government

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

ADMINISTRATION

3268 An Act Regarding Certain Positions at the Public Utilities Commission

POWERS

3267 An Act To Create Consistency in the Authority of the Public Utilities
Commission To Provide Tariff Exemptions