

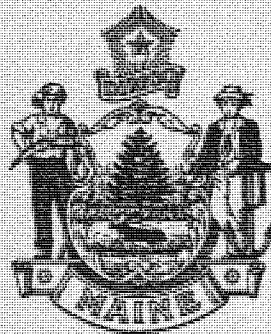
MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**124TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**



**Bill Requests Received before Cloture
on September 23, 2009 and Submitted for
Consideration by the Legislative Council
on October 15, 2009.**

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

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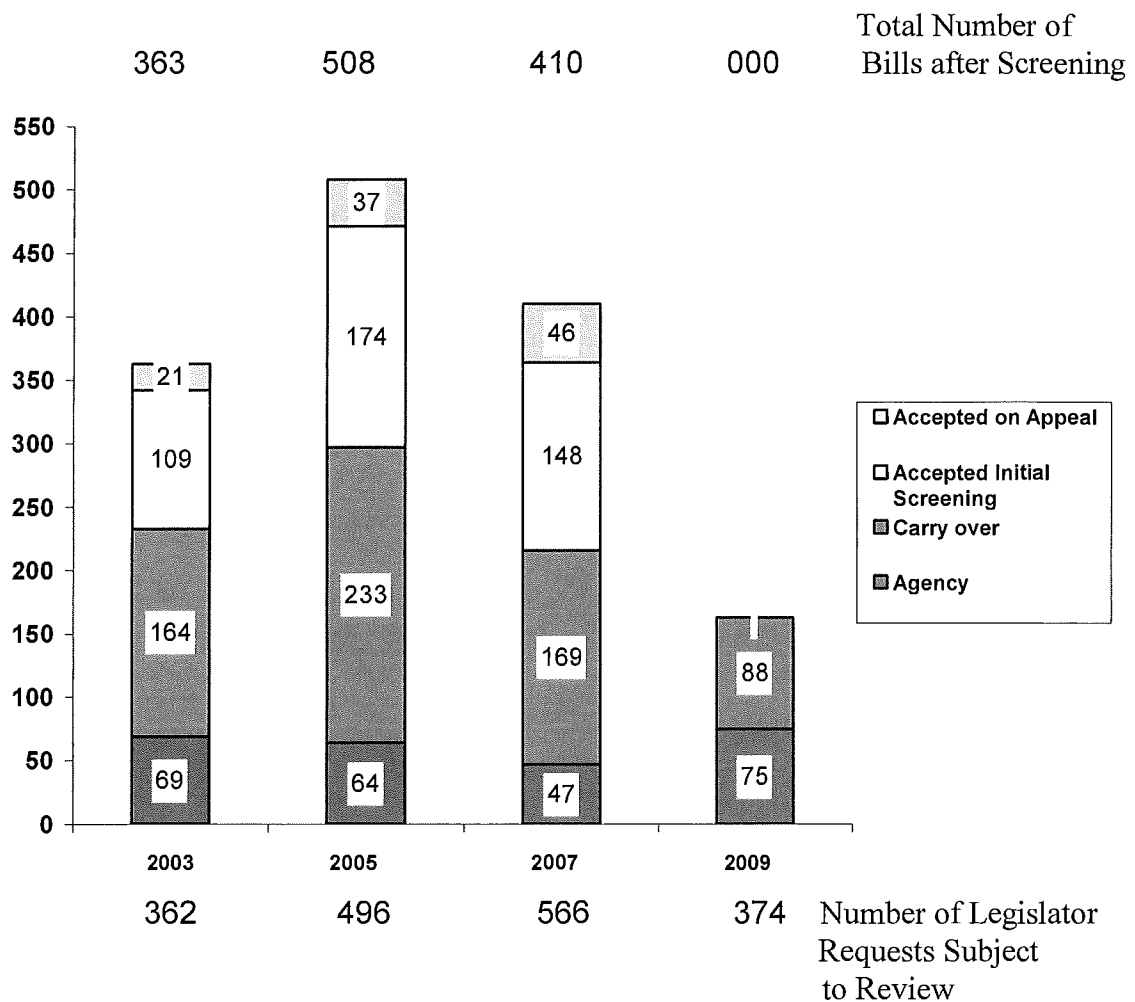
PART

1. Introduction and Reference Material
2. Legislator Requests and Comments Arranged by Subject Matter
3. Carryover Bills Arranged by Committee
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PART 1

INTRODUCTION

This volume contains the bill requests submitted by Legislators before cloture on September 23, 2009 that are proposed for introduction in the Second Regular Session of the 124th 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.

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.

PART 2

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

**AGRICULTURE DEPT
POWERS**

LR: 2344

Sponsor: Senator Simpson of Androscoggin

Title: An Act To Create a Statewide Nuisance Animal Ordinance

Comments: This bill would create a statewide ordinance for municipalities concerning nuisance animals.

**ANIMALS
DOGS**

LR: 2490

Sponsor: Representative Strang Burgess of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws That Provide an Exemption for Agricultural Guard Dogs from Municipal Ordinances Governing Barking Dogs

Comments: Under current law, municipal ordinances governing barking dogs do not apply to agricultural guard dogs. This bill would limit application of that exemption to agricultural guard dogs engaged in protecting livestock on parcels of land that are 5 acres or larger.

**ANIMALS
KENNELS**

LR: 2072

Sponsor: Senator Hobbins of York

Title: An Act To Strengthen the Laws against Illegal "Puppy Mill" Operators

Comments: This bill would strengthen the laws against operating an unlicensed kennel.

**ANIMALS
SERVICE**

LR: 2284

Sponsor: Representative Browne of Vassalboro

Title: An Act To Clarify Service Animal Identification

Comments: This bill would clarify service animal identification.

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SVC DEPT
GENERAL SERVICES BUREAU

LR: 2340

Sponsor: Representative Crockett, P. of Augusta

Title: Resolve, To Streamline State Vehicle Operations

Comments: This resolve requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services to study the feasibility of eliminating the central fleet of state-owned vehicles to achieve cost savings. The Bureau of General Services would be directed to report back to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs with its findings, including potential cost savings, in January 2011. The committee may report out legislation based on the report.

BOND ISSUES
HEALTH

LR: 2327

Sponsor: Senator Marrache of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Create a New Electronic Medical Records Infrastructure

Comments: This bill would authorize a General Fund bond issue to purchase the software and hardware necessary for health care providers to exchange patients' health care records electronically.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 729

LR: 2357

Sponsor: Representative Connor of Kennebunk

Title: An Act To Create Access to Dental Care throughout the State

Comments: This bill proposes a \$7,000,000 bond for community dental care, to be awarded on a competitive basis. It provides that \$5,000,000 would be awarded for a community-based teaching clinic affiliated or operated by a college of dental medicine and \$2,000,000 to upgrade community-based health care clinics across the State to increase their capacity.

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

**STATE FINANCES
BUDGET PROCEDURES**

LR: 2040

Sponsor: Representative Lovejoy of Portland

Title: An Act To Provide Greater Transparency in State Budgeting

Comments: This bill would require state departments to provide the Legislature and appropriate policy committees information on account and fund balances and any unpaid obligations as of the end of each fiscal year. Departments would be required to provide a detailed accounting for all accounts that represent any balances carried forward from the end of the prior year. This bill would require departments to identify the carry forward balance of and provide information on expenditures from a dedicated revenue account.

LR: 2384

Sponsor: Representative Eves of North Berwick

Title: Resolve, To Establish the Maine Children's Budget

Comments: This resolve would require state departments, beginning with the budget for the 2012-2013 biennium, to present aspects of the budget that relate to prenatal services and services provided to children under 5 years of age in a coordinated fashion and in a format that provides separate line items for these expenditures.

**STATE FINANCES
DEDICATED FUNDS**

LR: 2041

Sponsor: Representative Lovejoy of Portland

Title: An Act To Place Limits on the Amount of Money That May Be Carried Forward in a Dedicated Revenue Account

Comments: This bill would place limits on the amount of money that may be carried forward in a dedicated revenue account. It would require that balances above these limits be transferred to the General Fund.

LR: 2068

Sponsor: Senator Courtney of York

Title: An Act To Maintain Funding for Death Benefits for Law Enforcement Personnel and Firefighters

Comments: A direct initiative of legislation, "An Act To Provide Tax Relief," that will appear on the November 3, 2009 ballot repeals language that specifies that death benefits for law enforcement personnel and firefighters are payable from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund. If the direct initiative of legislation is passed at referendum this November, this bill would restore that language.

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**BUSINESS PRACTICES
MARKETING**

LR: 2092

Sponsor: Senator Schneider of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Protect Minors from Unscrupulous Marketing Practices

Comments: This bill would amend a recently enacted law concerning marketing and data collection practices concerning minors in order to address constitutional issues.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2305 Senator Schneider

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2331 Representative Cleary

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2348 Representative Johnson

LR: 2305

Sponsor: Senator Schneider of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Predatory Marketing Practices against Minors

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing predatory marketing practices against minors to limit the application of the laws to individually identifiable health-related information. It also removes provisions that permit a private right of action by a person about whom information is unlawfully collected or who is the object of predatory marketing and that permit the Attorney General to bring a civil action pursuant to federal law.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2092 Senator Schneider

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2331 Representative Cleary

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2348 Representative Johnson

LR: 2331

Sponsor: Representative Cleary of Houlton

Title: An Act To Protect the Privacy of Minors

Comments: This bill would amend those portions of Public Law 2009, chapter 230 that may be unconstitutional.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2092 Senator Schneider

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2305 Senator Schneider

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2348 Representative Johnson

LR: 2348

Sponsor: Representative Johnson of Greenville

Title: An Act To Stop Predatory Marketing Practices against Minors

Comments: This bill would define "minor" as a person under 16 years of age in the new law dealing with marketing and data collection practices.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2092 Senator Schneider

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2305 Senator Schneider

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2331 Representative Cleary

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING**

LR: 2358

Sponsor: Senator Simpson of Androscoggin

Title: An Act To Increase the Financial Stability of Low-income Families

Comments: This bill would establish a working group, based on a model established in California, that is composed of community organizations, financial institutions, state agencies and Legislators to develop strategies to bring people with low and middle incomes into the mainstream banking system and away from check cashing businesses.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2488 Senator Sullivan

LR: 2421

Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Enhance the Redevelopment of the Brunswick Naval Air Station

Comments: The bill would provide funds to support the Brunswick Naval Air Station redevelopment.

LR: 2444

Sponsor: Representative Giles of Belfast

Title: An Act To Encourage Private Enterprise by Prohibiting the University of Maine from Economically Harming Private Enterprise

Comments: This bill would prohibit the University of Maine System from economically harming a private enterprise.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 598

LR: 2479

Sponsor: Senator Rector of Knox

Title: An Act To Enhance the Small Enterprise Growth Fund

Comments: This bill would allow the Small Enterprise Growth Board to establish and manage a companion investment fund comprised of capital contributions from private and other sources to be made available for investing in small Maine companies with terms similar to the Small Enterprise Growth Fund.

Closely Related CO: LD 1

LR: 2488

Sponsor: Senator Sullivan of York

Title: An Act To Encourage Personal Savings

Comments: This bill would create a working group of community organizations, financial institutions, state agencies and Legislators to develop strategies to get low-income people involved in the mainstream banking system and away from check-cashing and payday lending establishments.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2358 Senator Simpson

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING

ENERGY CONSERVATION

LR: 2235

Sponsor: Senator Goodall of Sagadahoc

Title: An Act To Promote Affordable Energy-efficient Housing

Comments: This bill would allow affordable housing projects to be built and receive funding outside of designated growth areas as long as 50.1% of the development is set aside in conservation and energy-efficient buildings are built. The buildings would need to meet a certain threshold rating requirement, such as the United States Department of Energy's and the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star program or the U. S. Green Building Council's LEED certification.

LR: 2456

Sponsor: Representative Hinck of Portland

Title: An Act To Promote Construction of Zero Net Energy Buildings

Comments: This bill would establish programs to promote the construction of zero net energy homes and buildings.

INDUSTRIES

HOTELS AND MOTELS

LR: 2335

Sponsor: Representative Knapp of Gorham

Title: An Act To Conserve Energy and Water

Comments: This bill would require a motel or hotel to offer a patron the option of not having their towels or sheets washed if they are staying more than one night.

LR: 2336

Sponsor: Representative Knapp of Gorham

Title: An Act To Require That Lights in Hotels and Motels Are Turned on by Using Room Keys

Comments: This bill would require that lights in hotels and motels are turned on by using room keys.

LR: 2337

Sponsor: Representative Knapp of Gorham

Title: An Act To Conserve Water

Comments: This bill would require bars, hotels and motels to have big flushes and small flushes in bathrooms to help conserve water.

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**LICENSING
NURSES**

LR: 2306

Sponsor: Representative Perry, A. of Calais

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

Comments: This bill would delete outdated language relating to delegated medical procedures that are already within the scope of certain advanced practice registered nurses.

**MANUFACTURED HOUSING
RECREATIONAL VEHICLES**

LR: 2288

Sponsor: Senator Schneider of Penobscot

Title: An Act Regarding the Law Governing Recreational Vehicle Manufacturers, Distributors and Dealers

Comments: Under current law, recreational vehicles, which are defined as vehicles that are mounted on or towed by other vehicles, and motorized recreational vehicles are governed by separate laws for purposes of regulation of business practices. This bill would remove motorized recreational vehicles from the laws governing regulation of motor vehicle manufacturers, distributors and dealers and would add them to the laws governing nonmotorized recreational vehicles.

**PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REG. DEPT
ADMINISTRATION**

LR: 2457

Sponsor: Representative Smith, N. of Monmouth

Title: An Act To Establish an Office of Administrative Law Judges for Licensing Boards

Comments: This bill would establish an independent office of administrative law judges to decide cases related to licensing complaints from licensing boards under the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation.

**PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REG. DEPT
POWERS**

LR: 2054

Sponsor: Representative Peterson of Rumford

Title: An Act To Clarify the Enforcement Role of the Mixed Martial Arts Authority of Maine

Comments: This bill would enhance and clarify the licensing and oversight authority of the Mixed Martial Arts Authority of Maine

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

CORRECTIONS DEPT PROCEDURES

LR: 2289

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

Title: Resolve, To Reduce the Use and Abuse of Solitary Confinement

Comments: This resolve would require the Department of Corrections to amend its policies to provide that a prisoner may not remain confined in a special management unit for more than 45 days unless it is established at a hearing that the prisoner within the previous 45 days, while incarcerated, committed or attempted to commit: an act of violence that resulted in serious injury to another or death; an act in connection with sexual assault; or an escape or attempted escape from within a security perimeter or custody. This resolve would provide procedural safeguards for such a hearing. It also would prohibit the placement of a prisoner with a serious mental illness in a special management unit and limit the use of restraints in such a unit.

CRIMES MOTOR VEHICLE

LR: 2470

Sponsor: Representative Strang Burgess of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Change Operating after Suspension to a Civil Violation

Comments: This bill would change the violation of operating a motor vehicle after the suspension of a driver's license from a criminal violation to a civil violation.

CRIMES NEGOTIATING WORTHLESS INSTRUMENT

LR: 2200

Sponsor: Representative Shaw of Standish

Title: An Act To Increase the Penalties for Writing Bad Checks

Comments: This bill would amend the criminal laws governing bad checks by increasing the classification of crimes involving bad checks by one class and, in cases where a transfer of merchandise occurred, allowing these crimes to be classified as a theft 30 days after the date stamped on the check by the bank indicating insufficient funds. It would amend the civil laws governing bad checks by extending the statute of limitations to 18 months and allowing a person to recover triple damages plus court costs and attorney's fees.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1107

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

FIRE SAFETY

FIRE DEPARTMENTS

LR: 2186

Sponsor: Representative Sykes of Harrison

Title: An Act To Require That All Rules Adopted by the Bureau of Labor Standards Concerning Fire and Rescue Issues Benefit from Legislative Review

Comments: This bill would specify that all rules adopted by the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards concerning fire and rescue issues are major substantive rules.

LR: 2211

Sponsor: Senator Jackson of Aroostook

Title: An Act Regarding Accidental Death Benefits for Beneficiaries of Deceased Firefighters

Comments: This bill would provide an accidental death benefit to the beneficiary of a firefighter who dies from cardiovascular or pulmonary disease as described in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 39-A, section 328. This bill would apply only to municipal firefighters who are members of the Participating Local District Retirement Program administered by the Maine Public Employees Retirement System. This bill would provide an accidental death benefit and not a disability benefit to the beneficiary of the firefighter who died in the line of duty.

FIRE SAFETY

FIRE MARSHAL

LR: 2196

Sponsor: Representative Pilon of Saco

Title: An Act To Restore the Minimum Distance between Generators and Residential Structures to One Foot

Comments: Rules adopted by the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal, which incorporated by reference National Fire Protection Association standard number 37, increased the minimum distance allowed between a stationary generator and a residential structure from one foot to 5 feet. This bill restores the minimum distance allowed to one foot.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

OPERATING UNDER INFLUENCE EVIDENCE

LR: 2373

Sponsor: Representative Tilton of Harrington

Title: An Act To Discourage Drunk Driving

Comments: The bill would require a more intensive and standardized curriculum and test for determining if a person is drunk.

OPERATING UNDER INFLUENCE PENALTIES

LR: 2055

Sponsor: Senator Bartlett of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Allow Greater Use of the Ignition Interlock Device Program

Comments: This bill proposes to extend the authority of the Secretary of State regarding license suspensions and installation of ignition interlock devices.

PAROLE SYSTEM REINSTATED

LR: 2043

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

Title: An Act To Reinstate a System of Parole and To Implement a Program Designed To Reintegrate Former Prisoners into the Community

Comments: This bill would reinstate a system of parole, direct the Department of Corrections to examine the issue of aging prisoners and implement a program designed to reintegrate former prisoners into the community.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

LR: 2197

Sponsor: Representative Crockett, P. of Augusta

Title: An Act Concerning Statewide Communications Interoperability

Comments: This bill would require that the statewide radio network under construction be available to other units of government without the need for other units of government to purchase new radios or that a portion of the proceeds of the bond issue paying for the statewide radio network be allocated to local units of government for the purchase of radio equipment necessary for them to communicate on the new network.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

LR: 2343

Sponsor: Representative McFadden of Dennysville

Title: An Act To Establish a School of Practical Skills in Washington County

Comments: This bill would establish a school of practical skills in Washington County.

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES DEGREE AUTHORITY

LR: 2095

Sponsor: Representative Welsh of Rockport

Title: An Act To Authorize Maine Media College To Confer the Degree of Master of Fine Arts

Comments: Private and Special Law 2009, chapter 9 recognized the change in ownership of Rockport College, which was renamed Maine Media College. That law also provided authorization for Maine Media College to confer, until June 30, 2010, the degree of Master of Fine Arts, while the college sought national accreditation for the program and authority from the State Board of Education. This bill would extend the authority of the college to confer such degrees after June 30, 2010.

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

LR: 2209

Sponsor: Representative Morrison of South Portland

Title: An Act To Establish an Early High School Graduation Scholarship Program

Comments: This bill would establish an early high school graduation achievement scholarship program for students graduating early.

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TUITION WAIVERS

LR: 2047

Sponsor: Representative Cornell du Houx of Brunswick

Title: An Act To Clarify the State's Initiative Involving the Federal Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008

Comments: This bill would clarify an ambiguity in law that prevents Maine's public colleges and universities from receiving the full amount of reimbursement for veterans under the federal Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CONSOLIDATION COST-SHARING

LR: 2073

Sponsor: Representative Connor of Kennebunk

Title: An Act to Require the State To Pay the Costs of School Administration Consolidation

Comments: This bill would require the State to pay by July 1, 2012 the cost of consolidation of any town or community that complied by June 2, 2009 with the laws governing the reorganization of school administrative units.

LR: 2323

Sponsor: Senator Bowman of York

Title: An Act To Allow the Town of Wells and the Town of Ogunquit To Amend the Terms of Their Cost-sharing Agreement for Their Community School District and To Provide Each Town the Ability To Withdraw from the Wells-Ogunquit Community School District

Comments: This bill would allow the Town of Wells and the Town of Ogunquit to amend the terms of their cost-sharing agreement for their community school district and to provide each town the ability to withdraw from the Wells-Ogunquit Community School District.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 475

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2106 Representative Miller

CONSOLIDATION SCHOOL WITHDRAWAL FROM RSU

LR: 2106

Sponsor: Representative Miller of Somerville

Title: An Act To Allow a School To Withdraw from a Regional School Unit

Comments: This bill would allow a school to withdraw from a regional school unit and become a part of another school administrative unit.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 475

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2323 Senator Bowman

CULTURAL AGENCIES ARTS COMMISSION

LR: 2463

Sponsor: Representative Percy of Phippsburg

Title: An Act To Implement Recommendations Contained in the Audit of the Maine State Library, Maine Arts Commission, Maine State Museum Commission and Maine Historic Preservation Commission

Comments: This bill would implement the recommendations contained in the audit of the Maine State Library, Maine Arts Commission, Maine State Museum Commission and Maine Historic Preservation Commission.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

**SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA
ESSENTIAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

LR: 2241

Sponsor: Representative Wagner of Lyman

Title: Resolve, To Adjust the State Educational Funding Assistance Formula

Comments: This resolve would direct the Department of Education to use the most recent 2006 labor market areas data from the United States Department of Labor to compute funding for essential programs and services instead of the 2003 data now in use.
Closely Related CO: LD 551

LR: 2311

Sponsor: Representative Rotundo of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Allow Minor Capital School Improvement Projects To Be Permitted Costs under Essential Programs and Services

Comments: This bill would allow the cost of minor capital school improvement projects, such as the replacement of windows, a boiler or a roof, to be a permitted cost under essential programs and services.
Closely Related CO: LD 551

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

SCHOOL POLICIES

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

LR: 2251

Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Increase Maine's High School Graduation Rate

Comments: This bill would require the State's graduation rate to be 90% by the year 2016. The bill would require the Department of Education and the State Board of Education to establish a stakeholders group to make recommendations and propose legislation related to: establishing guidelines for school suspensions and expulsions; the impact and implementation of zero-tolerance practices; current truancy laws to determine best practices for schools, families and youth; and raising the mandatory age of school attendance from 17 to 18 years of age. The stakeholders would report on their recommendations with proposed legislation to the 125th Legislature by January 2011.

SCHOOL POLICIES

SCHOOL YEAR

LR: 2351

Sponsor: Representative Sutherland of Chapman

Title: Resolve, To Develop a Model Academic Year Calendar

Comments: This resolve would establish a study group for kindergarten-to-grade-12 school officials, primarily superintendents and career and technical education directors, called together by the Commissioner of Education, to prepare a draft academic year calendar. The calendar would be available for statewide review by December 1, 2010. It would allow the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs to submit legislation for the 125th Legislature.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

SERVICES

LR: 2151

Sponsor: Senator Bowman of York

Title: An Act To Permit Representation by Persons Other Than Attorneys in Certain Hearings, Actions and Proceedings before the Department of Education

Comments: This bill would specifically authorize a person who is not an attorney to represent or assist a party in any hearing, action or proceeding before the Department of Education.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES PROTECTIVE SERVICES (CHILD)

LR: 2368

Sponsor: Senator Sullivan of York

Title: An Act To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Represent the Child in All Proceedings on Protection from Abuse Orders Involving a Child

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to represent the child in all proceedings on protection from abuse orders involving a child.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SOCIAL SERVICES

LR: 2270

Sponsor: Representative Saviello of Wilton

Title: An Act To Extend the Maternal and Infant Death Review Panel

Comments: The maternal and infant death review panel established under the Department of Health and Human Services is currently scheduled to end January 1, 2011. This bill would extend the date of the panel's repeal to January 1, 2016 to give the panel time to complete its work.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2329 Senator Marrache

LR: 2329

Sponsor: Senator Marrache of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Ensure the Continuation of the Maternal and Infant Death Review Panel

Comments: This bill would repeal the provision of law ending the maternal and infant death review panel on January 1, 2011.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2270 Representative Saviello

DISABLED PERSONS CHILDREN

LR: 2276

Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Improve the Availability, Efficiency and Cost of Services for Infants, Young Children and Their Families

Comments: This bill would restructure the services available to infants and young children with developmental disabilities, including autism, and delays. The restructured services would include supports to the families of these young people. It aims to improve informed choices for families and improve the coordination of services among numerous agencies and state departments. The new structure would be streamlined to improve identification of need, ease of accessing services, improve outcomes for young children and their families and improve efficiency in the use of state funds.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HEALTH CARE SERVICES CHILDREN

LR: 2212

Sponsor: Representative Boland of Sanford

Title: An Act To Create the Children's Wireless Protection Act

Comments: This bill would require warning labels on packaging for cellular telephones outlining the potential risks of exposure to children and pregnant women.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES DELIVERY

LR: 2483

Sponsor: Representative Boland of Sanford

Title: An Act To Ensure Patients Can Receive Estimates for the Cost of Treatments

Comments: This bill would require a doctor or hospital at the request of a patient to provide an estimate of the costs for treating that patient and the portion of those costs the patient will have to pay out-of-pocket.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES PHARMACIES

LR: 2107

Sponsor: Representative Cotta of China

Title: An Act To Allow Issuing Pharmacies To Accept Unused Prescription Medications

Comments: This bill would allow a pharmacy to accept returned unused prescription medications that were provided at that pharmacy.

LR: 2249

Sponsor: Senator Bowman of York

Title: An Act To Require a Pharmacist To Provide Prior Notification or Obtain Consent from the Prescribing Physicians before Changing from One Formulation or Manufacturer to Another of an Antiepileptic Drug

Comments: This bill would require a pharmacist to provide prior notification and obtain consent from the prescribing physician if an antiepileptic drug is switched from one formulation or manufacturer to another if the drug is used to treat epilepsy.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MEDICAID MAINECARE

LR: 2168

Sponsor: Representative Cebra of Naples

Title: An Act To Require an Independent Audit of the MaineCare System

Comments: This bill would require an independent audit of the MaineCare System.

LR: 2207

Sponsor: Representative Strang Burgess of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Require MaineCare To Provide Coverage for Genetic Testing for Cancer

Comments: This bill would require MaineCare to provide coverage for genetic testing for cancer for individuals that have a known or suspected hereditary cancer susceptibility.

LR: 2242

Sponsor: Representative Finch of Fairfield

Title: An Act To Make Certain MaineCare Rules Adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services Major Substantive Rules

Comments: This bill would require that any rules adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services that apply to MaineCare or Medicaid and affect funds received by school administrative units be major substantive rules and not routine technical rules.

LR: 2367

Sponsor: Representative Lewin of Eliot

Title: An Act To Reimburse Pharmacies under the MaineCare Program Based on Wholesale Acquisition Costs

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to reimburse pharmacies under the MaineCare program based on wholesale acquisition costs. In the first year of reimbursement, the department would reimburse wholesale acquisition costs plus 6%; thereafter the amount would be determined by rulemaking by the department. The bill would also define wholesale acquisition costs in Title 22.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTIONS

LR: 2496

Sponsor: Senator Mills, P. of Somerset

Title: An Act To Require the Immediate Closure or Consolidation of Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center

Comments: This bill would require the immediate closure or consolidation of the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center.

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

FISH PROTECTION

LR: 2278

Sponsor: Representative Duchesne of Hudson

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Adopt Rules Clarifying Fish Stocking Decisions

Comments: This resolve would direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt major substantive rules clarifying fish stocking decisions in public waters. The rules must include a definition for "reasonable public access." This definition must include an assessment of the availability of publicly owned access points, the availability and suitability of privately owned, publicly accessible points, the resources contributed and responsibilities undertaken by local residents and associations, the threat of invasive species and the reasonableness and effectiveness of citizen-initiated programs to prevent the spread of invasive species, including the availability of boat-washing systems at launch ramps, on-site volunteer monitoring efforts and supervised gate systems.

FISH SMELTS

LR: 2396

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

Title: Resolve, Requiring the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Provide Greater Access to Smelting for Youth License Holders

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to identify lakes currently closed to smelting that could be opened to smelting for a person holding a youth license issued by the department and to report those water bodies to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

HUNTING FEES

LR: 2291

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

Title: An Act To Increase Payments to Agents Who Provide Tags for Wild Game

Comments: This bill would encourage more agents to provide tags for wild game by increasing the fee to tag an animal by \$2 and increasing the payments to tagging agents from \$1 per animal to \$3 per animal.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2385 Representative Beaulieu

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2414 Representative Clark

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

HUNTING REGULATIONS

LR: 2149

Sponsor: Representative Piotti of Unity

Title: An Act To Amend the Current Moose Permit System and Preference Point System in Maine

Comments: This bill would amend the law governing the public drawings for moose hunting permits. This bill would allow for the purchase of an unlimited number of chances in the so-called moose lottery after the purchase of a 6-chance application. This bill would implement 2 special permit drawings before the public chance drawings. The first would award 500 permits and would be for those who have accumulated the maximum amount of bonus points because they have consistently applied for and never received a moose hunting permit. The 2nd would award 1/3 of the remaining available permits and would be for residents who have accumulated 7 or more points.

LR: 2355

Sponsor: Representative Pratt of Eddington

Title: An Act To Streamline the Permitting Process for Muzzle-loading Permit Renewal

Comments: This bill would allow a person holding a muzzle-loading permit to renew the permit without complications if the permit holder has not committed a crime since the permit was last issued.

LR: 2385

Sponsor: Representative Beaulieu of Auburn

Title: An Act To Compensate Tagging Agents

Comments: This bill would allow tagging station agents who register animals to receive 40% of the tagging fee.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2291 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2414 Representative Clark

LR: 2394

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

Title: An Act Regarding the Electronic Tagging of Big Game Animals

Comments: This bill would allow harvested big game animals to be electronically tagged.

LR: 2414

Sponsor: Representative Clark of Millinocket

Title: An Act Related to Distribution of Tagging Registration Fees

Comments: This bill would change the distribution of tagging registration fees to provide \$2 to the tagging station and \$3 to the State.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2291 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2385 Representative Beaulieu

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

RECREATION WATERCRAFT

LR: 2103 Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Prevent Municipalities from Establishing Boat Moorings around
State-owned Public Boat Launches

Comments: This bill would prevent municipalities from establishing boat moorings around
state-owned public boat launches.

LR: 2166 Sponsor: Senator Hastings of Oxford

Title: An Act To Prohibit Floating Barges on a Portion of the Saco River

Comments: This bill would prohibit floating barges on a portion of the Saco River.

LR: 2175 Sponsor: Representative Watson of Bath

Title: An Act To Require Seasonal Use of Personal Flotation Devices

Comments: This bill would require a person to wear a personal flotation device while operating or
a passenger on a vessel of less than 21 feet between November 1st and May 1st.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 164

LR: 2190 Sponsor: Representative Johnson of Greenville

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Use of Jet Skis on Wilson Pond

Comments: This bill would prohibit the use of jet skis on Wilson Pond.

SEARCH AND RESCUE ANIMALS

LR: 2447 Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Ensure That Search and Rescue Dogs Are Afforded the Same Protections
and Accommodations as Service Animals

Comments: This bill would ensure that all search and rescue dogs have access to public facilities
and housing accommodations as service animals do.

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

FINANCIAL PRACTICES ACCOUNT SALES

LR: 2489

Sponsor: Senator Sullivan of York

Title: An Act To Allow a Maine-chartered Financial Institution To Conduct a Savings Promotion Raffle

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing raffles to allow any Maine-chartered financial institution, a bank or credit union, to conduct a "savings promotion raffle." The sole consideration required for a chance of winning the designated prizes in the raffle would be the deposit of at least a specified amount of money into a savings account or other savings program offered by the Maine-chartered financial institution.

FINANCIAL PRACTICES LOANS

LR: 2386

Sponsor: Representative Beaulieu of Auburn

Title: An Act Regarding Surety Bond Exemption

Comments: This bill would exempt loan brokers that conduct business solely as facilitators of refund anticipation loans or refund anticipation checks from the \$20,000 surety bond requirement if they meet certain requirements.

FINANCIAL PRACTICES MORTGAGES

LR: 2048

Sponsor: Representative Treat of Hallowell

Title: An Act To Clarify the Application of Certain Statutory Requirements to Foreclosures

Comments: This bill would clarify that the changes in the notice period for cure of defaults of mortgages applies to all mortgage lenders. The bill would also make changes to Public Law 2009, chapter 402 recommended by the Judicial Department.

INSURANCE CAPTIVE INSURERS

LR: 2277

Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Create Jobs and Stimulate Economic Development by Making Captive Insurers Eligible for Pine Tree Development Zone Benefits for 10 Years

Comments: This bill would make captive insurance companies located in the State eligible for Pine Tree Development Zone benefits for a 10-year period and provide for a 100% state income tax credit during that 10-year period.

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

INSURANCE HEALTH

LR: 2237

Sponsor: Senator Bartlett of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Protect Individuals with Health Insurance from Catastrophic Risk

Comments: This bill would prohibit health plans covering residents of the State from including provisions that terminate payment of further claims after a defined aggregate amount of health care claims have been paid on behalf of an individual, family or group.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2481 Representative Berry

LR: 2295

Sponsor: Representative Ayotte of Caswell

Title: An Act To Require Health Insurance Carriers To Allow Policyholders To Keep Their Children on Their Policies until Age 25

Comments: This bill would require health insurance carriers to allow policyholders to keep their children on their policies until age 25.

LR: 2326

Sponsor: Representative Pilon of Saco

Title: An Act To Create a Cost-efficient Distribution System for Health Care

Comments: This bill would require the Superintendent of Insurance to establish an advisory panel made up of equal numbers of representatives of consumers, payors and providers to advise the superintendent on replacing Dirigo Health Insurance with a voucher system that allows eligible individuals to purchase insurance plans from any carrier offering a qualified plan. The voucher system must be designed to offer more affordable products, spread subsidies over more households, emphasize preventive care and disease management, improve population health, reduce costs in Maine's health care market and maximize federal initiatives.

LR: 2430

Sponsor: Senator Schneider of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Improve Health Insurance Security

Comments: This bill would allow a person that worked for the State for 5 years and leaves state employment to purchase health insurance through the state plan. The person would have to pay 100% of the cost.

LR: 2481

Sponsor: Representative Berry of Bowdoinham

Title: An Act To Protect Victims of Catastrophic Illness or Accident

Comments: This bill would prohibit health plans covering Maine residents from including provisions that terminate payment of further claims after a defined aggregate amount of health care claims have been paid on behalf of an individual, family or group.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2237 Senator Bartlett

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

INSURANCE BUREAU PROCEDURES

LR: 2199

Sponsor: Representative Treat of Hallowell

Title: An Act To Maintain Compliance of Maine's Insurance Laws with National Standards

Comments: This bill would make changes to conform Maine's insurance laws to new national standards related to accreditation of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. The bill would require all health insurers to submit a qualified actuarial opinion on claims reserves and establish a separate license category for crop insurance adjusters. The bill also would make other clarifying changes related to audits and holding companies.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2247 Senator Bowman

LR: 2247

Sponsor: Senator Bowman of York

Title: An Act To Require Compliance of Maine's Insurance Laws with National Standards

Comments: This bill would require the Superintendent of Insurance to maintain compliance with national standards as they pertain to distribution of dividends.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2199 Representative Treat

INSURANCE PRACTICES COST CONTAINMENT

LR: 2158

Sponsor: Representative Davis of Sangerville

Title: An Act To Bring Uniformity in Insurance Underwriting

Comments: This bill would bring uniformity in insurance underwriting by having insurance companies give discounts in premiums to consumers that are debt free as they do to consumers with good credit scores.

INSURANCE PRACTICES DISCLOSURE

LR: 2120

Sponsor: Representative Beaudoin of Biddeford

Title: An Act To Require Full Disclosure by Insurance Carriers Using Credit Ratings

Comments: This bill would require insurance carriers that use credit ratings in their premium basis determination to disclose the effect of those credit ratings on the final determination of each policy applicant's premium.

JUDICIARY

ATTORNEY GENERAL DEPT POWERS

LR: 2191

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

Title: An Act To Allow a Deputy District Attorney or an Assistant District Attorney Designated by the District Attorney To Request Utility Records

Comments: Current law allows the Attorney General, a deputy attorney general or a district attorney to request utility records. This bill would also allow a deputy district attorney or an assistant district attorney designated by the district attorney to also request utility records.

ATTORNEYS PRACTICE OF LAW

LR: 2272

Sponsor: Representative Priest of Brunswick

Title: An Act Concerning the Practice of Law by Out-of-state Attorneys

Comments: This bill removes a conflict between Maine's laws governing the unauthorized practice of law and the Supreme Judicial Court's newly adopted ethics rule governing the multijurisdictional practice of lawyers.

BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS CORPORATIONS

LR: 2290

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

Title: An Act To Restore the Notification Process for the Annual Registration of a Corporation

Comments: This bill would reverse recent changes to the laws governing the notification process for the annual registration of a corporation that eliminated paper notification in favor of electronic notification.

CIVIL PROCEDURE SMALL CLAIMS

LR: 2187

Sponsor: Representative Crockett, P. of Augusta

Title: An Act To Expedite the Small Claims Process

Comments: This bill would require the court in a small claims action to set a date for a hearing on a case no later than 60 days after the statement of claim and return of service have been filed with the court for that case. The hearing itself may be held after the 60-day period, but the court must schedule the hearing within the 60-day period.

JUDICIARY

FREEDOM OF ACCESS RECORD CONFIDENTIALITY

LR: 2124

Sponsor: Senator Bowman of York

Title: An Act To Protect Confidential Consumer Records in Self-service Storage Facilities
Comments: This bill would protect the confidentiality of personal information kept in self-service storage facilities if the tenant defaults on rental payments by requiring that the tenant notify the facility operator when the tenant intends to store such information; prohibiting the sale at auction of such information if the facility operator knows of its existence; and requiring a purchaser of the contents of a unit to return any personal information.

LR: 2328

Sponsor: Representative Treat of Hallowell

Title: Resolve, To Protect Information Maintained by Registries
Comments: This resolve would direct the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary to review a recent Superior Court decision related to public access to information maintained by registries of deeds and report recommended legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature by February 15, 2009.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2138 Representative Crockett, P.

FREEDOM OF ACCESS RIGHT TO KNOW LAWS

LR: 2130

Sponsor: Representative Dostie of Sabattus

Title: An Act To Clarify the Laws Governing Freedom of Access to Information
Comments: This bill would clarify the laws governing freedom of access to information to specifically prohibit members of a school board, commission, agency or legislative body from using a series of communications of any kind to discuss, deliberate or take action on any item of business.

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

LR: 2049

Sponsor: Representative Blodgett of Augusta

Title: An Act To Ensure Expedient Resolution of Cases before the Maine Human Rights Commission
Comments: This bill would require that cases filed with the Maine Human Rights Commission be disposed of by the commission within a one-year time frame.

LABOR

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS LEAVE POLICIES

LR: 2134

Sponsor: President Mitchell, E. of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Aid in the Prevention of the Spread of H1 N1 Influenza by Ensuring the Provision of Earned Paid Sick Time

Comments: This bill would require a large business employer to give 52 accrued paid sick hours per year to an employee and a small business employer to give 26 accrued paid sick hours per year to an employee. Earned paid sick time may be used by an employee during an absence from employment for illness of an employee or illness of an employee's family member, for accessing necessary preventative health care or if the employee or the employee's family member is a victim of stalking, domestic violence or sexual abuse.

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES HIRING

LR: 2087

Sponsor: Senator Jackson of Aroostook

Title: An Act To Protect Maine Workers

Comments: This bill would prevent a company from doing business in Maine for 5 years if that company has committed a major violation of the federal alien labor certification program.

LR: 2486

Sponsor: Representative Beck of Waterville

Title: Resolve, To Study Privacy Rights with Respect to the Job Application and Employment Process

Comments: The resolve would establish a commission to study what a prospective employer can ask a prospective employee.

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES TERMINATION

LR: 2460

Sponsor: Representative Boland of Sanford

Title: An Act To Ensure the Equitable Treatment of Maine's Workforce

Comments: This bill would prohibit an employer that fires an employee and later rehires that person at a lower wage from using the reason the person was originally fired in future disciplinary actions.

LABOR

**STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM
CREDITS**

LR: 2374

Sponsor: Representative Tilton of Harrington

Title: An Act To Clarify Retirement Benefits

Comments: This bill would clarify the service time for Bayley Grant as it pertains to retirement benefits.

**WORKERS COMPENSATION
BOARD**

LR: 2254

Sponsor: Representative Martin, J. L. of Eagle Lake

Title: An Act To Authorize the Issuance of "Stop Work" Orders if a Construction Contractor or Subcontractor Has Knowingly Misrepresented the Classification of Employees

Comments: This bill would authorize the Executive Director of the Workers' Compensation Board to issue "stop work" orders if a construction contractor or subcontractor has knowingly misrepresented one or more employees as independent contractors. This bill would also prohibit that contractor or subcontractor from performing work on a public building for a period of 3 years.

LR: 2350

Sponsor: Representative Butterfield of Bangor

Title: An Act Relating to the Membership of the Workers' Compensation Board

Comments: This bill would clarify the current restrictions on Workers' Compensation Board membership related to lobbying or being a service provider to the workers' compensation system.

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
LIQUOR SALES**

LR: 2039

Sponsor: Senator Perry, J. of Penobscot

Title: An Act Regarding the Sale of Malt Liquor from a Mobile Service Bar on a Golf Course
Comments: Current law does not address a municipal golf course that contracts for service on the golf course with an outside vendor who holds the liquor license. This bill would allow for an employee of the contracted licensee to serve malt liquor on the golf course while providing shared responsibility between the contracted licensees and the municipal golf course for violations.

LR: 2273

Sponsor: Representative Carey of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Clarify Maine's 3-tiered System for the Distribution and Sale of Alcoholic Beverages
Comments: This bill would make technical changes to the laws that govern the distribution, wholesale and retail of alcoholic beverages.

LR: 2416

Sponsor: Representative Fitts of Pittsfield

Title: An Act To Clarify the Laws Governing Instant Redeemable Coupons Included with a Spirits Product
Comments: This bill would clarify that instant redeemable coupons included with a spirits product may be attached to the product by an agent of the manufacturer or the manufacturer's sales representative.

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
TAVERNS**

LR: 2491

Sponsor: Senator Mills, P. of Somerset

Title: An Act To Provide Uniform Rules for Smoking in or Near Establishments That Serve Alcohol
Comments: This bill would allow taverns and private clubs to permit patrons to take alcoholic beverages to outside smoking areas if service is not provided in those areas.

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

WINE

LR: 2205

Sponsor: Senator Plowman of Penobscot

Title: An Act Regarding Wine Tasting Demonstrations

Comments: This bill would repeal the law pertaining to the tasting of alcoholic beverages that requires tasting to be conducted in a manner that precludes the possibility of observation by children.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2066 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2192 Representative Fitts

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2236 Representative Welsh

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2244 Senator Goodall

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2308 Representative Tuttle

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2462 Representative Russell

LR: 2236

Sponsor: Representative Welsh of Rockport

Title: An Act To Amend the Alcoholic Beverage Tasting Laws

Comments: This bill would change the alcoholic beverage tasting laws by removing language relating to requirements that wine, spirits and malt liquor taste-testing activities be conducted in a manner that will prevent observation by children. This bill would also eliminate the prohibition on sales representatives' pouring or distributing the products being tasted.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2066 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2192 Representative Fitts

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2205 Senator Plowman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2244 Senator Goodall

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2308 Representative Tuttle

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2462 Representative Russell

LR: 2244

Sponsor: Senator Goodall of Sagadahoc

Title: An Act To Amend the Taste-testing Laws for the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages

Comments: This bill would change the requirement that, to conduct tastings of alcoholic beverages, the event must be held in a manner that precludes the possibility of observation by children to that of posting signs alerting parents or guardians of such events.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2066 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2192 Representative Fitts

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2205 Senator Plowman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2236 Representative Welsh

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2308 Representative Tuttle

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2462 Representative Russell

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

DEFENSE AND VETERANS SERVICES DEPT
NATIONAL GUARD

LR: 2243

Sponsor: Senator Goodall of Sagadahoc

Title: Resolve, To Transfer the Ownership of the Bath Armory to the City of Bath
Comments: This bill would transfer the ownership of the Bath Armory to the City of Bath for the Bath Youth Meetinghouse and Skatepark for free or for one dollar.

ELECTIONS
CAMPAIGN FINANCE

LR: 2413

Sponsor: Representative Dill of Cape Elizabeth

Title: An Act To Limit the Provision of Funding under the Maine Clean Election Act to Candidates That Do Not Have Political Action Committees
Comments: This bill would provide that candidates who have political action committees are ineligible to receive funding under the Maine Clean Election Act.
JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 140 and 1247

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

ELECTIONS REFERENDA

LR: 2131

Sponsor: Senator Trahan of Lincoln

Title: An Act To Reform Maine's Referendum Process

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing petitions for the direct initiative of legislation and people's veto petitions. This bill would:

1. Require the Secretary of State's office, rather than municipal clerks, to verify voter signatures;
2. Establish a 4-member nonpartisan citizen panel to review the titles of citizen-initiated petitions for fairness and clarity;
3. Require, when the Secretary of State is requested to provide an updated number of signatures gathered, that all interested parties be provided that data, along with the name of the requesting party;
4. Require that the first item on a people's veto petition be a summary of the bill that is provided to the Legislature by the nonpartisan legislative offices;
5. Eliminate the requirement that the ballot must include information regarding the cost associated with a people's veto or direct initiative of legislation; and
6. Require that Legislators and political parties who promote the passage or defeat of a people's veto or direct initiative of legislation register with the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices and report any amounts spent for that effort.

GAMBLING GAMES OF CHANCE

LR: 2429

Sponsor: Senator Perry, J. of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Implement the Use of Promotional Credits

Comments: This bill would implement the use of promotional credits.

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

**VETERANS
SERVICES**

LR: 2060

Sponsor: Representative Beck of Waterville

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Educational Benefits for Veterans and Their Families

Comments: This bill would extend from 6 to 8 the number of academic years the child of a veteran may take to complete, tuition-free, 8 semesters or a baccalaureate degree, whichever occurs first.

LR: 2104

Sponsor: Representative Harlow of Portland

Title: An Act To Waive the Tuition Charges of Any Postsecondary Educational Institution in the State for a Child of a Soldier Who Died or Is Disabled while on Active Duty

Comments: This bill would waive the tuition charges of any postsecondary educational institution in the State for a child of a soldier who died or is disabled while on active duty.

LR: 2296

Sponsor: Representative Haskell of Portland

Title: An Act Pertaining to Educational Benefits for Veterans and Their Dependents

Comments: This bill would amend the definition of "child" as it pertains to when educational benefits are granted to include that, if a child is unable to enroll in a degree program prior to turning 22 years of age due to the veteran's total permanent disability claim pending with the Veterans Administration, then the child may apply to begin the benefit within 2 years from the date of the veteran's award notification letter.

MARINE RESOURCES

**LOBSTERS
TRAPS**

LR: 2365

Sponsor: Senator Damon of Hancock

Title: An Act To Eliminate the 3 Trap Limit off Hancock County

Comments: This bill would eliminate one area of the coast where people who fish for lobsters are presently limited to 3 traps per trawl.

**RECREATIONAL FISHING
PROHIBIT FUNDS FOR FEDERAL REGISTRY**

LR: 2034

Sponsor: Senator Trahan of Lincoln

Title: An Act To Prohibit an Agency from Accepting Funds To Implement a Federal Registry for Saltwater Recreational Fishing

Comments: This bill would prohibit an agency from accepting funds to implement a federal registry for saltwater recreational fishing.

Closely Related CO: LD's 1331 and 1432

NATURAL RESOURCES

COASTAL AREAS LAND USE

LR: 2063

Sponsor: Representative Legg of Kennebunk

Title: An Act To Update and Modernize Maine's Floodplain Mapping for Coastal Communities

Comments: This bill would provide funding to attract federal grant funding to update and modernize the State's floodplain maps. The bill would direct \$250,000 per year for 3 years in state funds to support topographical floodplain mapping.

LR: 2112

Sponsor: Representative Eberle of South Portland

Title: An Act To Amend the Coastal and Lake Watershed Districts Law To Clarify Municipal Home Rule and Interlocal Cooperation Authority

Comments: This bill would clarify that the watershed district law is one way of establishing a district and that alternatively one or more municipalities may create a watershed management district under municipal home rule authority or under interlocal cooperation authority.

DAMS MAINTENANCE

LR: 2091

Sponsor: Representative Jones of Mount Vernon

Title: Resolve, To Direct the Department of Environmental Protection To Establish By Rule Guidelines for Dam Repair and Maintenance

Comments: This resolve directs the Department of Environmental Protection to establish guidelines by rule for dam repair and maintenance and for cost sharing among towns for dams on bodies of water affecting more than one town.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPT FINES

LR: 2294

Sponsor: Representative Ayotte of Caswell

Title: Resolve, To Waive the Fine That the Department of Environmental Protection Imposed on Arthur Drolet in Connection with the Removal of Underground Petroleum Storage Tanks

Comments: This bill would waive the fine that the Department of Environmental Protection imposed on Arthur Drolet in connection with the removal of underground petroleum storage tanks.

NATURAL RESOURCES

GROUND WATER CONSERVATION

LR: 2163

Sponsor: Representative Hinck of Portland

Title: An Act To Control the Taking of Large Quantities of Water

Comments: This bill would require a person to obtain a permit from the Department of Environmental Protection before removing a large quantity of water from its source and immediate ecosystem. The bill would provide an exemption from the permit requirement for certain activities and require a permit holder to monitor quantities of water taken and report to the department.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1267

GROUND WATER EXPORTATION

LR: 2281

Sponsor: Representative Pratt of Eddington

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Groundwater

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing groundwater by recognizing it, like surface water, as a public trust and by applying the "reasonable use" rule regarding its use.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 837 and 1267

GROUND WATER WELLS

LR: 2282

Sponsor: Representative Pratt of Eddington

Title: An Act To Prohibit Significant Groundwater Well Development on Public Lands

Comments: This bill would prohibit significant groundwater well development on public lands, including all commercial water extraction, but not affect current practices.

LAND USE COMPREHENSIVE PLANS

LR: 2180

Sponsor: Representative Cray of Palmyra

Title: An Act To Provide to Certain Municipalities a Waiver of the Requirement To Adopt a Comprehensive Plan and Allow Those Municipalities To Enforce Their Ordinances

Comments: This bill would provide to a municipality that as of June 1, 2009 has rejected a proposed comprehensive plan a waiver of the requirement to adopt a comprehensive plan. The bill also would allow such a municipality to enforce its ordinances pursuant to its home rule authority.

NATURAL RESOURCES

TOXIC SUBSTANCES REDUCTION AND PREVENTION

LR: 2182

Sponsor: Speaker Pingree of North Haven

Title: An Act To Clarify Maine's Phaseout of Polybrominated Diphenyl Ethers

Comments: This bill would ban products used for food packaging or food storage, including but not limited to pallets, that contain the "deca" mixture of polybrominated diphenyl ethers.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2246 Representative Duchesne

LR: 2246

Sponsor: Representative Duchesne of Hudson

Title: An Act To Reduce Human Exposure to "Deca" Brominated Flame Retardants

Comments: This bill would phase out the use of polybrominated diphenyl ethers in pallets, similar to current law, which phases out the use of that substance in mattresses, furniture and electronics.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2182 Speaker Pingree

WASTE FACILITIES LANDFILLS

LR: 2116

Sponsor: Representative Johnson of Greenville

Title: An Act To Expand Eligibility of Certain Municipal Landfills To Participate in the State's Remediation and Closure Program

Comments: This bill would allow a small number of additional open municipal landfills that were allowed by the Department of Environmental Protection to remain open after January 1, 2000 to become eligible for the State's remediation and closure program.

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

COUNTY BUDGETS PROCEDURES

LR: 2171

Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan

Title: An Act To Amend County Budget Procedures

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing county budget procedures to allow budget committees to increase, decrease or alter the proposed budget if the changes are based on input provided by the public during the public hearing process. This bill would also allow the county commissioners to increase, decrease or alter the proposed budget by a majority vote rather than a unanimous vote.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2169 Representative Curtis

COUNTY BUDGETS SOMERSET

LR: 2169

Sponsor: Representative Curtis of Madison

Title: An Act To Amend the Somerset County Budget Procedure

Comments: This bill would amend the procedure for adopting the Somerset County budget by allowing the budget to be increased, decreased or altered if new information were obtained during a public process. The budget must be approved by a majority vote of the budget committee at a meeting called for that purpose. The bill would also require that, if the county does not approve a new budget, it operate on an interim budget not to exceed the previous year's budget.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2171 Representative McCabe

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OFFICERS

LR: 2143

Sponsor: Senator Smith, D. of Piscataquis

Title: An Act To Require That Elected County Treasurers Be Qualified in Business Administration and Finance Matters

Comments: This bill would require that elected county treasurers be qualified in matters of business administration and finance.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT REGIONALISM

LR: 2345

Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan

Title: An Act To Increase Efficiency in County Government

Comments: This bill would authorize regionalization and consolidation of the operations of county government to increase efficiency and achieve cost savings in 3 areas: public safety, corrections and courts.

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

MUNICIPALITIES

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

LR: 2372

Sponsor: Senator Bryant, B. of Oxford

Title: An Act To Require Municipal Officials To Perform Ministerial Actions

Comments: This bill would permit residents to sue municipal officials for failure to perform ministerial or nondiscretionary actions that they are required to perform by statute, ordinance or municipal warrant.

LR: 2397

Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan

Title: An Act Relating to Municipal Elected Officials

Comments: This bill would amend the law dealing with the neglect of official duty to clarify that the law includes all municipal elected officials. The bill would also provide that the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices may hear complaints relating to all municipal elected officials.

MUNICIPALITIES

ROADS

LR: 2075

Sponsor: Representative Magnan of Stockton Springs

Title: An Act To Authorize Municipal Officers To Resolve Road Naming Disputes

Comments: This bill would authorize municipal officers to make the final decision when there is a dispute in the naming of a town road, private way or private road for E-9-1-1 purposes.

MUNICIPALITIES

TOWNS

LR: 2174

Sponsor: Representative Crockett, J. of Bethel

Title: An Act Regarding Lands Held in Trust for the Benefit of the Citizens of Bethel

Comments: This bill would facilitate the use of lands held in trust for the benefit of the citizens of Bethel. These lands were given to a municipal organization in Bethel pursuant to a deed of trust.

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**STATE GOVERNMENT
PURCHASES**

LR: 2283

Sponsor: Representative Pratt of Eddington

Title: An Act To Restrict the Purchase by State Agencies of Bottled Water

Comments: This bill would prohibit all state agencies from purchasing bottled water without prior written authorization of the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services.

**STATE GOVERNMENT
STATE COMMEMORATIONS**

LR: 2046

Sponsor: Representative Briggs of Mexico

Title: An Act Designating March 29 Vietnam Veterans Day

Comments: This bill would establish March 29 as the state holiday of Vietnam Veterans Day commemorating the date in 1973 when the last United States troops were withdrawn from the war zone.

**STATE GOVERNMENT
STATE PERSONNEL**

LR: 2193

Sponsor: President Mitchell, E. of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Restore Longevity Pay

Comments: This bill would restore longevity pay for state workers.

TAXATION

PROPERTY TAX PROVISIONS REVISED

LR: 2459

Sponsor: Representative Crockett, P. of Augusta

Title: An Act To Increase the Affordability of Renewable Energy for Homeowners and Small Businesses

Comments: This bill would permit municipal governments to offer long-term financing of solar and wind electric generation systems through a property tax lien financing program.

PROPERTY TAX TREE GROWTH TAX

LR: 2086

Sponsor: Representative Martin, J. L. of Eagle Lake

Title: An Act To Improve Employment Opportunities for Maine Workers in the Forest Industry

Comments: This bill would define bonded laborers, would curtail tree growth tax benefits for owners of land who allow bonded laborers to harvest on that land and further would impose on any such owner liability for full payment of the commercial forestry excise tax on any such land in excess of 500 acres.

LR: 2178

Sponsor: Representative Watson of Bath

Title: An Act To Avoid Unnecessary Removal of Land from the Tree Growth Tax Law Program

Comments: This bill would give landowners who fail to meet the filing deadline for recertification for participation in the tree growth tax program one year to comply while keeping the land enrolled. The bill would establish the tax payment for a one-year grace period according to fair market value and the landowner would pay the higher tax rate and a penalty for this grace period if the land is removed from the program.

PROPERTY TAX PROCEDURES MUNICIPALITIES

LR: 2181

Sponsor: Representative Cray of Palmyra

Title: An Act To Provide Notice to a Municipality when a Mobile Home Is Moved

Comments: This bill would require a municipality from which a mobile home is removed to notify the municipality to which the trailer home is to be moved.

TAXATION

REVENUE SERVICES BUREAU PROCEDURES

LR: 2085 Sponsor: Representative Flemings of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act To Increase Financial Assets of Maine Citizens by Allowing Split Tax Refunds

Comments: This bill would allow a recipient of a Maine income tax refund to request that the refund be sent to more than one account, as is done in other states.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2487 Senator Sullivan

LR: 2088 Sponsor: Representative Langley of Ellsworth

Title: An Act To Repeal Recent Changes to the Laws Governing Taxation

Comments: This bill would repeal the tax relief and tax reform changes enacted in the First Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2141 Senator Courtney

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2238 Representative Watson

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2239 Representative MacDonald

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2299 Representative Piotti

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2309 Senator Nass, R.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2371 Senator Bartlett

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2431 Senator Perry, J.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2497 Representative Hill

LR: 2299 Sponsor: Representative Piotti of Unity

Title: An Act To Adjust the Implementation of Possible Tax Changes

Comments: This bill would adjust the implementation schedule for the changes to the Maine tax code through the laws implementing tax reform, if the people's veto signature effort is approved by the Secretary of State and the question is placed on the June ballot. Currently, if the law is upheld at the ballot, the tax changes will begin mid-year, which would be difficult to implement. The bill will adjust the start dates and will be necessary only if the question is placed on the June ballot.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2088 Representative Langley

LR: 2300 Sponsor: Representative Piotti of Unity

Title: An Act To Modify the Maine Tax Code To Support Renewable Energy

Comments: This bill would adjust the method by which Maine communities assess taxes on new renewable energy projects in order to better benefit the region in which those projects are located.

TAXATION

SALES AND USE TAX EXEMPT ITEMS

LR: 2042

Sponsor: Senator Trahan of Lincoln

Title: An Act To Make Retroactive the Sales Tax Exemption for Meals Served to Residents of Retirement Facilities

Comments: This bill would make retroactive a sales tax exemption for meals served to residents of retirement facilities that was enacted in the tax reform law, Public Law 2009, chapter 382.

Closely Related CO: LD 1335

LR: 2141

Sponsor: Senator Courtney of York

Title: An Act To Repeal the Sales Tax on Automobile Repairs

Comments: This bill would repeal the sales tax on repairs to automobiles.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2088 Representative Langley

LR: 2287

Sponsor: Representative Cushing of Hampden

Title: An Act To Encourage Saving and Investing by Maine Citizens

Comments: This bill would exempt coins and bullion purchased for investment purposes from the sales tax.

LR: 2475

Sponsor: Senator Mills, P. of Somerset

Title: An Act To Exempt from the Sales and Use Tax Products Used in Dairy Farming

Comments: This bill would exempt all supplies and repair parts used in the process of milking cows from the sales and use tax.

LR: 2495

Sponsor: Senator Mills, P. of Somerset

Title: An Act To Exempt from Sales Tax Rafting Trips on the Kennebec River, Penobscot River and Dead River

Comments: This bill would exempt from sales tax rafting trips on the Kennebec River, Penobscot River and Dead River.

TAXATION

SALES AND USE TAX ITEMS TAXED

LR: 2176

Sponsor: Representative Watson of Bath

Title: An Act To Provide Tax Relief

Comments: This bill would impose a sales tax on public and private golf courses, bowling alleys and ski lift tickets. This bill would also grant an exemption to ski areas for the purchase of water and power necessary for snowmaking.

LR: 2371

Sponsor: Senator Bartlett of Cumberland

Title: An Act Regarding the Tax on Candy

Comments: If the people's veto petition filed with respect to the tax reform law is determined to be invalid by the Secretary of State, this bill would reverse the changes made to the taxation of candy by that law.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2088 Representative Langley

SALES AND USE TAX LOCAL OPTION

LR: 2472

Sponsor: Representative Lovejoy of Portland

Title: An Act To Create an Optional Local Sales Tax To Support Education

Comments: This bill would allow a county to set an optional county sales tax up to 1% for kindergarten to grade 12 education funding.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1381

Closely Related CO: LD 1253

SALES AND USE TAX MEALS AND LODGING

LR: 2497

Sponsor: Representative Hill of York

Title: An Act To Exempt from the Increased Lodging Tax Group Lodging Contracts That Were Entered into before June 13, 2009

Comments: This bill would exempt from the increased lodging tax group lodging contracts that were entered into before June 13, 2009.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2088 Representative Langley

TRANSPORTATION

GENERAL HIGHWAY FUND TRANSFERS

LR: 2132

Sponsor: Senator Gooley of Franklin

Title: An Act To Transfer Funding for Certain Expenditures That Are Not Related to Transportation from the Highway Fund to the General Fund

Comments: This bill would transfer funding for certain expenditures that are not related to transportation, such as expenditures related to the Office of the Secretary of State and the Department of Public Safety, from the Highway Fund to the General Fund.

LR: 2424

Sponsor: Representative Browne of Vassalboro

Title: An Act To Designate Funds from the Highway Fund to the Highway and Bridge Light Capital Program

Comments: This bill would designate a certain portion of the Highway Fund money to the Highway and Bridge Light Capital program to be used for maintenance service treatment.

MOTOR CARRIERS SAFETY

LR: 2188

Sponsor: Representative Crockett, P. of Augusta

Title: An Act To Allow the State To Receive Full Funding under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing motor carriers to achieve compatibility with federal Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program regulations in order to allow the State to receive full funding under the program. The State currently receives 50% funding under the program.

MOTOR VEHICLES INSPECTION

LR: 2313

Sponsor: Senator Bowman of York

Title: An Act To Expand Enhanced Automobile Emissions Inspections throughout the State

Comments: This bill would require that the enhanced automobile emissions inspections in place in Cumberland County be applied statewide.

TRANSPORTATION

MOTORCYCLES PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR

LR: 2057

Sponsor: Representative Beaudoin of Biddeford

Title: An Act Concerning Motorcyclist Safety

Comments: This bill would require that a motorcyclist who has had a motorcycle operator license for fewer than 10 years wear a protective helmet.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 453

NAVIGATION FERRIES

LR: 2051

Sponsor: Representative Blodgett of Augusta

Title: An Act To Ensure Access to Ferries for Persons with Physical Limitations

Comments: This bill would require that all ferries in the State have wheelchairs available for persons with physical limitations.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PUBLIC PRIVATE FUNDING

LR: 2033

Sponsor: Representative MacDonald of Boothbay

Title: An Act To Stimulate the Maine Economy and Promote the Development of Maine's Priority Transportation Infrastructure Needs

Comments: This bill would allow the Department of Transportation to receive or solicit proposals and enter into agreements with private entities or consortia for the building, operation, ownership, leasing or financing of certain transportation projects as set forth in Public Law 2007, chapter 470.

RAILROADS SAFETY

LR: 2035

Sponsor: Representative Fitts of Pittsfield

Title: An Act To Impose Service Requirements on Railroads That Receive Funds from the Department of Transportation

Comments: This bill would require that any railroad receiving funds from the State demonstrate and meet certain service requirements or pay a penalty for failure to meet those service requirements.

TRANSPORTATION

ROADS

MAINTENANCE

LR: 2279

Sponsor: Senator Courtney of York

Title: An Act To Dedicate Surplus Transportation Funds to Highway Maintenance and Paving

Comments: This bill would require that any additional revenues over the amount budgeted in the Highway Fund budget be dedicated solely to maintenance and paving.

LR: 2388

Sponsor: Representative Fletcher of Winslow

Title: An Act To Support the Paving and Maintenance of Maine's Highways

Comments: This bill would require that 15% of the annual fuel tax revenues be dedicated to the maintenance and paving of highways.

LR: 2442

Sponsor: Representative Piotti of Unity

Title: An Act To Improve Safety and Reduce Maintenance Costs on Maine Highways

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Transportation to develop rules requiring through-truck traffic to use federally maintained roads rather than state-maintained roads.

ROADS

NAMING

LR: 2077

Sponsor: Senator Gooley of Franklin

Title: Resolve, To Name Route 27 from Kingfield to Stratton the Caleb Dalton Stevens Memorial Highway

Comments: This resolve would name Route 27 from Kingfield to Stratton the Caleb Dalton Stevens Memorial Highway.

TRANSPORTATION

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS CELL PHONE USE

LR: 2056 Sponsor: Representative Beaudoin of Biddeford

Title: An Act To Prohibit Text Messaging while Driving

Comments: This bill would expand the distracted driver law to specifically prohibit text messaging while operating a motor vehicle.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2058 Representative Rotundo

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2098 Representative Van Wie

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2100 Representative Eves

LR: 2058 Sponsor: Representative Rotundo of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Prohibit Texting While Driving

Comments: This bill would prohibit texting while driving.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2056 Representative Beaudoin

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2098 Representative Van Wie

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2100 Representative Eves

LR: 2098 Sponsor: Representative Van Wie of New Gloucester

Title: An Act To Define Texting or Keyboarding while Operating a Motor Vehicle as a Reckless Act

Comments: This bill would define texting or keyboarding while operating a motor vehicle as a reckless act and would impose penalties similar to those provided under the laws governing operating a vehicle under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2056 Representative Beaudoin

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2058 Representative Rotundo

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2100 Representative Eves

LR: 2100 Sponsor: Representative Eves of North Berwick

Title: An Act To Prohibit Texting while Operating a Motor Vehicle

Comments: This bill would prohibit texting while operating a motor vehicle.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2056 Representative Beaudoin

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2058 Representative Rotundo

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2098 Representative Van Wie

TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION DEPT
ADMINISTRATION

LR: 2144

Sponsor: Senator Smith, D. of Piscataquis

Title: Resolve, Requiring the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability
To Look at the Structure and Management of the Department of Transportation

Comments: This resolve would require the Office of Program Evaluation and Government
Accountability to look at the structure and management of the Department of
Transportation and make recommendations for reducing the size and the cost of the
department.

TRANSPORTATION

**TRANSPORTATION DISTRICTS
PLANNING**

LR: 2145

Sponsor: Senator Smith, D. of Piscataquis

Title: An Act To Establish a Rural Highway Authority

Comments: This bill would establish a rural highway authority and create a 5-person advisory board to look at rural transportation needs and make recommendations for the use of money to repair roads.

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

ELECTRIC UTILITIES PLANNING

LR: 2419

Sponsor: Representative Russell of Portland

Title: An Act To Establish a Smart Electric Grid in the State

Comments: This bill would establish a smart electric grid to modernize the State's electricity transmission and distribution system to maintain a reliable, secure and cost-effective infrastructure that can meet future demand growth.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2434 Representative Russell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2458 Representative Hinck

LR: 2434

Sponsor: Representative Russell of Portland

Title: An Act To Establish a New Electric Utility To Create a Smart Electric Grid in the State

Comments: This bill would establish a new electric utility to create a smart electric grid in the State.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2419 Representative Russell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2458 Representative Hinck

LR: 2458

Sponsor: Representative Hinck of Portland

Title: An Act To Create a Smart Grid in the State

Comments: This bill would establish a state policy on smart grid infrastructure. It would establish a state policy to transition Maine's energy infrastructure to a smart grid by 2012. The bill would provide a ranked set of resource preferences for reducing energy consumption and lowering costs to consumers. The bill would require state agencies to advocate for this policy and require the Public Utilities Commission to ensure applicable standards are met.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2419 Representative Russell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2434 Representative Russell

ELECTRIC UTILITIES RATES

LR: 2423

Sponsor: Senator Smith, D. of Piscataquis

Title: Resolve, To Direct the Public Utilities Commission To Report the Electric Rate Impact of Climate Change Regulations

Comments: This resolve would direct the Public Utilities Commission to report quarterly the electric rate impact of climate change regulations, such as the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

ENERGY PLANNING

LR: 2090 Sponsor: Representative Innes of Yarmouth

Title: An Act To Lower Municipal Energy Costs by the Formation of Municipal Energy Committees

Comments: This bill would facilitate the formation of municipal energy committees to develop local "smart energy" and sustainability plans.

LR: 2446 Sponsor: Representative Martin, J. L. of Eagle Lake

Title: An Act To Ensure That Maine's Energy Corridor Policy Does Not Harm Maine's Renewable Power

Comments: This bill would extend the reporting deadline of the Commission to Study Energy Infrastructure to May 1, 2010 and authorize the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters to submit a bill to the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature. It would require the commission to include findings regarding renewable energy, economic effects and impact on consumers as well as give preference to energy project development in the State.

LR: 2473 Sponsor: Senator Mills, P. of Somerset

Title: An Act To Establish a Commission To Approve Energy Corridor Designations in Accordance with Criteria Beneficial to the People of Maine

Comments: This bill would establish a corridor commission with 2 members of the Public Utilities Commission, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and the Director of the State Planning Office to approve future projects based on 3 priorities.

LR: 2478 Sponsor: Representative Berry of Bowdoinham

Title: An Act To Enhance Maine's Clean Energy Opportunities

Comments: This bill would include in the Efficiency Maine Trust's triennial plan the investigation of the national and regional carbon market and consider the appropriate participation of the State. The bill would also require the Public Utilities Commission to purchase all cost-effective energy-efficient supply made available through the Efficiency Maine Trust as part of standard-offer purchases.

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

TELECOMMUNICATIONS BROADBAND SERVICES

LR: 2045

Sponsor: Representative Peterson of Rumford

Title: An Act To Maintain Internet Access for Maine Citizens and Businesses

Comments: This bill would continue to authorize Internet services pricing to be based exclusively on market competition as long as pricing for these services is based on a unitary scheme, such as a monthly fee for specified bandwidth. If, however, an internet service provider chooses to alter the pricing structure to a metered fee based on utilization within that bandwidth, that pricing would be subject to review and approval by the Public Utilities Commission and would require the filing of a rate case with full disclosure of the attendant costs, margins and reasons for the pricing changes, and would allow the Public Advocate to intervene on behalf of Maine consumers.

LR: 2173

Sponsor: Representative Flaherty of Scarborough

Title: An Act To Establish a Broadband Policy for Maine

Comments: This bill would make affordable internet service available to all residents and businesses in the State by maximizing sustainable private investment in broadband infrastructure.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS CELLULAR PHONES

LR: 2148

Sponsor: Representative Martin, J.R. of Orono

Title: An Act To Allow a Person To Change Cell Phone Service Providers after the First Term of a Contract

Comments: This bill would allow a consumer to choose another service provider and keep the technology that was purchased from a previous service provider after the first term of a contract, if the first service provider does not meet the consumer's needs.

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

UTILITY DISTRICTS CHARTER CHANGES

LR: 2153 Sponsor: Representative Martin, J. L. of Eagle Lake

Title: An Act To Raise the Indebtedness Limit of the Eagle Lake Water and Sewer District

Comments: This bill would raise the indebtedness limit of the Eagle Lake Water and Sewer District from \$2,500,000 to \$3,500,000.

LR: 2184 Sponsor: Representative Thomas of Ripley

Title: An Act To Amend the Charter of the Dexter Utility District

Comments: This bill would amend the charter of the Dexter Utility District to allow the district to disconnect a customer's water service if that customer fails to pay for sewer service.

LR: 2255 Sponsor: Representative Hayes of Buckfield

Title: An Act To Amend the Charter of the Buckfield Village Corporation

Comments: This bill would revise and update the charter of the Buckfield Village Corporation.

LR: 2293 Sponsor: Representative Tardy of Newport

Title: An Act To Amend the Charter of the Corinna Water District

Comments: This bill would amend the charter of the Corinna Water District to permit trustees to be elected in the same manner as other town officials.

LR: 2390 Sponsor: Representative Edgecomb of Caribou

Title: An Act To Amend the Charter of the Caribou Water District

Comments: This bill would amend the charter of the Caribou Water District to make changes necessary for the operation of the Caribou Water District.

UTILITY DISTRICTS FEES

LR: 2252 Sponsor: Representative Fitts of Pittsfield

Title: An Act To Streamline Collections for Consumer-owned Consolidated Water and Wastewater Utilities

Comments: This bill would allow consumer-owned consolidated utilities to disconnect water service for nonpayment of sewer charges.

PART 3

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION SYSTEM - APPROVED CARRY OVER REQUESTS

RPT: SPEC06

As of Monday, June 15, 2009

124 Legislature

Committee Name	Title	Sponsors	Date Approved/Action
Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry			
LD: 628	An Act To Allocate Prospective Federal Funding To Support Maine's Dairy Industry	MCCABE MILLS P	5/18/2009
LD: 687	Resolve, To Authorize the Department of Conservation To Place Priority on Access to Certain Prominent Water Bodies under the Land for Maine's Future Fund	MILLS P PINKHAM	5/18/2009
LD: 1182	An Act To Prevent Price Gouging in the Sale of Milk	MILLS P	6/2/2009
LD: 1238	An Act Concerning the National Animal Identification System	HAMPER SHERMAN	5/18/2009
LD: 1239	An Act To Establish a Revenue Source for the Maine Pesticide Education Fund	BLANCHARD SCHNEIDER	5/18/2009
Appropriations and Financial Affairs			
LD: 957	An Act To Establish a New Method of Determining the State Budget	JOY RAYE	6/4/2009
LD: 1387	An Act To Strengthen Maine's Financial Future in Perpetuity	PERRY J	6/4/2009
LD: 1481	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Energy Efficiency Investments for Maine's Future		6/12/2009
Business, Research and Economic Development			
LD: 1	An Act To Stimulate Capital Investment for Innovative Businesses in Maine	MILLS P	6/11/2009
LD: 91	An Act To Fund the Maine Downtown Center	WATSON GOODALL	6/12/2009

124 Legislature

Committee Name	Title	Sponsors	Date Approved/Action
Health and Human Services			
LD: 233	An Act To Include Independent Practice Dental Hygienists in MaineCare	JONES SULLIVAN	6/12/2009
LD: 624	Resolve, To Implement Certain Recommendations of the Report of the Governor's Task Force on Expanding Access to Oral Health Care for Maine People	STRANG BURGESS BRANNIGAN	5/18/2009
LD: 637	An Act To Ensure Services for Adults with Developmental Disabilities	CAIN SCHNEIDER	5/18/2009
LD: 701	An Act To Fund the Screening and Early Detection Elements of the Statewide Cancer Plan	STRANG BURGESS MARRACHE	6/12/2009
LD: 757	An Act To Improve the Transparency of Certain Hospitals	GOODE PERRY J	5/18/2009
LD: 821	An Act To Support Collection and Proper Disposal of Unwanted Drugs	PERRY A	5/18/2009
LD: 1262	An Act To Restrict Gifts to Health Care Practitioners from Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Manufacturers	TREAT	5/18/2009
LD: 1281	An Act To Increase the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Licensing Behavioral Health Care Providers	MILLS P	5/18/2009
LD: 1339	An Act To Improve Oversight of Pharmaceutical Purchasing	TREAT ALFOND	5/18/2009
LD: 1360	An Act To Allow Law Enforcement and Family Members To Petition the District Court To Initiate Assisted Outpatient Treatment	NUTTING J	5/18/2009
LD: 1364	An Act To Stimulate the Economy by Expanding Opportunities for Personal Assistance Workers	PETERSON ALFOND	5/18/2009
LD: 1408	An Act To Establish the Universal Childhood Immunization Program	CONNOR MARRACHE	5/18/2009
LD: 1464	An Act To Amend Licensing, Certification and Registration Requirements for Health Care Providers and Other Facilities	JONES	6/12/2009
Inland Fisheries and Wildlife			
LD: 807	An Act To Improve and Promote Maine's Landlocked Salmon Resources	DAMON	5/18/2009

124 Legislature

Committee Name	Title	Sponsors	Date Approved/Action
LD: 934	An Act To Clarify Public Sector Employee Fair Choice in Collective Bargaining	JACKSON BUTTERFIELD	5/18/2009
Legal and Veterans Affairs			
HP0107	Joint Order, To Amend the Joint Rules To Require Agreement with the Legislative Code of Ethics	CAREY	5/26/2009
LD: 56	An Act To Join the Interstate Compact on the National Popular Vote	MARTIN J L	6/11/2009
LD: 833	An Act To Distribute Funds Received from the Racino in Bangor to the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Substance Abuse	CAREY SULLIVAN	5/18/2009
LD: 1330	An Act Regarding Gaming by Charitable Organizations	BRYANT M BRYANT B	5/18/2009
LD: 1345	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Increase the Required Number of Signatures for a Direct Initiative or a People's Veto and To Limit a Direct Initiative to One Subject	CAMPBELL SULLIVAN	5/18/2009
LD: 1420	An Act To Alter the Distribution of Maine Clean Election Act Funding to Gubernatorial Candidates	CAREY	5/18/2009
LD: 1421	An Act To Ensure the Perpetual Care of Maine Veterans' Cemeteries	COTTA MITCHELL E	5/18/2009
LD: 1437	An Act To Permit Video Gaming for Money Conducted by Nonprofit Organizations	CRAVEN CORNELL DU HOUX	5/18/2009
Marine Resources			
LD: 932	An Act To Establish Area Management of Maine's Scallop Fishery	RAYE TILTON	5/18/2009
LD: 1331	An Act Regarding Saltwater Recreational Fishing	PERCY	6/12/2009
LD: 1432	An Act To Create a Saltwater Recreational Fishing Registry	TRAHAN MCKANE	6/11/2009
Natural Resources			
LD: 891	An Act To Amend the Site Location of Development Laws To Include Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions	GOODALL	5/18/2009

124 Legislature

Committee Name	Title	Sponsors	Date Approved/Action	
	LD: 1253	An Act To Establish a Local Option Sales Tax	CROCKETT P JACKSON	5/18/2009
	LD: 1273	An Act To Simplify the Application for Benefits under the Circuitbreaker Program	STUCKEY PERRY J	5/18/2009
	LD: 1279	An Act To Reduce Income Tax to 4.5% and Remove Low-income Families from Taxation	COURTNEY TARDY	6/2/2009
	LD: 1296	An Act To Strengthen the Job Creation Through Educational Opportunity Program	WATSON RAYE	6/2/2009
	LD: 1335	An Act To Exempt from the Sales Tax Meals Provided at Retirement Facilities	PERRY J CROCKETT P	6/12/2009
	LD: 1449	An Act To Expand Tax Incentives for Visual Media Productions	WATSON RECTOR	6/12/2009
Utilities and Energy				
	LD: 543	An Act Concerning the Allocation of Power Generated by GNE, LLC	CLARK H JACKSON	5/18/2009
	LD: 1222	An Act To Promote Geothermal Energy in the State	DIAMOND	5/18/2009
	LD: 1350	An Act To Establish the Maine Transmission Mitigation Trust Fund	MARTIN J L JACKSON	5/18/2009
	LD: 1430	An Act To Ensure Electric Capacity To Serve Maine Consumers	BOWMAN	5/18/2009
Total Carryovers Approved: 88				

PART 4

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Adams of Portland

LR: 2302

Title: An Act Regarding Ratio Utility Billing

Comments: This bill would prohibit the owners or managers of multiunit rental properties from billing current tenants based on the prorated costs associated with maintaining utilities in empty units in the building. The bill would instead require that tenants be charged for utilities based on the tenants' actual use.

LR: 2303

Title: Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission To Adopt Rules To Improve the Safety of Multiunit Rental Dwellings

Comments: This resolve would direct the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules to authorize utilities to notify the owners of multiunit rental dwellings when the utility for a particular rental unit is going to be shut off for nonpayment. This bill would ensure that certain tenant information remains confidential and would provide information to tenants about utility payment assistance programs.

LR: 2498

Title: An Act To Protect Maine's Integral and Historic Documents

Comments: This bill would require licensed auctioneers and antique dealers to report discovery of certain town, county and state documents with historic value to the State to allow the State to ascertain true ownership.

LR: 2499

Title: An Act To Strengthen the Community-based Renewable Energy Pilot Program

Comments: This bill would revise recently enacted legislation on feed-in tariffs and community-based energy generation facilities to correct some issues that have arisen.

LR: 2500

Title: An Act To Enhance the Independence of the Office of the Public Advocate

Comments: This bill would increase the term of office for the Public Advocate position from 4 years to 6 years beginning in 2013.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland

LR: 2251

Title: An Act To Increase Maine's High School Graduation Rate

Comments: This bill would require the State's graduation rate to be 90% by the year 2016. The bill would require the Department of Education and the State Board of Education to establish a stakeholders group to make recommendations and propose legislation related to: establishing guidelines for school suspensions and expulsions; the impact and implementation of zero-tolerance practices; current truancy laws to determine best practices for schools, families and youth; and raising the mandatory age of school attendance from 17 to 18 years of age. The stakeholders would report on their recommendations with proposed legislation to the 125th Legislature by January 2011.

LR: 2276

Title: An Act To Improve the Availability, Efficiency and Cost of Services for Infants, Young Children and Their Families

Comments: This bill would restructure the services available to infants and young children with developmental disabilities, including autism, and delays. The restructured services would include supports to the families of these young people. It aims to improve informed choices for families and improve the coordination of services among numerous agencies and state departments. The new structure would be streamlined to improve identification of need, ease of accessing services, improve outcomes for young children and their families and improve efficiency in the use of state funds.

LR: 2277

Title: An Act To Create Jobs and Stimulate Economic Development by Making Captive Insurers Eligible for Pine Tree Development Zone Benefits for 10 Years

Comments: This bill would make captive insurance companies located in the State eligible for Pine Tree Development Zone benefits for a 10-year period and provide for a 100% state income tax credit during that 10-year period.

LR: 2420

Title: An Act To Assist the University of Maine System To Achieve Its Core Mission

Comments: This bill would implement changes to the charter of the University of Maine System in order to help the university put into practice the recommendations of the so-called "Flanagan Commission" and to make other changes consistent with refocusing the University of Maine System on its core mission of education and research.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Bartlett of Cumberland

LR: 2055

Title: An Act To Allow Greater Use of the Ignition Interlock Device Program

Comments: This bill proposes to extend the authority of the Secretary of State regarding license suspensions and installation of ignition interlock devices.

LR: 2156

Title: An Act To Protect Maine Citizens' Credit

Comments: This bill would prohibit a person who provides medical treatment or a debt collection agency from furnishing information to a consumer reporting agency regarding an amount owed by a consumer whose income is below a certain level for the receipt of necessary medical treatment by the consumer or by a person to whom the consumer has a legal obligation to provide support. The Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Office of Consumer Credit Regulation would be given enforcement authority to investigate complaints.

LR: 2237

Title: An Act To Protect Individuals with Health Insurance from Catastrophic Risk

Comments: This bill would prohibit health plans covering residents of the State from including provisions that terminate payment of further claims after a defined aggregate amount of health care claims have been paid on behalf of an individual, family or group.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2481 Representative Berry

LR: 2370

Title: An Act To Amend the Electric Utility Industry Laws as They Relate to Renewable Resources

Comments: This bill would amend various definitions in the electric utility industry laws as they relate to renewable resources.

LR: 2371

Title: An Act Regarding the Tax on Candy

Comments: If the people's veto petition filed with respect to the tax reform law is determined to be invalid by the Secretary of State, this bill would reverse the changes made to the taxation of candy by that law.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2088 Representative Langley

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Beaudoin of Biddeford

LR: 2056

Title: An Act To Prohibit Text Messaging while Driving

Comments: This bill would expand the distracted driver law to specifically prohibit text messaging while operating a motor vehicle.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2058 Representative Rotundo

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2098 Representative Van Wie

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2100 Representative Eves

LR: 2057

Title: An Act Concerning Motorcyclist Safety

Comments: This bill would require that a motorcyclist who has had a motorcycle operator license for fewer than 10 years wear a protective helmet.

LR: 2120

Title: An Act To Require Full Disclosure by Insurance Carriers Using Credit Ratings

Comments: This bill would require insurance carriers that use credit ratings in their premium basis determination to disclose the effect of those credit ratings on the final determination of each policy applicant's premium.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Beck of Waterville

LR: 2060

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Educational Benefits for Veterans and Their Families

Comments: This bill would extend from 6 to 8 the number of academic years the child of a veteran may take to complete, tuition-free, 8 semesters or a baccalaureate degree, whichever occurs first.

LR: 2486

Title: Resolve, To Study Privacy Rights with Respect to the Job Application and Employment Process

Comments: The resolve would establish a commission to study what a prospective employer can ask a prospective employee.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Bliss of Cumberland

LR: 2304

Title: An Act To Clarify Licensing for Freestanding Event Halls

Comments: This bill would specifically authorize a freestanding event hall owned by a qualified caterer to purchase a liquor license in the same manner as a Class A restaurant.

LR: 2391

Title: An Act To Protect Maine Consumers

Comments: This bill would require vehicle reporting agencies to disclose information to the vehicle's owner upon request with proper identification about the value of the property.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Boland of Sanford

LR: 2212

Title: An Act To Create the Children's Wireless Protection Act

Comments: This bill would require warning labels on packaging for cellular telephones outlining the potential risks of exposure to children and pregnant women.

LR: 2460

Title: An Act To Ensure the Equitable Treatment of Maine's Workforce

Comments: This bill would prohibit an employer that fires an employee and later rehires that person at a lower wage from using the reason the person was originally fired in future disciplinary actions.

LR: 2483

Title: An Act To Ensure Patients Can Receive Estimates for the Cost of Treatments

Comments: This bill would require a doctor or hospital at the request of a patient to provide an estimate of the costs for treating that patient and the portion of those costs the patient will have to pay out-of-pocket.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Bowman of York

LR: 2249

Title: An Act To Require a Pharmacist To Provide Prior Notification or Obtain Consent from the Prescribing Physicians before Changing from One Formulation or Manufacturer to Another of an Antiepileptic Drug

Comments: This bill would require a pharmacist to provide prior notification and obtain consent from the prescribing physician if an antiepileptic drug is switched from one formulation or manufacturer to another if the drug is used to treat epilepsy.

LR: 2313

Title: An Act To Expand Enhanced Automobile Emissions Inspections throughout the State

Comments: This bill would require that the enhanced automobile emissions inspections in place in Cumberland County be applied statewide.

LR: 2323

Title: An Act To Allow the Town of Wells and the Town of Ogunquit To Amend the Terms of Their Cost-sharing Agreement for Their Community School District and To Provide Each Town the Ability To Withdraw from the Wells-Ogunquit Community School District

Comments: This bill would allow the Town of Wells and the Town of Ogunquit to amend the terms of their cost-sharing agreement for their community school district and to provide each town the ability to withdraw from the Wells-Ogunquit Community School District.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 475

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2106 Representative Miller

LR: 2464

Title: An Act To Enhance Relations between Delinquent Tenants and Property Owners

Comments: This bill would clarify the laws with regard to landlord rights when dealing with delinquent tenants.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Browne of Vassalboro

LR: 2284

Title: An Act To Clarify Service Animal Identification

Comments: This bill would clarify service animal identification.

LR: 2424

Title: An Act To Designate Funds from the Highway Fund to the Highway and Bridge Light
Capital Program

Comments: This bill would designate a certain portion of the Highway Fund money to the Highway
and Bridge Light Capital program to be used for maintenance service treatment.

Sponsor: Representative Bryant, M. of Windham

LR: 2177

Title: An Act To Establish a Process of Determining Camp Road Ownership

Comments: This bill would assist camp road associations in determining ownership of camp roads in order to repair and upgrade the roads so that the roads could become town-owned public roads.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Cain of Orono

LR: 2471

Title: An Act To Increase Transparency and Accountability and Assess the Impact of Tax Incentive Programs

Comments: This bill would provide a mechanism for Maine Revenue Services to improve data collection in the State's tax incentive programs to assess their impact over time to inform policy decisions.

LR: 2485

Title: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Require That Direct Initiatives Be Subject to Legislative Rules Regarding Process

Comments: This constitutional resolution would propose that the Constitution of Maine be amended to require that citizen initiatives be subject to the general legislative rules applied to other legislation, including fiscal notes.

Sponsor: Representative Cebra of Naples

LR: 2168

Title: An Act To Require an Independent Audit of the MaineCare System

Comments: This bill would require an independent audit of the MaineCare System.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Clark of Millinocket

LR: 2083

Title: Resolve, To Encourage Hunting by Reinstating Youth Hunting Day

Comments: This resolve would reinstitute youth hunting day, which designated the Saturday before the regular deer hunting season as a special hunting day for the youth of the State.

LR: 2414

Title: An Act Related to Distribution of Tagging Registration Fees

Comments: This bill would change the distribution of tagging registration fees to provide \$2 to the tagging station and \$3 to the State.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2291 Representative Schatz

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2385 Representative Beaulieu

LR: 2441

Title: An Act To Ensure Consistency in Rulemaking by the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission

Comments: The bill would require that all rules before the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission be considered major substantive rules.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Connor of Kennebunk

LR: 2073

Title: An Act to Require the State To Pay the Costs of School Administration Consolidation

Comments: This bill would require the State to pay by July 1, 2012 the cost of consolidation of any town or community that complied by June 2, 2009 with the laws governing the reorganization of school administrative units.

LR: 2357

Title: An Act To Create Access to Dental Care throughout the State

Comments: This bill proposes a \$7,000,000 bond for community dental care, to be awarded on a competitive basis. It provides that \$5,000,000 would be awarded for a community-based teaching clinic affiliated or operated by a college of dental medicine and \$2,000,000 to upgrade community-based health care clinics across the State to increase their capacity.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Cotta of China

LR: 2107

Title: An Act To Allow Issuing Pharmacies To Accept Unused Prescription Medications

Comments: This bill would allow a pharmacy to accept returned unused prescription medications that were provided at that pharmacy.

LR: 2108

Title: An Act To Register Bicycles and To Establish a Safety Course for Bicyclists

Comments: This bill would require that bicycles be registered and that a bicyclist must take a bicycle safety course.

Sponsor: Senator Craven of Androscoggin

LR: 2297

Title: An Act To Improve the Signature Collection Process for Citizen's Initiatives and People's Veto Petitions

Comments: This bill would require those companies that hire and pay signature gatherers for both citizen's initiatives and people's vetoes, and the workers that collect the signatures, to register with the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices before they can go out and gather the signatures. They must also pay a fee to cover the cost of processing the registrations.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2310 Senator Nutting, J.

Sponsor: Representative Crockett, J. of Bethel

LR: 2174

Title: An Act Regarding Lands Held in Trust for the Benefit of the Citizens of Bethel

Comments: This bill would facilitate the use of lands held in trust for the benefit of the citizens of Bethel. These lands were given to a municipal organization in Bethel pursuant to a deed of trust.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Crockett, P. of Augusta

LR: 2195

Title: An Act To Make Improvements to the Laws Governing the State Board of Corrections

Comments: This bill would permit counties to collect from the property tax levy an amount above the current caps in statute equal to the difference between the amount of state funds certified by the State Board of Corrections as necessary to continue operations in county jails and the amount actually appropriated by the Legislature when the latter amount is less than the former amount.

LR: 2197

Title: An Act Concerning Statewide Communications Interoperability

Comments: This bill would require that the statewide radio network under construction be available to other units of government without the need for other units of government to purchase new radios or that a portion of the proceeds of the bond issue paying for the statewide radio network be allocated to local units of government for the purchase of radio equipment necessary for them to communicate on the new network.

LR: 2253

Title: Resolve, To Promote Efficiency and To Streamline Access to the Maine Residents Property Tax Program for Seniors, People with Disabilities and Working Families with Low Incomes

Comments: This resolve directs Maine Revenue Services and the Department of Health and Human Services, office of integrated access and support to examine ways to increase administrative efficiencies and reduce the burden on applicants applying for the Maine Residents Property Tax Program by accessing information already available through the Department of Health and Human Services Automated Client Eligibility System. It also requires both departments to report their findings to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters by January 1, 2011.

LR: 2340

Title: Resolve, To Streamline State Vehicle Operations

Comments: This resolve requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services to study the feasibility of eliminating the central fleet of state-owned vehicles to achieve cost savings. The Bureau of General Services would be directed to report back to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs with its findings, including potential cost savings, in January 2011. The committee may report out legislation based on the report.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Curtis of Madison

LR: 2169

Title: An Act To Amend the Somerset County Budget Procedure

Comments: This bill would amend the procedure for adopting the Somerset County budget by allowing the budget to be increased, decreased or altered if new information were obtained during a public process. The budget must be approved by a majority vote of the budget committee at a meeting called for that purpose. The bill would also require that, if the county does not approve a new budget, it operate on an interim budget not to exceed the previous year's budget.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2171 Representative McCabe

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Damon of Hancock

LR: 2364

Title: An Act To Regulate the Use of Traffic Surveillance Cameras

Comments: This bill would prohibit the use of traffic surveillance cameras and add automated license plate recognition systems to the list of regulated surveillance technology.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2064 Representative Pilon

LR: 2365

Title: An Act To Eliminate the 3 Trap Limit off Hancock County

Comments: This bill would eliminate one area of the coast where people who fish for lobsters are presently limited to 3 traps per trawl.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Diamond of Cumberland

LR: 2417

Title: An Act To Amend the Law Pertaining to Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Comments: This bill would clarify when and where smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors must be used.

LR: 2422

Title: An Act To Establish a Sprinkler System Requirement in the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code

Comments: This bill would specify in the law governing the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code that a fire sprinkler system must be installed in all new one-family and 2-family dwellings in subdivisions of 5 or more homes without certain other fire protection methods.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Dostie of Sabattus

LR: 2036

Title: An Act To Allow Legislators To Be Paid on a Monthly Basis

Comments: This bill would allow a Legislator to be paid on a monthly basis.

LR: 2130

Title: An Act To Clarify the Laws Governing Freedom of Access to Information

Comments: This bill would clarify the laws governing freedom of access to information to specifically prohibit members of a school board, commission, agency or legislative body from using a series of communications of any kind to discuss, deliberate or take action on any item of business.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Duchesne of Hudson

LR: 2246

Title: An Act To Reduce Human Exposure to "Deca" Brominated Flame Retardants

Comments: This bill would phase out the use of polybrominated diphenyl ethers in pallets, similar to current law, which phases out the use of that substance in mattresses, furniture and electronics.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2182 Speaker Pingree

LR: 2278

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Adopt Rules Clarifying Fish Stocking Decisions

Comments: This resolve would direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to adopt major substantive rules clarifying fish stocking decisions in public waters. The rules must include a definition for "reasonable public access." This definition must include an assessment of the availability of publicly owned access points, the availability and suitability of privately owned, publicly accessible points, the resources contributed and responsibilities undertaken by local residents and associations, the threat of invasive species and the reasonableness and effectiveness of citizen-initiated programs to prevent the spread of invasive species, including the availability of boat-washing systems at launch ramps, on-site volunteer monitoring efforts and supervised gate systems.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Edgecomb of Caribou

LR: 2390

Title: An Act To Amend the Charter of the Caribou Water District

Comments: This bill would amend the charter of the Caribou Water District to make changes necessary for the operation of the Caribou Water District.

Sponsor: Representative Finch of Fairfield

LR: 2242

Title: An Act To Make Certain MaineCare Rules Adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services Major Substantive Rules

Comments: This bill would require that any rules adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services that apply to MaineCare or Medicaid and affect funds received by school administrative units be major substantive rules and not routine technical rules.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Fitts of Pittsfield

LR: 2466

Title: An Act To Protect Universal Service

Comments: This bill would prohibit an instrumentality or agency of the State from providing telecommunications service or information service to any person other than itself or its tenants and from procuring such services in a manner that constrains or limits the alternative proposals that may be submitted to meet the instrumentality's or agency's needs. This bill also would recognize a private right of action in Superior Court for injunctive relief against and damages ensuing from such unlawful competition. This bill also would remove the unfair competitive advantage allowed to the University of Maine in locating equipment on existing utility facilities.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2465 Representative Fletcher

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Flemings of Bar Harbor

LR: 2085

Title: An Act To Increase Financial Assets of Maine Citizens by Allowing Split Tax Refunds

Comments: This bill would allow a recipient of a Maine income tax refund to request that the refund be sent to more than one account, as is done in other states.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2487 Senator Sullivan

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Fossel of Alna

LR: 2342

Title: An Act To Establish an Insurance Fraud Division

Comments: This bill would establish the Insurance Fraud Division within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance. The bill requires insurers with knowledge or suspicion of fraudulent insurance acts to report those activities to the Bureau of Insurance. The bill provides for the confidentiality of records relating to insurance fraud investigations in a manner similar to the provision of confidentiality under current state law for investigative and intelligence information in the possession of other law enforcement entities. This bill does permit the Insurance Fraud Division to share investigatory information with certain national and international agencies. The bill also extends the immunity provision in current law to certain communications between insurers with respect to fraudulent insurance acts.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1285

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Giles of Belfast

LR: 2444

Title: An Act To Encourage Private Enterprise by Prohibiting the University of Maine from Economically Harming Private Enterprise

Comments: This bill would prohibit the University of Maine System from economically harming a private enterprise.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 598

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Goode of Bangor

LR: 2198

Title: Resolve, To Define High-risk Populations for the Purposes of Hospital Surveillance for Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus and To Implement Public Law 2009, chapter 346

Comments: This resolve would direct the Maine Quality Forum to adopt rules defining a high-risk population and to adopt rules requiring the reporting of positive methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus screening.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2493 Senator Mills, P.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Harlow of Portland

LR: 2104

Title: An Act To Waive the Tuition Charges of Any Postsecondary Educational Institution in the State for a Child of a Soldier Who Died or Is Disabled while on Active Duty

Comments: This bill would waive the tuition charges of any postsecondary educational institution in the State for a child of a soldier who died or is disabled while on active duty.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Hastings of Oxford

LR: 2166

Title: An Act To Prohibit Floating Barges on a Portion of the Saco River

Comments: This bill would prohibit floating barges on a portion of the Saco River.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Hill of York

LR: 2497

Title: An Act To Exempt from the Increased Lodging Tax Group Lodging Contracts That
Were Entered into before June 13, 2009

Comments: This bill would exempt from the increased lodging tax group lodging contracts that were
entered into before June 13, 2009.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2088 Representative Langley

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Hobbins of York

LR: 2072

Title: An Act To Strengthen the Laws against Illegal "Puppy Mill" Operators

Comments: This bill would strengthen the laws against operating an unlicensed kennel.

LR: 2312

Title: An Act To Restore the Laws Governing Operating under the Influence

Comments: Last session, the Legislature enacted Public Law 2009, chapter 447, "An Act Clarifying the Manner in Which a Person's Alcohol Level Is Determined under Maine Law." This bill would eliminate the changes made by that law and restore the law that existed prior to its enactment.

LR: 2369

Title: An Act Regarding Maine Public Employees Retirement System Life Insurance Policies

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing the payment of life insurance proceeds by the Maine Public Employees Retirement System in the case in which a person who dies has not named a beneficiary for a life insurance policy but has made a will.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Jackson of Aroostook

LR: 2087

Title: An Act To Protect Maine Workers

Comments: This bill would prevent a company from doing business in Maine for 5 years if that company has committed a major violation of the federal alien labor certification program.

LR: 2211

Title: An Act Regarding Accidental Death Benefits for Beneficiaries of Deceased Firefighters

Comments: This bill would provide an accidental death benefit to the beneficiary of a firefighter who dies from cardiovascular or pulmonary disease as described in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 39-A, section 328. This bill would apply only to municipal firefighters who are members of the Participating Local District Retirement Program administered by the Maine Public Employees Retirement System. This bill would provide an accidental death benefit and not a disability benefit to the beneficiary of the firefighter who died in the line of duty.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Johnson of Greenville

LR: 2348

Title: An Act To Stop Predatory Marketing Practices against Minors

Comments: This bill would define "minor" as a person under 16 years of age in the new law dealing with marketing and data collection practices.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2092 Senator Schneider

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2305 Senator Schneider

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2331 Representative Cleary

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Knapp of Gorham

LR: 2335

Title: An Act To Conserve Energy and Water

Comments: This bill would require a motel or hotel to offer a patron the option of not having their towels or sheets washed if they are staying more than one night.

LR: 2336

Title: An Act To Require That Lights in Hotels and Motels Are Turned on by Using Room Keys

Comments: This bill would require that lights in hotels and motels are turned on by using room keys.

LR: 2337

Title: An Act To Conserve Water

Comments: This bill would require bars, hotels and motels to have big flushes and small flushes in bathrooms to help conserve water.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Kruger of Thomaston

LR: 2361

Title: An Act To Create a Subzone for Lobstering around the Island of Matinicus

Comments: This bill would establish a subzone for lobstering around the island of Matinicus that would allow only current license holders to engage in lobstering around Matinicus.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Legg of Kennebunk

LR: 2063

Title: An Act To Update and Modernize Maine's Floodplain Mapping for Coastal Communities

Comments: This bill would provide funding to attract federal grant funding to update and modernize the State's floodplain maps. The bill would direct \$250,000 per year for 3 years in state funds to support topographical floodplain mapping.

LR: 2125

Title: An Act concerning the Use of Long-term Antibiotics for the Treatment of Lyme Disease

Comments: This bill would require coverage of long-term antibiotic therapy for patients with Lyme disease under individual and group health insurance. This bill would also provide protection from licensing disciplinary action for physicians prescribing, administering or dispensing long-term antibiotics to patients with Lyme disease.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Lovejoy of Portland

LR: 2040

Title: An Act To Provide Greater Transparency in State Budgeting

Comments: This bill would require state departments to provide the Legislature and appropriate policy committees information on account and fund balances and any unpaid obligations as of the end of each fiscal year. Departments would be required to provide a detailed accounting for all accounts that represent any balances carried forward from the end of the prior year. This bill would require departments to identify the carry forward balance of and provide information on expenditures from a dedicated revenue account.

LR: 2041

Title: An Act To Place Limits on the Amount of Money That May Be Carried Forward in a Dedicated Revenue Account

Comments: This bill would place limits on the amount of money that may be carried forward in a dedicated revenue account. It would require that balances above these limits be transferred to the General Fund.

LR: 2472

Title: An Act To Create an Optional Local Sales Tax To Support Education

Comments: This bill would allow a county to set an optional county sales tax up to 1% for kindergarten to grade 12 education funding.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 1253 and 1381

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Magnan of Stockton Springs

LR: 2075

Title: An Act To Authorize Municipal Officers To Resolve Road Naming Disputes

Comments: This bill would authorize municipal officers to make the final decision when there is a dispute in the naming of a town road, private way or private road for E-9-1-1 purposes.

LR: 2393

Title: Resolve, Relating to Indigent Legal Services

Comments: This resolve would require the Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court to appoint a committee to examine methods to increase funding for indigent legal services and report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters during the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

Sponsor: Senator Marrache of Kennebec

LR: 2443

Title: An Act To Protect University of Maine Students from Unnecessary Tuition Increases

Comments: This bill would require that the University of Maine System divest and monetize certain telecommunications service property and information service property.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Martin, J. L. of Eagle Lake

LR: 2446

Title: An Act To Ensure That Maine's Energy Corridor Policy Does Not Harm Maine's Renewable Power

Comments: This bill would extend the reporting deadline of the Commission to Study Energy Infrastructure to May 1, 2010 and authorize the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over utilities and energy matters to submit a bill to the First Regular Session of the 125th Legislature. It would require the commission to include findings regarding renewable energy, economic effects and impact on consumers as well as give preference to energy project development in the State.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Mazurek of Rockland

LR: 2081

Title: An Act To Allow Deer Hunting with Shotguns Only in Owls Head During Firearms Season

Comments: This bill would allow the hunting of deer with shotguns only in the Town of Owls Head and on Sheeps Island in Owls Head during the firearms season on deer.

LR: 2094

Title: An Act To Expand the Opportunity for Persons To Acquire Health Care Coverage under the State's "Mini-COBRA" Program

Comments: This bill would allow persons who have been permanently laid off to acquire health care coverage under the State's so-called "mini-COBRA" program.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan

LR: 2415

Title: An Act To Amend Maine's Law Relating to Motor Vehicle License Plates

Comments: This bill would require motor vehicles in the State to have only one license plate on the rear of the vehicle

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2070 Senator Plowman

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative McFadden of Dennysville

LR: 2194

Title: An Act To Remove the Requirement That the Annual Budget of a Regional School Unit Must Be Approved at a Budget Validation Referendum

Comments: This bill would remove the requirement that a referendum must be held in the regional school unit to allow the voters to validate or reject the total budget adopted at the regional school unit budget meeting.

Closely Related CO:LR 1059 LD 570

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2271 Representative Saviello

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2428 Senator Perry, J.

LR: 2343

Title: An Act To Establish a School of Practical Skills in Washington County

Comments: This bill would establish a school of practical skills in Washington County.

LR: 2382

Title: An Act Regarding the Acquisition of the Backscatter Radar Site in Washington County

Comments: This bill would require the State to address the Federal Government's request that the State acquire the Air Force's decommissioned Backscatter Radar site in Township 19 in Washington County for the benefit of the residents of that county.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative McLeod of Lee

LR: 2285

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

Comments: This bill would require persons observing a serious injury to report to emergency officials and create a cause of action against a person who fails to report as required.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD 1258

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Mills, P. of Somerset

LR: 2062

Title: An Act To Maximize Maine's Eligibility To Receive Grants from the Federal Race to the Top Fund

Comments: This bill would enact changes to the laws governing education that are necessary to maximize the State's eligibility for receiving competitive grants under the federal Race to the Top Fund, including, but not limited to, creating the conditions for education innovation and reform; implementing plans in education reform areas described in the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009; authorizing charter schools; and achieving significant improvement in student outcomes.

LR: 2473

Title: An Act To Establish a Commission To Approve Energy Corridor Designations in Accordance with Criteria Beneficial to the People of Maine

Comments: This bill would establish a corridor commission with 2 members of the Public Utilities Commission, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development and the Director of the State Planning Office to approve future projects based on 3 priorities.

LR: 2474

Title: An Act To Require That New Sources of Electrical Generation in the State Must Provide a Tangible Benefit to Maine Ratepayers in the Form of Discounts to Future Electrical Rates

Comments: This bill would require new sources of electrical generation to provide a tangible benefit in the form of discounts.

LR: 2475

Title: An Act To Exempt from the Sales and Use Tax Products Used in Dairy Farming

Comments: This bill would exempt all supplies and repair parts used in the process of milking cows from the sales and use tax.

LR: 2491

Title: An Act To Provide Uniform Rules for Smoking in or Near Establishments That Serve Alcohol

Comments: This bill would allow taverns and private clubs to permit patrons to take alcoholic beverages to outside smoking areas if service is not provided in those areas.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: President Mitchell, E. of Kennebec

LR: 2134

Title: An Act To Aid in the Prevention of the Spread of H1 N1 Influenza by Ensuring the Provision of Earned Paid Sick Time

Comments: This bill would require a large business employer to give 52 accrued paid sick hours per year to an employee and a small business employer to give 26 accrued paid sick hours per year to an employee. Earned paid sick time may be used by an employee during an absence from employment for illness of an employee or illness of an employee's family member, for accessing necessary preventative health care or if the employee or the employee's family member is a victim of stalking, domestic violence or sexual abuse.

LR: 2135

Title: An Act To Improve the Seed Capital Investment Tax Credit Program

Comments: This bill would address the current capital gap for early stage businesses seeking equity investment to grow and to create jobs in Maine by increasing the existing seed capital investment tax credit from 40% of an eligible investment to 60% to attract and encourage investors. In addition to increasing the tax credit from 40% to 60% uniformly across the State, the bill would eliminate the up-front credit for investors in certain venture capital funds, provide that the increased credit not have a revenue impact until calendar year 2011 and increase the total of authorized credits from the current \$30 million to \$50 million starting in 2012. It also would make the tax credit refundable in order to provide an incentive for out-of-state investors to invest in Maine businesses.

LR: 2179

Title: An Act To Provide Continued Protection of Benefits for Retirees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System

Comments: This bill would further protect retirees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System from the impact on retirement benefits of decreases in the Consumer Price Index. This bill would require that if the Consumer Price Index decreases for one or more years, adjustments in the subsequent year or years must result in cost neutrality.

LR: 2193

Title: An Act To Restore Longevity Pay

Comments: This bill would restore longevity pay for state workers.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Nass, R. of York

LR: 2309

Title: An Act To Reinstate Income Tax Indexing

Comments: This bill would repeal the provision of Public Law 2009, chapter 382 that suspends income tax indexing and reinstates income tax indexing.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2088 Representative Langley

LR: 2338

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing County Jail Budgeting for York County

Comments: This bill would amend the law governing county jail budgeting for York County to allow York County to use revenues from boarding prisoners to offset other county expenses, to alter the allocation for the county jail's contribution to the payroll for certain services and to require that the debt service for the county jail be paid out of the jail budget rather than the county budget.

LR: 2445

Title: An Act To Exempt Minor Activities from the Natural Resources Protection Act

Comments: This bill would exempt minor modifications to existing residential structures in coastal sand dune systems when the modification does not extend beyond the footprint covered by the existing building, there is an existing seawall seaward of the residential structure and the modification does not increase the building's total height to greater than 35 feet above the lowest natural elevation measured 5 feet from the corners of the existing building foundation or the elevation used by the municipality when determining compliance with local ordinances.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Nutting, J. of Androscoggin

LR: 2310

Title: An Act To Strengthen the Ballot Initiative Process

Comments: This bill would add a \$1,000 fine if a person is proven to have violated the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 21-A, section 904. The bill would also make it illegal for circulators who have been convicted of fraud or forgery to circulate petitions. The bill would require petition circulating companies to register with the State.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2297 Senator Craven

Sponsor: Representative Pendleton of Scarborough

LR: 2113

Title: An Act To Allow Immediate Family Members To Assist in Lobstering

Comments: This bill would exempt immediate family members from the restrictions currently in place limiting assistants for an owner-operator of a lobster fishing boat. It would also exempt from those restrictions assistants for a licensee with a disability under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Perry, A. of Calais

LR: 2097

Title: An Act To Ensure Grandparents' Rights to Children

Comments: This bill would specify that if a child has been left in the sole financial care and sole physical custody of a caregiver relative for at least 18 months and the court finds it to be in the best interest of the child to remain in that custody, the court shall order the child to remain in that custody.

LR: 2306

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

Comments: This bill would delete outdated language relating to delegated medical procedures that are already within the scope of certain advanced practice registered nurses.

LR: 2436

Title: An Act To Ensure Fairness in Penalties for Administrative Errors in the Long-term Care Assessment Process

Comments: This bill would require that for nursing homes and private nonmedical institutions, to the extent the Department of Health and Human Services establishes penalties or denies reimbursement when a facility is late or misses a deadline for obtaining an assessment of a resident's needs for service, the penalty must be limited to 20% of total reimbursement unless it is proven that the resident, if timely assessed, would not have been eligible for continuing services.

LR: 2437

Title: An Act Enabling Expedited Partner Therapy

Comments: This bill would allow a health care professional who diagnoses a patient with certain sexually transmitted diseases to provide expedited medical therapy to that patient's sexual partner for the treatment of the sexually transmitted disease without a physical examination if in the judgment of the health care professional the partner is unlikely or unable to be seen for comprehensive health care.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Peterson of Rumford

LR: 2045

Title: An Act To Maintain Internet Access for Maine Citizens and Businesses

Comments: This bill would continue to authorize Internet services pricing to be based exclusively on market competition as long as pricing for these services is based on a unitary scheme, such as a monthly fee for specified bandwidth. If, however, an internet service provider chooses to alter the pricing structure to a metered fee based on utilization within that bandwidth, that pricing would be subject to review and approval by the Public Utilities Commission and would require the filing of a rate case with full disclosure of the attendant costs, margins and reasons for the pricing changes, and would allow the Public Advocate to intervene on behalf of Maine consumers.

LR: 2054

Title: An Act To Clarify the Enforcement Role of the Mixed Martial Arts Authority of Maine

Comments: This bill would enhance and clarify the licensing and oversight authority of the Mixed Martial Arts Authority of Maine

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Pilon of Saco

LR: 2326

Title: An Act To Create a Cost-efficient Distribution System for Health Care

Comments: This bill would require the Superintendent of Insurance to establish an advisory panel made up of equal numbers of representatives of consumers, payors and providers to advise the superintendent on replacing Dirigo Health Insurance with a voucher system that allows eligible individuals to purchase insurance plans from any carrier offering a qualified plan. The voucher system must be designed to offer more affordable products, spread subsidies over more households, emphasize preventive care and disease management, improve population health, reduce costs in Maine's health care market and maximize federal initiatives.

LR: 2418

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the "We Support Our Troops" Registration Plates

Comments: This bill would clarify where in the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management proceeds from the sale of "We Support Our Troops" registration plates are to be deposited and specifies the authority of the We Support Our Troops Advisory Board with respect to the determination of the use of these proceeds.

Sponsor: Representative Pinkham of Lexington Township

LR: 2245

Title: Resolve, To Name the New Bridge over Gilman Stream in New Portland the Joshua Bernard Memorial Bridge

Comments: This resolve would name the new bridge over Gilman Stream in New Portland the Joshua Bernard Memorial Bridge.

Sponsor: Representative Piotti of Unity

LR: 2442

Title: An Act To Improve Safety and Reduce Maintenance Costs on Maine Highways

Comments: This bill would direct the Department of Transportation to develop rules requiring through-truck traffic to use federally maintained roads rather than state-maintained roads.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Pratt of Eddington

LR: 2281

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Groundwater

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing groundwater by recognizing it, like surface water, as a public trust and by applying the "reasonable use" rule regarding its use.

JR 217 Ruling Needed: LD's 837 and 1267

LR: 2282

Title: An Act To Prohibit Significant Groundwater Well Development on Public Lands

Comments: This bill would prohibit significant groundwater well development on public lands, including all commercial water extraction, but not affect current practices.

LR: 2283

Title: An Act To Restrict the Purchase by State Agencies of Bottled Water

Comments: This bill would prohibit all state agencies from purchasing bottled water without prior written authorization of the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services.

LR: 2355

Title: An Act To Streamline the Permitting Process for Muzzle-loading Permit Renewal

Comments: This bill would allow a person holding a muzzle-loading permit to renew the permit without complications if the permit holder has not committed a crime since the permit was last issued.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Raye of Washington

LR: 2133

Title: An Act To Establish the Maine Basketball Hall of Fame

Comments: This bill would establish the Maine Basketball Hall of Fame.

LR: 2439

Title: An Act To Preserve the "We Support Our Troops" Registration Plate

Comments: This bill would reduce the number of "We Support Our Troops" registration plates that must be outstanding to keep the registration plate from being retired.

LR: 2480

Title: An Act To Repeal the Fee Increase for Copies of Vital Records

Comments: This bill would repeal the 400% fee increase for copies of death and birth certificates and other documents kept by the Office of Vital Records within the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Office of Health Data and Program Management.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Rosen, R. of Hancock

LR: 2170

Title: An Act To Amend Laws Relating to Persons Serving as Permanency Guardians

Comments: This bill would amend the law relating to persons serving as permanency guardians to clarify that the new thresholds that were enacted by Public Law 2007, chapter 284 apply to everyone.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Russell of Portland

LR: 2419

Title: An Act To Establish a Smart Electric Grid in the State

Comments: This bill would establish a smart electric grid to modernize the State's electricity transmission and distribution system to maintain a reliable, secure and cost-effective infrastructure that can meet future demand growth.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2434 Representative Russell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2458 Representative Hinck

LR: 2433

Title: An Act To Regulate Ultra-high-voltage Transmission Lines

Comments: This bill would define "ultra-high-voltage transmission line" in the site location of development laws. The bill would also require that all ultra-high-voltage transmission lines must be buried in a manner that is consistent with federal, state and local electric codes and building standards.

LR: 2434

Title: An Act To Establish a New Electric Utility To Create a Smart Electric Grid in the State

Comments: This bill would establish a new electric utility to create a smart electric grid in the State.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2419 Representative Russell

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2458 Representative Hinck

LR: 2440

Title: An Act To Ensure Existing Solar Collectors Are Not Shaded from the Sun

Comments: This bill would prohibit a person from growing trees or shrubs or erecting a structure that would block an existing solar collector from the sun.

LR: 2462

Title: An Act To Exempt Certain Businesses from the Alcohol Taste-testing Laws

Comments: This bill would exempt any Maine-based businesses that employ fewer than 50 people from the recently enacted alcohol taste-testing requirements.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2066 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2192 Representative Fitts

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2205 Senator Plowman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2236 Representative Welsh

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2244 Senator Goodall

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2308 Representative Tuttle

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Saviello of Wilton

LR: 2269

Title: Resolve, To Give Linwood Wright His Bachelor's Degree in Forestry from the University of Maine

Comments: This bill would allow an 84-year-old veteran in poor health to receive a bachelor's degree in forestry from the University of Maine. Mr. Wright left the University of Maine in 1948 in his junior year to fly 129 missions in the Berlin Airlift and remained in military service until his retirement.

LR: 2270

Title: An Act To Extend the Maternal and Infant Death Review Panel

Comments: The maternal and infant death review panel established under the Department of Health and Human Services is currently scheduled to end January 1, 2011. This bill would extend the date of the panel's repeal to January 1, 2016 to give the panel time to complete its work.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2329 Senator Marrache

LR: 2271

Title: An Act To Form a Western Maine Regional School Unit

Comments: This bill would authorize the Commissioner of Education to allow the formation of a regional school unit to include Maine School Administrative District No. 58, Copeland Plantation, Highland Plantation and those unorganized territories with students that currently attend Maine School Administrative District No. 58.

Closely Related CO:LR 1059 LD 570

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2194 Representative McFadden

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2428 Senator Perry, J.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Schatz of Blue Hill

LR: 2292

Title: An Act To Reduce the Required Setback in a Resource Protection Zone from 250 Feet to 100 Feet

Comments: This bill would reduce the required setback in a resource protection zone from 250 feet to 100 feet.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2206 Representative McKane

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Schneider of Penobscot

LR: 2324

Title: An Act To Provide the Finance Authority of Maine with Flexible Health Care Options

Comments: This bill would include employees of the Finance Authority of Maine as those eligible to participate in the State Health Plan.

LR: 2325

Title: Resolve, To Ensure Consistency in the Scheduled Expiration of Terms of the Board Members of the Finance Authority of Maine

Comments: This resolve would amend the terms of membership of 3 members of the board of directors of the Finance Authority of Maine to ensure that the terms of the board members are staggered.

LR: 2430

Title: An Act To Improve Health Insurance Security

Comments: This bill would allow a person that worked for the State for 5 years and leaves state employment to purchase health insurance through the state plan. The person would have to pay 100% of the cost.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Sherman of Aroostook

LR: 2234

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Review the Fiscal Impact on the State of the Closure of the Railroad Track between Madawaska and Millinocket

Comments: This resolve would direct the Department of Transportation to review the fiscal impact on the State of the proposed closure of the railroad track between Madawaska and Millinocket and report its findings to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.

LR: 2250

Title: An Act To Amend the Law Governing Sales Tax Exemptions for Certain Nonprofit Youth Organizations

Comments: This bill would expand application of the sales tax exemption for nonprofit youth organizations whose primary purpose is to provide athletic instruction to also include nonprofit youth organizations that provide artistic instruction in nonresidential settings.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Smith, D. of Piscataquis

LR: 2143

Title: An Act To Require That Elected County Treasurers Be Qualified in Business Administration and Finance Matters

Comments: This bill would require that elected county treasurers be qualified in matters of business administration and finance.

LR: 2144

Title: Resolve, Requiring the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability To Look at the Structure and Management of the Department of Transportation

Comments: This resolve would require the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability to look at the structure and management of the Department of Transportation and make recommendations for reducing the size and the cost of the department.

LR: 2145

Title: An Act To Establish a Rural Highway Authority

Comments: This bill would establish a rural highway authority and create a 5-person advisory board to look at rural transportation needs and make recommendations for the use of money to repair roads.

LR: 2159

Title: An Act To Repeal the Laws Requiring the Coordination of State and County Correctional Services

Comments: This bill would repeal the laws requiring the coordination of state and county correctional services.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2164 Senator Trahan

LR: 2160

Title: An Act To Conduct a Maine Management and Cost Survey

Comments: This bill would require a study and analysis of the offices, departments, boards, commissions and other agencies of the State and of the functions of State Government to ascertain the manner in which services of the State may be offered in the most efficient, expeditious and economical manner.

Sponsor: Representative Smith, N. of Monmouth

LR: 2457

Title: An Act To Establish an Office of Administrative Law Judges for Licensing Boards

Comments: This bill would establish an independent office of administrative law judges to decide cases related to licensing complaints from licensing boards under the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation.

Sponsor: Representative Stevens of Bangor

LR: 2139

Title: An Act To Amend the Housing Exceptions in the Maine Human Rights Act

Comments: This bill would amend the Maine Human Rights Act to make the owner-occupied dwellings exceptions inapplicable to the prohibitions of the Act against discriminatory advertising.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Sullivan of York

LR: 2053

Title: An Act To Reduce Noise Caused by Motorcycles and Improve Public Health

Comments: This bill would prohibit a person from operating a motorcycle manufactured after December 31, 1982 unless it is equipped with an exhaust system or muffler that bears a federal Environmental Protection Agency stamp or label.

LR: 2368

Title: An Act To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Represent the Child in All Proceedings on Protection from Abuse Orders Involving a Child

Comments: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to represent the child in all proceedings on protection from abuse orders involving a child.

LR: 2487

Title: An Act To Allow the Direct Deposit of an Income Tax Refund into a Maximum of 3 Checking or Savings Accounts

Comments: This bill would allow a taxpayer to direct the deposit of an income tax refund into a maximum of 3 checking or savings accounts at a financial institution.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2085 Representative Flemings

LR: 2488

Title: An Act To Encourage Personal Savings

Comments: This bill would create a working group of community organizations, financial institutions, state agencies and Legislators to develop strategies to get low-income people involved in the mainstream banking system and away from check-cashing and payday lending establishments.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2358 Senator Simpson

LR: 2489

Title: An Act To Allow a Maine-chartered Financial Institution To Conduct a Savings Promotion Raffle

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing raffles to allow any Maine-chartered financial institution, a bank or credit union, to conduct a "savings promotion raffle." The sole consideration required for a chance of winning the designated prizes in the raffle would be the deposit of at least a specified amount of money into a savings account or other savings program offered by the Maine-chartered financial institution.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Sykes of Harrison

LR: 2186

Title: An Act To Require That All Rules Adopted by the Bureau of Labor Standards
Concerning Fire and Rescue Issues Benefit from Legislative Review

Comments: This bill would specify that all rules adopted by the Department of Labor, Bureau of
Labor Standards concerning fire and rescue issues are major substantive rules.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Theriault of Madawaska

LR: 2076

Title: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Purchase and Upgrade Trackage of the Montreal, Maine and Atlantic Railway, Ltd.

Comments: This bill would allow a general fund bond issue for the purchase and upgrade of trackage of the Montreal, Maine and Atlantic Railway, Ltd. to maintain service to towns in the northern part of the State.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Thomas of Ripley

LR: 2121

Title: An Act To Encourage Tourism by Ensuring the Safety, Accessibility and Availability of Highway Rest Stops and Scenic Overlooks

Comments: This bill would require that the rest stops on Interstate 95 located in Pittsfield and Sidney be reopened. This bill would also prohibit loitering at rest stops and require winter plowing of the scenic overlook on Interstate 95 that overlooks Mount Katahdin.

LR: 2123

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Install a Flashing Stop Light at the Intersection of Route 201 and Route 43 in Madison

Comments: This resolve would direct the Department of Transportation to install a flashing stop light at the intersection of Route 201 and Route 43 in Madison.

LR: 2136

Title: An Act To Prohibit Mandatory Vaccinations

Comments: This bill would prohibit mandatory vaccinations, except for vaccinations for school-age children attending school.

LR: 2137

Title: An Act To Allow Members of a Road Association To Appeal an Assessment Made by the Association to the Local Appeals Board

Comments: This bill would allow a member or an affected nonmember to appeal any assessment made by a private road association to the local appeals board.

LR: 2140

Title: An Act To Authorize School Bus Driver Trainees To Use Flashing Lights during Training

Comments: This bill would authorize school bus driver trainees to use flashing lights during their training.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Tilton of Harrington

LR: 2373

Title: An Act To Discourage Drunk Driving

Comments: The bill would require a more intensive and standardized curriculum and test for determining if a person is drunk.

LR: 2374

Title: An Act To Clarify Retirement Benefits

Comments: This bill would clarify the service time for Bayley Grant as it pertains to retirement benefits.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Trahan of Lincoln

LR: 2131

Title: An Act To Reform Maine's Referendum Process

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing petitions for the direct initiative of legislation and people's veto petitions. This bill would:

1. Require the Secretary of State's office, rather than municipal clerks, to verify voter signatures;
2. Establish a 4-member nonpartisan citizen panel to review the titles of citizen-initiated petitions for fairness and clarity;
3. Require, when the Secretary of State is requested to provide an updated number of signatures gathered, that all interested parties be provided that data, along with the name of the requesting party;
4. Require that the first item on a people's veto petition be a summary of the bill that is provided to the Legislature by the nonpartisan legislative offices;
5. Eliminate the requirement that the ballot must include information regarding the cost associated with a people's veto or direct initiative of legislation; and
6. Require that Legislators and political parties who promote the passage or defeat of a people's veto or direct initiative of legislation register with the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices and report any amounts spent for that effort.

LR: 2164

Title: An Act To Repeal the Laws Governing the Coordination of State and County Correctional Services

Comments: This bill would repeal the laws requiring the coordination of state and county correctional services.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2159 Senator Smith, D.

LR: 2208

Title: An Act To Establish Emergency Zones

Comments: This bill would designate an area where emergency personnel are assisting an injured person as an emergency zone and would add that area to the list of mandatory reduced speed zones, such as construction zones.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Treat of Hallowell

LR: 2048

Title: An Act To Clarify the Application of Certain Statutory Requirements to Foreclosures

Comments: This bill would clarify that the changes in the notice period for cure of defaults of mortgages applies to all mortgage lenders. The bill would also make changes to Public Law 2009, chapter 402 recommended by the Judicial Department.

LR: 2199

Title: An Act To Maintain Compliance of Maine's Insurance Laws with National Standards

Comments: This bill would make changes to conform Maine's insurance laws to new national standards related to accreditation of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. The bill would require all health insurers to submit a qualified actuarial opinion on claims reserves and establish a separate license category for crop insurance adjusters. The bill also would make other clarifying changes related to audits and holding companies.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2247 Senator Bowman

LR: 2328

Title: Resolve, To Protect Information Maintained by Registries

Comments: This resolve would direct the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary to review a recent Superior Court decision related to public access to information maintained by registries of deeds and report recommended legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature by February 15, 2009.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Tuttle of Sanford

LR: 2043

Title: An Act To Reinstate a System of Parole and To Implement a Program Designed To Reintegrate Former Prisoners into the Community

Comments: This bill would reinstate a system of parole, direct the Department of Corrections to examine the issue of aging prisoners and implement a program designed to reintegrate former prisoners into the community.

LR: 2308

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Alcohol Taste-testing Activities

Comments: This bill would amend the laws governing alcohol taste-testing activities.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2066 Representative Webster

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2192 Representative Fitts

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2205 Senator Plowman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2236 Representative Welsh

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2244 Senator Goodall

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2462 Representative Russell

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Wagner of Lyman

LR: 2241

Title: Resolve, To Adjust the State Educational Funding Assistance Formula

Comments: This resolve would direct the Department of Education to use the most recent 2006 labor market areas data from the United States Department of Labor to compute funding for essential programs and services instead of the 2003 data now in use.

Closely Related CO:LR 1058 LD 551

LR: 2363

Title: An Act To Adjust Eligibility for Grants through the Efficiency Maine Trust

Comments: This bill would propose to amend the Efficiency Maine Trust Act as it applies to electric thermal storage heating to allow electric thermal storage heating to compete for funding from the trust on an equal basis with other measures proposed for greenhouse gas reduction.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Webster of Freeport

LR: 2065

Title: An Act To Delay the Effective Date of the Requirement that Alcoholic Beverage Tastings Take Place in a Place Not Observed by Children

Comments: This bill would delay the effective date of the requirement that taste testing of beer, wine and malt liquor be conducted in a manner that precludes the possibility of observation by children to March 1, 2010.

LR: 2066

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to the Taste Testing of Alcoholic Beverages

Comments: This bill would amend the laws pertaining to the testing of alcoholic beverages by limiting taste testings to places where children would most likely not be present.

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2192 Representative Fitts

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2205 Senator Plowman

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2236 Representative Welsh

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2244 Senator Goodall

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2308 Representative Tuttle

Closely Related Leg Req: LR 2462 Representative Russell

LR: 2387

Title: An Act To Create Fair Education Funding for Regional School Units

Comments: This bill would distribute funds originally proposed to be sent to schools that successfully consolidated.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Senator Weston of Waldo

LR: 2204

Title: An Act To Create the Lincolnville Sewer District

Comments: This bill would create the Lincolnville Sewer District.

Bill Requests for Screening

Sponsor: Representative Willette of Presque Isle

LR: 2061

Title: An Act To Allow Competitions at Fairs for Homemade Wine and Beer

Comments: This bill would amend the state liquor laws to allow fairs to hold competitions for homemade wine and beer.

PART 5

2009 interim studies and committee meetings

#	Policy Area	Citation	Effective date	Type	Title	Staffing agency
1	ACF	LD 1047 (PL 375)	6/12/2009	Committee meeting	ACF committee review of LURC proposed Comprehensive Land Use Plan	OPLA. One meeting authorized. PO approval required to meet.
2	ACF	LD 353 (PL 213)	7/1/2009	New study	Task Force on the Sustainability of the Dairy Industry in Maine	Dept of Agriculture
3	AFA	LD 353 (PL 213)	7/1/2009	Committee meeting	Streamlining State Government	OFPR. Six meetings authorized
4	BRED	LD 1257 (PL 385)	9/12/2009	New study	Citizen Trade Policy Commission Review of International Trade Agreements	OPLA
5	BRED	10 MRSA, §11		On-going group	Citizen Trade Policy Commission	OPLA and Dept of Labor
6	CJPS	LD 525 (PL 424)	9/12/2009	Committee meeting	CJPS committee review of litter control laws	OPLA. One meeting authorized. PO approval required to meet.
7	EDU	LD 522 (Resolve 138)	6/18/2009	New study	Resolve, To Establish the Study Commission Regarding Teachers' Compensation	OPLA
8	EDU	LD 1297 (Resolve 140)	6/19/2009	New study	Review the Role of the State Board of Education	Dept of Education
9	EDU	LD 1324 (PL 409)	9/12/2009	New study	State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children	Not specified (but not Council)
10	EDU	3 MRSA, §168-A		On-going group	Legislative Youth Advisory Council	OPLA (No LYAC meetings authorized in 2009)
11	HHS	LD 1115 (Resolve 136)	6/17/2009	New study	Resolve, To Establish the Task Force on Kinship Families	OPLA
12	HHS	LD 969 (PL 392)	6/15/2009	New study	Maine Childrens' Growth Council	May hire staff
13	IFS	LD 1002 (Resolve 135)	9/12/2009	New study	Study the Feasibility of Establishing a Single-payor Health Care System in the State	OPLA with contracted consultant (unfunded)
14	JUD	1 MRSA, §411		On-going group	Right to Know Advisory Commission	OPLA during interim
15	LVA	LD 533 (Resolve 141)	9/12/2009	Committee meeting	LVA committee development of a comprehensive policy regarding slot-machines and casino-style gambling in Maine	OPLA. One meeting authorized. PO approval required to meet.
16	LVA	LD 1080 (Resolve 137)	6/18/2009	New study	Working Group on Landlord Tenant Issues	Executive
17	LVA	LD 1470 (Resolve 129)	9/12/2009	New study	Working Group to Arrange for a Plaque in the Hall of Flags to Honor Women Veterans	Bureau of Veterans' Services
18	NAT	LD 1310 (Resolve 132)	6/15/2009	New study	Working Group to Examine the Legal and Policy Implications of Groundwater Extraction	Not specified (may involve some work by/with CTPC)
19	NAT	30-A MRSA, §4350		On-going group	Community Preservation Advisory Committee	SPO (with drafting assistance by OPLA in odd-numbered years)
20	TAX	LD 353 (PL 213)	7/1/2009	Committee meeting	TAX review of the Telecommunications Personal Property Tax (Part P-2)	OFPR. Four meetings authorized to complete this and the tasks required in LD 1495. PO approval required to meet.
21	TAX	LD 1495 (PL 382)	9/12/2009	Committee meeting	TAX committee review of State Tax Assessor Reports on Sales Tax	OFPR. Four meetings authorized to complete this and the tasks required in LD 353, Part P-2. PO approval required to meet.
22	TRA	LD 333 (PL 413)	7/1/2009	Committee meeting	Highway and Bridge Light Capital Program (Sec. X-4)	OPLA and OFPR (meetings not previously authorized. PO approval required to meet.)
23	UTE	LD 1485 (PL 372)	6/12/2009	New study	Commission to Study Energy Infrastructure (Sec. F-4)	OPLA
24	UTE	LD 1012 (Resolve 108)	6/9/2009	New study	Broadband strategy council	ConnectME Authority

PART 6

**124th Legislature, Second Regular Session
Agency And Department Bills By Subject**

A/O 10/5/2009 at 12:23:59PM

Broad Subject	Major / Minor Subjects
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AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

AGRICULTURE DEPT

POWERS

2215 An Act To Protect Maine Farms and Nurseries

ANIMALS

DOGS

2214 An Act To Amend the Animal Welfare Laws

FOOD

FARMERS MARKETS

2213 An Act To Amend the Definition of "Farmers' Market"

FORESTRY

PRACTICES

2217 An Act Concerning Litigation Brought by the Attorney General To Enforce Provisions of the Forest Practices Laws

LAND USE REGULATION COMMISSION

POWERS

2216 An Act To Assist the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission in Reviewing Wind Energy Applications

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

STATE FINANCES

BONDED DEBT

2407 An Act To Facilitate Recovery Zone Bonds

BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BUSINESS PRACTICES

SALES

2376 An Act To Protect Consumers from Charges after a Free Trial Period

FINANCE AUTHORITY

PROGRAMS

2406 An Act To Amend the Health Professions Loan Program

LICENSING

GENERAL PROVISIONS

2233 An Act To Correct Errors in the Laws Relating to Unlicensed Practice and Other Provisions of the Professional and Occupational Licensing Laws

TOURISM OFFICE

POWERS

2398 An Act To Streamline the Maine Tourism Commission and the Maine State Film Commission

**124th Legislature, Second Regular Session
Agency And Department Bills By Subject**

A/O 10/5/2009 at 12:24:00PM

**Broad
Subject Major / Minor Subjects**

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CONSOLIDATION

ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS

2400 An Act To Fully Implement School Administrative Unit Reorganization

EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

MAGNET SCHOOLS

2405 An Act To Update the Laws Concerning the Maine School of Science and
Mathematics

SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA

ADJUSTMENTS

2401 An Act To Amend Provisions of the Essential Programs and Services Funding
Act

SCHOOL POLICIES

RESIDENCY

2404 An Act To Align Education Laws with the Federal Individuals with Disabilities
Education Act, the Federal Assistive Technology Act of 1998, the Federal
Higher Education Opportunity Act and the Federal Fostering Connections to
Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008

SUSPENSIONS

2403 An Act To Align the Duties of School Boards and Student Safety with the
Requirements of the Federal Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990 and the
Federal Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994 and To Prohibit the Discharge of
Firearms within 500 Feet of Public and Private School Properties

**124th Legislature, Second Regular Session
Agency And Department Bills By Subject**

A/O 10/5/2009 at 12:24:00PM

**Broad
Subject Major / Minor Subjects**

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

HUNTING

REGULATIONS

2408 An Act To Amend Certain Provisions of Fish and Wildlife Laws

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE DEPT

FUNDING

2409 An Act To Clarify and Amend Laws Pertaining to Licenses Issued by the
Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

JUDICIARY

ABUSE

PROTECTION ACTIONS

2267 An Act To Strengthen Protection from Abuse and Protection from Harassment
Laws

ATTORNEY GENERAL DEPT

POWERS

2377 An Act To Ensure That Substantial State Contracts Receive Adequate Legal
Review

ATTORNEYS

PRACTICE OF LAW

2378 An Act To Make Technical Changes to the Laws Governing the Practice of Law

BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS

LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES

2448 An Act To Replace the Maine Limited Liability Company Act

CIVIL PROCEDURE

ATTACHMENT

2375 An Act To Promote Opportunity for Workers in the Maine Woods

DOMESTIC RELATIONS

CHILD CUSTODY

2320 An Act To Expand Options in the Permanency Plan for Children in Foster Care

FREEDOM OF ACCESS

RECORD CONFIDENTIALITY

2452 An Act To Amend the Laws Relating to Government Records

**124th Legislature, Second Regular Session
Agency And Department Bills By Subject**

A/O 10/5/2009 at 12:24:00PM

Broad Subject	Major / Minor Subjects
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MARINE RESOURCES

COMMERCIAL FISHING

LICENSES

- 2222 An Act To Create a Commercial Pelagic and Anadromous Fishing License and Establish the Pelagic Fisheries Fund
- 2224 An Act To Require That Seafood Dealers Purchase Only from Licensed Harvesters

LOBSTERS

LICENSING

- 2225 An Act To Amend the Lobster Meat Laws and Expand Economic Opportunity for Maine's Lobster Industry

MARINE RESOURCES DEPT

PROCEDURES

- 2227 An Act To Clarify the Marine Resources Laws To Provide for Public Safety and the Protection of the Public Welfare

RULES

- 2223 An Act To Correct Errors and Inconsistencies in Marine Resources Laws

NATURAL RESOURCES

AIR QUALITY

POLLUTANT STANDARDS

- 2260 An Act To Improve Maine's Air Quality and Reduce Regional Haze at Acadia National Park and Other Class I Areas

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD

POWERS

- 2262 An Act To Expedite Solid Waste Odor Rulemaking

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPT

POWERS

- 2261 An Act To Establish a Residential Woodstove Replacement Fund
- 2266 An Act Concerning the Establishment of Water Levels

PROCEDURES

- 2263 An Act To Amend Laws Administered by the Department of Environmental Protection
- 2265 An Act To Close Loopholes in Environmental Regulations

WATER QUALITY

OVERBOARD DISCHARGES

- 2264 An Act To Improve Water Quality through the Phaseout of Overboard Discharges and the Improvement of the Boat Pump-out Laws