

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**127<sup>th</sup> LEGISLATURE**  
**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**



**Bill Requests Received before Cloture  
on September 25, 2015 and Submitted for  
Consideration by the Legislative Council  
on October 22, 2015**

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



MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE  
OFFICE OF THE REVISOR OF STATUTES  
STATE HOUSE STATION 7  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0007  
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TO: Members of the Legislative Council

FROM: Suzanne M. Gresser, Revisor of Statutes

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'smg'.

RE: Information for October 22nd Council Meeting:  
Screening of Bill Requests for the 127th 2nd Regular Session

DATE: October 15, 2015

This notebook is being distributed only to members of the Legislative Council and their staff offices, the Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House and the nonpartisan staff offices. Part 2 of the notebook contains a list of bill requests received by the cloture date of September 25, 2015, arranged by subject matter, and includes for each request a title and a brief comment summarizing the request. With the assistance of the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis and the Office of Fiscal and Program Review, the Revisor's Office has annotated the list in an attempt to identify:

- Requests that appear closely related to other requests that have been filed for consideration in the 2nd Regular Session.

These requests are not necessarily duplicate requests. We have grouped together for your consideration and ultimate determination bills with a similar goal or purpose that could potentially appear in the same bill or that clearly deal with the same set of issues.

- Requests that appear closely related to a bill that has been carried over to the 2nd Regular Session.

If a carryover bill, either by its subject matter or its title, appears potentially broad enough to incorporate a request if it were proposed as an amendment, we have identified the request as being closely related to that carryover bill.

- Requests that may require a ruling from the Presiding Officers under Joint Rule 217, which limits the introduction of a measure that has been finally rejected in a previous session of this Legislature.

This notebook also contains other information that may be useful for the Legislative Council in the screening meeting, including a list of bill request titles arranged alphabetically by sponsor, a list of carryover bills, a list of approved studies, and a list of department and agency bills submitted for the Second Regular Session, arranged by subject matter.

This notebook is not being distributed to the public by the Revisor's Office; however, a copy of the list of bill requests is available to the public on the Legislature's website and copies of the lists, with the comments, will be available at the October 22, 2015 meeting of the Legislative Council.

Please bring the notebook with you to the Legislative Council meeting on October 22, 2015. I would be happy to discuss any questions or concerns at your convenience.

cc: Chiefs of Staff

Heather J.R. Priest, Secretary of the Senate  
Robert Hunt, Clerk of the House  
Grant Pennoyer, Executive Director  
Nonpartisan Office Directors



**127<sup>th</sup> LEGISLATURE**  
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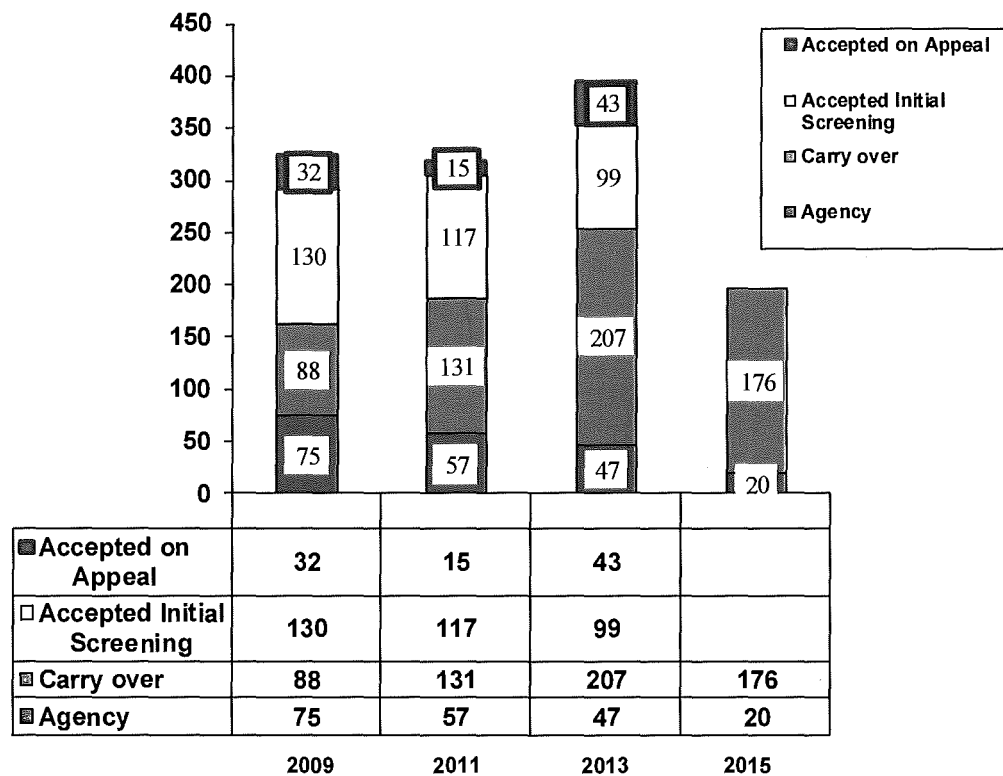
1. Introduction and Reference Material
2. Legislator Requests and Comments Arranged by Subject Matter
3. Carryover Bills Arranged by Committee
4. Legislator Requests Arranged Alphabetically by Primary Sponsor
5. Approved Studies
6. Agency Bills Arranged by Subject Matter

## **PART 1**

## INTRODUCTION

This volume contains the bill requests submitted by Legislators before cloture on September 25, 2015 that are proposed for introduction in the Second Regular Session of the 127th 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 below shows categories of bill requests for this session and the past three second regular sessions.



Total Number of Bills after Screening

325                  320                  396

Number of Legislator Requests Subject To Review

374                  288                  399                  399

Two years ago, in 2013, out of a total of 399 precloture legislator requests to review, 99 were admitted at the initial screening and 43 at the appeal screening for a total of 142 legislator bills accepted at the screenings.

Four years ago, in 2011, out of a total of 288 precloture legislator requests to review, 117 were admitted at the initial screening and 15 at the appeal screening for a total of 132 legislator bills accepted at the screenings.

Six years ago, in 2009, out of a total of 374 precloture legislator requests to review, 130 were admitted at the initial screening and 32 at the appeal screening for a total of 162 legislator bills accepted at the screenings.

This year a total of 20 agency and independent bills were filed, as compared to 47 in 2013, 57 in 2011 and 75 in 2009.

Additionally, the workload of the Legislature includes 176 carryovers for the upcoming session, as compared to 207 in 2013, 131 in 2011 and 88 in 2009.

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

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

## **Constitution of Maine**

### **Article IV**

#### **Part Third**

#### **Legislative Power.**

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

### **126th 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**

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

##### **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DEPT PROCEDURES**

LR: 2120    Sponsor: Representative Hickman of Winthrop  
Title:        An Act To Increase Transparency in Cooperative Agreements Entered Into by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry  
Comment:    This bill would increase transparency in cooperative agreements entered into by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by requiring the department to solicit public comments regarding each such agreement, respond to questions and comments from the public, respond to inquiries and notify the Legislature regarding such agreements. The bill would also authorize the Legislature to hold a public hearing on any such agreement.

##### **ANIMAL WELFARE CRUELTY**

LR: 2512    Sponsor: Senator Willette of Aroostook  
Title:        An Act To Require Veterinarians To Report Suspected Animal Abuse  
Comment:    This bill would require a veterinarian who suspects that an animal may have been abused to report that to the animal welfare program in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

LR: 2545    Sponsor: Representative Monaghan of Cape Elizabeth  
Title:        An Act To Protect Elephants  
Comment:    This bill would prohibit the use of a bull hook or other similar device on elephants.

##### **ANIMAL WELFARE DOGS**

LR: 2549    Sponsor: Representative Monaghan of Cape Elizabeth  
Title:        An Act To Protect Dogs from Extreme Weather  
Comment:    This bill would prohibit owners from leaving dogs outside during weather warnings related to temperature, severe weather and precipitation.



## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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## **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

### **ANIMALS**

#### **COMPANION**

LR: 2358    Sponsor: Representative Marean of Hollis  
Title:        An Act To Improve Maine's Companion Animal Sterilization Fund  
Comment:    This bill would require that the fund for the spaying and neutering of companion animals be administered by a nonprofit animal welfare group and amend the law regarding the payment of copayments.

### **ANIMALS**

#### **PETS**

LR: 2135    Sponsor: Senator Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis  
Title:        An Act To Prohibit Raising Cats and Dogs for Human Consumption  
Comment:    This bill would prohibit a person from raising cats or dogs for human consumption.

### **FORESTRY**

#### **PRACTICES**

LR: 2552    Sponsor: Representative Martin of Eagle Lake  
Title:        An Act To Make Corrections to the Biennial Budget Regarding the Maine Forest Service  
Comment:    This bill would make corrections to the biennial budget passed by the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature regarding the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Maine Forest Service.

## **LAND USE PLANNING COMMISSION**

#### **LURC PLANNING**

LR: 2528    Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin  
Title:        An Act To Clarify the Authority of a Plantation To Regulate Land Use  
Comment:    This bill would clarify that plantations have the same amount of authority to regulate land use as that granted to the Maine Land Use Planning Commission.

### **PRODUCTS**

#### **ORGANIC**

LR: 2206    Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin  
Title:        An Act To Oversee Organic Dairy Farm Audits  
Comment:    This bill would establish a public process to allow organic dairy farms to appeal audits conducted by private firms.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

##### **PUBLIC LANDS**

##### **CONVEYANCES**

LR: 2312    Sponsor: Representative Stanley of Medway  
Title:        An Act To Limit Consent Regarding Land Transfers to the Federal Government  
Comment:    This bill would limit the application of the law providing the automatic consent of the Legislature to acquisitions of land by the United States to areas of land of 5 square miles or less.

##### **PUBLIC LANDS**

##### **LAND FOR MAINE'S FUTURE BOARD**

LR: 2256    Sponsor: Representative Cooper of Yarmouth  
Title:        An Act To Amend the Appointment Process for Members of the Land for Maine's Future Board and the Responsibilities of the Board  
Comment:    This bill would place the Land for Maine's Future Program under the direction and control of the Land for Maine's Future Board and require that board members be appointed by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House and the Governor.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2360 Representative McCabe, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2458 Senator Hill, D

LR: 2360    Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan  
Title:        An Act To Protect the Land for Maine's Future Program  
Comment:    This bill would protect the Land for Maine's Future Program by ensuring that the Land for Maine's Future Board is able to do its work to enable the continuance of the program.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2458 Senator Hill, D

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2256 Representative Cooper, J

LR: 2458    Sponsor: Senator Hill of York  
Title:        An Act To Improve the Land for Maine's Future Board  
Comment:    This bill would change the appointment process and quorum requirements for the Land for Maine's Future Board.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2360 Representative McCabe, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2256 Representative Cooper, J

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

##### **PUBLIC LANDS**

##### **STATE PARKS**

LR: 2141    Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc

Title:        An Act To Allow Maine Residents To Access the Online Reservation Site for State Parks 24 Hours before Nonresidents

Comment:    This bill would allow Maine residents to access the online reservation site for state parks 24 hours before nonresidents.

LR: 2225    Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin

Title:        An Act To Provide Military Families Free Access to State Parks

Comment:    This bill would allow a Maine resident who is the spouse or child of a member of the military free access to state parks while that member of the military is away on active duty.

#### **WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

##### **INSPECTORS**

LR: 2306    Sponsor: Representative Espling of New Gloucester

Title:        An Act To Require the Local Appointment of Inspectors of Weights and Measures

Comment:    This bill would require the local appointment of inspectors of weights and measures.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

##### **BOND ISSUES**

##### **EDUCATION**

LR: 2176 Sponsor: Representative Fecteau of Biddeford

Title: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Vocational High Schools

Comment: This bill would authorize a general fund bond issue in the amount of \$10,000,000 for vocational high schools.

##### **BOND ISSUES**

##### **PORT FACILITIES**

LR: 2343 Sponsor: Representative Fredette of Newport

Title: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Marine Transportation and Port Infrastructure at Mack Point To Meet the Needs of the Marine Construction and Shipping Business Sector and To Create Jobs

Comment: This bill would authorize a general fund bond issue in the amount of \$15,000,000 to invest in marine transportation and port infrastructure at Mack Point to meet the needs of the marine construction and shipping business sector and to create jobs.

##### **BOND ISSUES**

##### **PUBLIC LANDS**

LR: 2130 Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Reauthorize Certain Land for Maine's Future Bonds

Comment: This bill would reauthorize the issuance of the land conservation bonds that were ratified by the voters of the State in statewide elections held in November 2010 and November 2012. This bill would also make necessary changes to the law to ensure that those bonds are issued and funds are transferred in accordance with those ratified bonds.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2212 Representative Timmons, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2373 Representative Guerin, S

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2131 Representative McCabe, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2132 Representative Pouliot, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2133 Representative Vachon, K

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening**  
**Sorted By Subject**

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**APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

**BOND ISSUES**

**PUBLIC LANDS**

LR: 2131    Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan  
Title:        Resolve, To Reauthorize Bonds for Land for Maine's Future  
Comment:    This bill would reauthorize land for Maine's Future bonds that expired in November 2015.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2212 Representative Timmons, M  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2373 Representative Guerin, S  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2130 Senator Katz, R  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2132 Representative Pouliot, M  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2133 Representative Vachon, K

LR: 2132    Sponsor: Representative Pouliot of Augusta  
Title:        Resolve, To Reauthorize the Issuance of Certain Bonds  
Comment:    This resolve would reauthorize the issuance of bonds for certain land conservation projects.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2212 Representative Timmons, M  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2373 Representative Guerin, S  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2130 Senator Katz, R  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2131 Representative McCabe, J  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2133 Representative Vachon, K

LR: 2133    Sponsor: Representative Vachon of Scarborough  
Title:        An Act To Reauthorize Certain Bonds for the Land for Maine's Future Fund  
Comment:    This bill would reauthorize the bonds for the Land for Maine's Future Fund that expire in November 2015.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2212 Representative Timmons, M  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2373 Representative Guerin, S  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2130 Senator Katz, R  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2131 Representative McCabe, J  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2132 Representative Pouliot, M

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

##### BOND ISSUES

##### PUBLIC LANDS

LR: 2212 Sponsor: Representative Timmons of Cumberland

Title: An Act Regarding Affordable Heating and the Issuance of Land Conservation Bonds

Comment: This bill would use revenues from the sale of timber and other things of value from Maine's public reserved lands for reducing residential heating costs and extending the period for issuance of certain land conservation bonds.

Potential JR 217: LR1397

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2373 Representative Guerin, S

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2130 Senator Katz, R

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2131 Representative McCabe, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2132 Representative Pouliot, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2133 Representative Vachon, K

LR: 2373 Sponsor: Representative Guerin of Glenburn

Title: An Act Relating to Land for Maine's Future Bonds and To Provide Low-income Heating Assistance Upgrades

Comment: This bill would reauthorize certain Land for Maine's Future bonds and ensure the bonds are issued; move \$3,000,000 from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands, General Fund account to the Maine State Housing Authority to be used for low-income heating assistance upgrades; and move \$3,000,000 from the Bureau of Parks and Lands, Other Special Revenue Funds account relating to wood harvesting to the Bureau of Parks and Lands, General Fund account.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2212 Representative Timmons, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2130 Senator Katz, R

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2131 Representative McCabe, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2132 Representative Pouliot, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2133 Representative Vachon, K

#### PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

##### BENEFITS

LR: 2230 Sponsor: Representative Foley of Wells

Title: An Act To Allow Members of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program To Reapply for Disability Retirement Benefits after Denial

Comment: This bill would allow members of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program who have applied for and been denied disability retirement benefits to apply again for the same disability under certain circumstances.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

##### **PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

###### **BENEFITS**

LR: 2392    Sponsor: Representative Doore of Augusta  
Title:        An Act To Ensure State Retirees Receive the Same Health Information State Employees Receive  
Comment:    This bill would ensure state retirees receive the same health information and wellness advice that state employees receive and help contain health care costs.

##### **PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

###### **CREDITS**

LR: 2412    Sponsor: Representative Ward of Dedham  
Title:        An Act To Update the Laws Governing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System as They Relate to War-time Veterans  
Comment:    Current law allows members of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to purchase military time to add those years to their years of creditable service for purposes of calculating their retirement benefits. The cost of purchasing military time depends on whether a member served during a federally recognized period of conflict. This bill would update the definition of "federally recognized period of conflict" to include Lebanon, 1982-1983; Grenada, 1983; the Persian Gulf War, August 2, 1990 to April 6, 1991; and Afghanistan and Iraq, September 11, 2001 to present.

##### **PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

###### **EDUCATORS**

LR: 2433    Sponsor: Representative Hubbell of Bar Harbor  
Title:        An Act To Increase Transparency in the Setting of Normal Teacher Retirement Costs Rates for School Districts  
Comment:    This bill would require that an actuarial report on the estimated costs of normal teacher retirement be presented to a joint meeting of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters in the 2nd year of the biennium to project costs for the next biennium. Based on that actuarial report, a rate would be established in the 2nd year of the biennium for the amount school districts would have to pay in the new biennium and estimates would be published on what increase or decrease is projected in terms of dollar amount by district.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening**  
**Sorted By Subject**

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**APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

**PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM**  
**SPECIAL PLANS**

LR: 2495    Sponsor: Representative Nadeau of Winslow  
Title:        An Act To Include Law Enforcement Officers within the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in the 1998 Special Plan for Retirement  
Comment:    This bill would allow law enforcement officers within the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles to participate in the 1998 Special Plan of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.  
Closely Related CO:        LD 654    Representative Nadeau, C

**SPENDING**  
**TRANSPORTATION**

LR: 2488    Sponsor: Representative Gideon of Freeport  
Title:        An Act To Revitalize Infrastructure Investment To Create Jobs  
Comment:    This bill would appropriate proceeds from Maine's liquor contract to address emergency needs of the State's public infrastructure, including roads and bridges.

**STATE FINANCES**  
**BONDED DEBT**

LR: 2134    Sponsor: Representative Vachon of Scarborough  
Title:        An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Issuance of Bonds  
Comment:    This bill would require the Governor to issue a general obligation bond that has been ratified by the legal voters of the State unless one of 5 specific conditions exists, and it would require the Governor to provide certain information upon delaying or forgoing issuance of a bond.

Potential JR 217:        LD 1378

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2322    Representative McCabe, J

LR: 2257    Sponsor: Representative Tuell of East Machias  
Title:        An Act To Expand the Role of Voters in the Governmental Facilities Bonding Process  
Comment:    This bill would reclassify governmental facilities bonds as "general obligation bonds" and require that any governmental facilities bond approved by the Legislature also be approved by a majority of those qualified to vote in the next general or primary election.



## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

##### **CORRECTIONS DEPT**

##### **ADMINISTRATION**

LR: 2399    Sponsor: Representative Rotundo of Lewiston  
Title:        An Act To Fund and Implement Wage Adjustments for All State Correctional Employees Who Perform Direct Care or Supervision of Prisoners  
Comment:    This bill would allocate funding necessary to meet the legislative intent to provide wage adjustment to all correctional employees who perform direct care or supervision of prisoners.

##### **CRIMES**

##### **ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

LR: 2327    Sponsor: Representative Head of Bethel  
Title:        An Act To Establish a Registry for Domestic Violence Offenders  
Comment:    This bill would establish a registry for domestic violence offenders.

##### **CRIMES**

##### **DRUG OFFENSES**

LR: 2486    Sponsor: Representative Fowle of Vassalboro  
Title:        An Act To Correct a Conflict in the Laws Regarding Schedule W Drugs  
Comment:    This bill would correct a conflict created by Public Law 2015, chapters 308 and 346 in the laws regarding schedule W drugs.

##### **CRIMES**

##### **NEW**

LR: 2321    Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan  
Title:        An Act To Amend the Maine Criminal Code To Clarify the Prohibition on the Exercise of Improper Influence  
Comment:    This bill would amend the Maine Criminal Code to clarify that a person is guilty of improper influence if, being a public servant, that person threatens any harm, including the withholding of public funds, to another entity with the intention of influencing that entity's action, decision, opinion, recommendation, nomination, vote or other exercise of discretion.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

##### **STATE FINANCES**

##### **BONDED DEBT**

LR: 2316 Sponsor: Senator Valentino of York

Title: An Act To Modernize and Consolidate Court Facilities

Comment: This bill would increase the maximum amount of securities that may be issued by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority for specific allocation to the judicial branch. The increase would be used to fund projects for court facilities in Waldo, Oxford and York counties.

##### **STATE FINANCES**

##### **BUDGET PROCEDURES**

LR: 2145 Sponsor: Representative Lockman of Amherst

Title: An Act To Make Information on the Biennial Budget Available in a Timely Manner

Comment: This bill would require that the biennial budget be available online at least 72 hours before legislators vote on it. It would also require any amendments to be posted online at least 24 hours before legislators vote on them.

LR: 2338 Sponsor: Representative Rotundo of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Clarify Expenditures Regarding Androscoggin County

Comment: This bill would clarify that an appropriation in the current biennial budget is for the College for ME in Androscoggin County.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

##### **CRIMES**

###### **SEX OFFENSES**

LR: 2139 Sponsor: Representative Chipman of Portland

Title: An Act To Allow Municipalities To Restrict How Close to Daycare Facilities  
Convicted Sex Offenders May Live

Comment: This bill allows municipalities to restrict how close to daycare facilities convicted  
sex offenders may live.

LR: 2476 Sponsor: Senator Dutremble of York

Title: An Act To Increase Penalties for Gross Sexual Assault

Comment: This bill would increase the penalty for a repeat offender convicted of gross  
sexual assault by one class of penalty. The bill would also repeal the statute of  
limitations for the crime of gross sexual assault.

##### **CRIMINAL HISTORIES**

###### **CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS**

LR: 2243 Sponsor: Representative Kinney of Knox

Title: An Act Regarding Sealing the Records of Class C, D and E Crimes

Comment: This bill would require the records of a person's Class C, D or E crime to be  
sealed after 10 years if the person has no further convictions.

##### **CRIMINAL PROCEDURE**

###### **OTHER CRIMINAL LAW**

LR: 2192 Sponsor: Representative Dion of Portland

Title: An Act To Improve Pretrial Justice and Public Safety

Comment: This bill would implement the recommendations of the Pretrial Justice Reform  
Task Force, which was created to make recommendations designed to reduce the  
human and financial costs of pretrial incarceration, while maintaining individual  
and public safety and the integrity of the criminal justice system.

##### **FIRE SAFETY**

###### **FIREWORKS**

LR: 2167 Sponsor: Representative Devin of Newcastle

Title: An Act To Allow Plantations To Establish Local Fireworks Ordinances

Comment: This bill would allow a plantation to establish ordinances for the sale and use of  
fireworks within that plantation.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

##### **FIRE SAFETY**

##### **PREVENTION**

LR: 2242 Sponsor: Senator Diamond of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Improve the Law Concerning Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Comment: This bill would exempt a battery-powered carbon monoxide detector from the requirement that a detector must be powered by a nonreplaceable 10-year battery if the detector uses a low-power radio frequency wireless communication signal or multiple sensors, has low-frequency audible notification capability or is connected to a control panel.

##### **FIRE SAFETY**

##### **VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS**

LR: 2123 Sponsor: Representative Head of Bethel

Title: An Act To Allow Tiered Qualifications for Volunteer Firefighters in Certain Municipalities

Comment: This bill would provide that in a municipality with fewer than 2,500 permanent residents the fire chief, with the approval of the municipal officers of that municipality, may approve training for volunteer firefighters that provides for 3 tiers of qualifications.

Potential JR 217: LD 748

##### **JAILS**

##### **STATE FUNDING**

LR: 2253 Sponsor: Representative Long of Sherman

Title: An Act To Provide Proper Funding for County Jails

Comment: This bill would appropriate funds to the counties sufficient to cover the costs of operating the county jails.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2286 Representative Nadeau, C

LR: 2286 Sponsor: Representative Nadeau of Winslow

Title: An Act To Provide Supplemental Funding to the County Jail Operations Fund

Comment: This bill would appropriate \$1,800,000 to the County Jail Operations Fund.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2253 Representative Long, R

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

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#### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

##### **JAILS**

##### **STATE FUNDING**

LR: 2287 Sponsor: Senator Rosen of Hancock

Title: An Act To Amend the Law Reversing Jail Consolidation

Comment: This bill would amend the law reversing jail consolidation to provide consistency in the administration of the finances for the jails by the Department of Corrections and to correct minor errors in the use of the terms "prisoner" and "inmate" and in the wording on deductions from days of sentence of a prisoner transferred from one jail to another.

##### **LAW ENFORCEMENT**

##### **LOCAL POLICE**

LR: 2438 Sponsor: Representative Grohman of Biddeford

Title: An Act To Allow School Resource Officers To Have Jurisdiction at Off-site Events

Comment: This bill would allow school resource officers to have jurisdiction at events that are school-related but are held outside the school district, such as proms.

##### **LAW ENFORCEMENT**

##### **PERSONNEL**

LR: 2317 Sponsor: Senator Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis

Title: An Act To Provide Wage Parity for Supervisors in Law Enforcement

Comment: This bill would allocate funding for wage adjustments for law enforcement supervisors in order to eliminate the salary schedule compression between supervisory and nonsupervisory job classifications.

LR: 2323 Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan

Title: An Act To Ensure Adequate Funding To Provide Bulletproof Vests for All Members of Law Enforcement

Comment: This bill would appropriate funds sufficient to provide bulletproof vests for all members of law enforcement.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2463 Senator Burns, D

LR: 2463 Sponsor: Senator Burns of Washington

Title: An Act To Provide Ballistic Vests to State Law Enforcement Officers

Comment: This bill would provide ballistic vests to state law enforcement officers.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2323 Representative McCabe, J

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

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#### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

##### **LAW ENFORCEMENT**

##### **PROCEDURES**

LR: 2155 Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox

Title: An Act To Prevent the Use of Surplus Military Equipment for Routine Law Enforcement

Comment: This bill would require law enforcement agencies to post a notice on the internet any time they make a request to acquire military equipment. Agencies would be required to establish policies for the use of such equipment and receive the approval of elected officials to take possession of that equipment. They would be required to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public safety matters about use of the equipment within 2 weeks of any deployment.

LR: 2472 Sponsor: Senator Dutremble of York

Title: An Act To Increase Public Access to Information Regarding Crimes of Sexual Assault

Comment: This bill would require a criminal justice agency to acknowledge whether or not it is engaged in an active investigation of a sexual assault.

#### **OPERATING UNDER INFLUENCE**

##### **PENALTIES**

LR: 2136 Sponsor: Senator Cyrway of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Require Ignition Interlock Devices on Vehicles Operated by First-time Operating-under-the-influence Offenders

Comment: This bill would require an ignition interlock device to be installed in the motor vehicle operated by a person who has been convicted of operating under the influence for the first time.

LR: 2285 Sponsor: Senator Cyrway of Kennebec

Title: An Act Regarding Ignition Interlock Devices

Comment: This bill would set the minimum alcohol concentration at which an ignition interlock device is set to lock a motor vehicle ignition at 0% BAC.

LR: 2356 Sponsor: Representative Hymanson of York

Title: An Act To Reduce Drunk Driving

Comment: This bill would establish a "24/7 Sobriety Program" under which repeat offenders of the laws governing operating under the influence do not lose their driver's license but are required to take daily breathalyzer tests.

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#### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

##### **PRISONERS**

##### **MEDICAL CARE**

LR: 2297 Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick

Title: Resolve, To Provide the Legislature with Information on the Need for Mental Health Services in County Jails

Comment: This resolve would direct the Consumer Council System of Maine to convene a working group to collect data to determine the unmet needs for mental health services in the county jails.

Potential JR 217: LD657

##### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

##### **AMUSEMENT RIDES**

LR: 2315 Sponsor: Senator Rosen of Hancock

Title: An Act Regarding the Application Fees and Inspection Fees Associated with the Provision of Amusement Rides

Comment: This bill would amend the application fees and inspection fees charged by the Department of Public Safety for amusement rides set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 8, section 472.

##### **PUBLIC SAFETY DEPT**

##### **ADMINISTRATION**

LR: 2363 Sponsor: Senator Burns of Washington

Title: An Act To Reduce the Trafficking of Illegal Drugs in the State

Comment: This bill would establish a unit within the Department of Public Safety consisting of State Police officers trained in drug trafficking interdiction techniques who will conduct patrols on selected highways and at selected access points to the State.

##### **PUBLIC SAFETY DEPT**

##### **PROCEDURES**

LR: 2250 Sponsor: Senator Burns of Washington

Title: An Act To Expand the Definition of "Advocate" for Purposes of Disclosure of Information by a Criminal Justice Agency

Comment: This bill would allow a state criminal justice agency to disclose intelligence and investigative record information to employees or volunteers of a nongovernmental advocacy program for victims of mental illness, as well as domestic or family violence.

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#### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

##### **SENTENCES**

##### **DRUG OFFENSES**

LR: 2284 Sponsor: Senator Cyrway of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Increase Sentences Imposed for Interstate Trafficking of Illegal Drugs

Comment: This bill would increase the sentences that are imposed for interstate trafficking of illegal drugs.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2244 Representative Pierce, J

##### **SENTENCES**

##### **MANDATORY MINIMUM**

LR: 2244 Sponsor: Representative Pierce of Dresden

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Sentencing of Persons Convicted of Trafficking Heroin or Opiates

Comment: This bill would require that a person convicted of trafficking heroin or opiates receive a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years imprisonment, without the possibility of a reduction in the sentence for good behavior.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2284 Senator Cyrway, S

#### **VICTIMS OF CRIME**

##### **RESTITUTION**

LR: 2142 Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc

Title: An Act To Ensure Restitution at the Full Value of the Stolen Property for Victims of Theft

Comment: This bill would ensure restitution at the full value of the stolen property for victims of theft.

LR: 2473 Sponsor: Senator Dutremble of York

Title: An Act To Require Full Restitution by a Person in a Position of Authority Who Misuses Funds in the Control of That Person

Comment: This bill would require that a person who uses that person's position of authority to misappropriate funds for that person's personal gain is required to pay full restitution of those funds as well as any investigative and prosecution costs.



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**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**WEAPONS**

**CONCEALED WEAPONS**

LR: 2223    Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin  
Title:        An Act To Eliminate the Disclosure Requirement for a Person Carrying a Concealed Handgun without a Permit  
Comment:    This bill would eliminate the requirement that a person lawfully carrying a concealed handgun without a permit immediately disclose that fact to a law enforcement officer during the course of any arrest, detainment or routine traffic stop.

**WEAPONS**

**POSSESSION**

LR: 2158    Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox  
Title:        An Act To Increase Firearm Safety  
Comment:    This bill would require a person purchasing any type of firearm to present proof of completion of an approved firearm safety course. A firearm safety course used for a permit to carry a concealed handgun would be considered an approved course.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2166 Representative Devin, M

LR: 2166    Sponsor: Representative Devin of Newcastle  
Title:        Resolve, To Improve Firearm Safety in Maine  
Comment:    This resolve would seek to improve firearm safety by establishing a commission whose duty would be to create safety standards that must be met by all firearm owners and users. This resolve would not limit access to firearms or the use of firearms.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2158 Senator Miramant, D

LR: 2209    Sponsor: Representative Fowle of Vassalboro  
Title:        An Act To Amend the Public Safety Laws  
Comment:    Recent legislation that added categories of persons to the list of persons prohibited from possessing firearms overlooked designating the class of crime for violations by persons in each new category. This bill would add the class of crime for each category of prohibited person.

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**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**WEAPONS**

**POSSESSION**

LR: 2234 Sponsor: Representative Beebe-Center of Rockland

Title: An Act To Allow Municipalities To Enhance Children's Safety in "Safe Zones"

Comment: This bill would allow a municipality to prohibit firearms in an area of the municipality that is frequented by minors and that has been designated as a safe zone by the municipality.

**WEAPONS**

**SALES**

LR: 2296 Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick

Title: An Act To Require Background Checks for Private Sales or Transfers of Firearms

Comment: This bill would require a person who wishes to obtain a firearm in a private sale or transfer to first obtain a background check from a licensed firearm dealer.

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### **Bill Requests For Screening**

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#### **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

##### **COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

###### **POLICIES AND PROGRAMS**

- LR: 2320    Sponsor: Senator Millett of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Promote Postsecondary Education Attainment and Degree Completion  
Comment:    This bill would establish postsecondary education attainment goals for the State's adult population and would establish the Commission on Higher Education and Workforce Needs.
- LR: 2366    Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec  
Title:        An Act To Establish the Maine Tuition Integrity Act  
Comment:    This bill would establish laws governing for-profit colleges, including provisions requiring: evaluation at the program level; spending student tuition dollars on instruction rather than advertising and administrative salaries; meeting benchmarks for outcomes; obtaining correct accreditations; and informing students of the existence of certain barriers to certain types of licensure.

##### **COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

###### **STUDENT FINANCIAL AID**

- LR: 2365    Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec  
Title:        An Act To Establish the Maine Student Loan Borrower Bill of Rights  
Comment:    This bill, which is modeled on Connecticut's Student Loan Bill of Rights, would establish a Student Loan Ombudsman, regulate entities that service student loans, prohibit certain misleading and fraudulent actions and establish certain practices as unfair and deceptive.

##### **CULTURAL AGENCIES**

###### **ARTS COMMISSION**

- LR: 2440    Sponsor: Representative McClellan of Raymond  
Title:        An Act To Create Arts Engage ME  
Comment:    This bill would allow the Maine Arts Commission to have a support organization.
- LR: 2441    Sponsor: Representative McClellan of Raymond  
Title:        An Act Regarding the Maine Arts Commission  
Comment:    This bill would allow the Maine Arts Commission to create an endowment fund.

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#### EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

##### EDUCATION DEPT

##### POWERS

LR: 2314 Sponsor: Representative Gerrish of Lebanon

Title: An Act To Terminate Administration of the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey

Comment: Currently, the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey is administered in odd-numbered years to the parents of students in kindergarten to 3rd grade, and to students in 5th grade to 12th grade to assess the health status of Maine's youth. This bill would terminate administration of the survey.

LR: 2389 Sponsor: Representative Tuell of East Machias

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Amend Its Rules Regarding Teacher In-service Days

Comment: This resolve would direct the Department of Education to change its rules from allowing up to 5 days of the 180 school days for teacher in-service days to allowing up to 5 days or 40 hours per school year.

##### EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

##### CHARTER SCHOOLS

LR: 2516 Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland

Title: Resolve, To Clarify the Law Regarding Access To Extracurricular and Interscholastic Activities

Comment: This resolve would direct the Department of Education to review the law related to public charter school students' participation in interscholastic activities in a school unit to ensure that the law is being implemented in a fair manner.

##### EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

##### SCHOOL CHOICE

LR: 2174 Sponsor: Representative Higgins of Dover-Foxcroft

Title: An Act To Establish an Opportunity for Appeal of Certain Decisions Concerning Transfers of Students

Comment: Under current law, a decision on a request for a student transfer from one school administrative district to another may be appealed, but there is no similar provision for appealing a request involving a receiving school district that does not operate a public school. This bill would establish an opportunity for appeal.

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#### **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

##### **EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS**

##### **SCHOOL CHOICE**

LR: 2299 Sponsor: Representative McClellan of Raymond

Title: An Act to Limit Municipalities' Exposure on Tuition Payments for Choice Students

Comment: This bill would ensure that a student in a regional school unit or any school choice situation would have state funding available at the State-set rate for the year and would prohibit a regional school unit or parent from negotiating a higher payment to a school charging a higher rate.

LR: 2361 Sponsor: Representative Stearns of Guilford

Title: An Act To Improve the Superintendent Transfer Process

Comment: This bill would make binding the decision of 2 school superintendents not to approve the transfer of a student from one school administrative unit to the other.

##### **HEALTH EDUCATION**

##### **DRUG EDUCATION**

LR: 2378 Sponsor: Senator Johnson of Lincoln

Title: An Act To Establish a Pilot Program To Prevent Student Drug Addiction

Comment: This bill would establish a pilot program funded through the Fund for a Healthy Maine to improve student health by preventing student drug and tobacco addiction, preventing abusive relationships between students and reducing teen pregnancy.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2478 Senator Whittemore, R

LR: 2478 Sponsor: Senator Whittemore of Somerset

Title: An Act To Promote Drug Awareness Education in Maine's Schools

Comment: This bill would transfer \$2,000,000 from the Fund for a Healthy Maine into a grant program administered by the Department of Education. A school district would be able to apply for a grant to fund drug abuse education programs.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2378 Senator Johnson, C

LR: 2503 Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan

Title: An Act To Coordinate Education and Prevention Efforts in Our Schools To Stop Harmful Drug Use

Comment: This bill would link schools throughout the State with existing successful and effective programming to help prevent youth in the State from using harmful drugs.

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**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

**SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

**ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS**

LR: 2328    Sponsor: Representative Head of Bethel  
Title:        An Act To Review the Impact of Withdrawal from Regional School Units  
Comment:    This bill would direct the Commissioner of Education to review the impact of a municipality's withdrawal from a regional school unit. It would also suspend withdrawals until July 1, 2017.

LR: 2334    Sponsor: Senator Langley of Hancock  
Title:        An Act To Amend Certain Education Statutes  
Comment:    This bill would authorize the Commissioner of Education to designate a school administrative unit to enroll a student who lives in a school administrative unit without a school or a contract with another school administrative unit. This bill would also amend the laws regarding public charter schools.

Potential JR 217:        LD1448

LR: 2350    Sponsor: Representative Turner of Burlington  
Title:        An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Withdrawal of a Single Municipality from a Regional School Unit  
Comment:    This bill would make the following changes to the laws governing the withdrawal of a single municipality from a regional school unit. It would limit the time between proposals and counterproposals of the municipality and the regional school unit to 30 days; require the parties to bargain in good faith; and require the Commissioner of Education or the department to help facilitate a compromise if the parties are unable to reach an agreement.

**SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

**BUDGETS**

LR: 2269    Sponsor: Senator Breen of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Promote Private Fund-raising for the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf  
Comment:    This bill would enable the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf to engage in private fundraising to support its mission. It will use an existing 501(c)(3) organization as its fiscal agent.

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**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

**SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION**

**BUDGETS**

LR: 2274    Sponsor: Senator Hill of York  
Title:        Resolve, To Bring Transparency and Consistency to the Reporting of Public School Expenses  
Comment:    This resolve would require the Maine Education Public Research Institute to conduct a study to determine why there has been an increase in costs for certain categories of expenditures for public schools over the last 10 years.

LR: 2329    Sponsor: Senator Millett of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Facilitate the Use of State Education Subsidies  
Comment:    This bill would authorize a regional school unit or other school administrative unit to include an article in the warrant for its annual budget meeting providing that, in the event that the school unit receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its budget, the school board is authorized to increase expenditures for school purposes in cost center categories approved by the board, without a special budget meeting and budget validation referendum.

**SCHOOL FACILITIES**

**CONSTRUCTION**

LR: 2262    Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin  
Title:        An Act Regarding New School Construction  
Comment:    This bill would freeze the positions of the top 20 projects currently in place for state funding for school construction in the event that a new application process is begun.

LR: 2340    Sponsor: Senator Collins of York  
Title:        An Act To Improve School Construction Finance  
Comment:    This bill would amend a provision of law enacted by the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature that allows bonds issued by a regional school unit for a non-state-funded school construction project that is 100% locally funded to be repaid using a level debt payment structure by removing the requirement that the payment structure result in lower costs for the regional school unit throughout the life of the issue of the bonds. This change would facilitate the financing of these projects.

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#### **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

##### **SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA**

##### **ADJUSTMENTS**

- LR: 2149 Sponsor: Senator Johnson of Lincoln  
Title: An Act To Change the School Funding Formula To Provide Funding Based on a Minimum of One Teacher for Each School Day  
Comment: This bill would change the school funding formula for small, isolated schools to provide funding based on a minimum of one teacher.
- LR: 2353 Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin  
Title: An Act To Provide Full Funding of Per-pupil Costs of Students Transferred Pursuant to Superintendent's Agreements  
Comment: Currently, when a student transfers to another school under a superintendent's agreement, the receiving district receives a state subsidy that may not cover the actual per-pupil costs associated with the student. This bill would require that, for students transferring under a superintendent's agreement, the receiving district receive the full amount of per-pupil costs associated with the transferred student.
- LR: 2553 Sponsor: Representative Martin of Eagle Lake  
Title: An Act To Transfer Excess Revenue from the State's Liquor Contract in Fiscal Year 2016-17 to General Purpose Aid to Local Schools  
Comment: This bill would transfer excess revenue from the State's liquor contract in fiscal year 2016-17 to general purpose aid to local schools.

##### **SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA**

##### **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

- LR: 2511 Sponsor: Representative Devin of Newcastle  
Title: An Act To Address the Costs for Certain Special Education Students  
Comment: This bill would provide school administrative units with additional state funding for certain special education students under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in time for the 2016-2017 school year.

##### **SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA**

##### **SUBSIDIZABLE COSTS**

- LR: 2521 Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland  
Title: An Act To Place a 2-year Moratorium on All State Mandates Involving Public Education and To Evaluate Current Mandates  
Comment: This bill would place a 2-year moratorium on all state mandates involving public education and would establish a commission to evaluate current mandates.  
Potential JR 217: LD 793



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#### **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

##### **SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA**

###### **SUBSIDIZABLE COSTS**

LR: 2526    Sponsor: Representative Tipping-Spitz of Orono  
Title:        An Act To Improve Transparency in Education Funding  
Comment:    This bill would require education budget initiatives currently combined under "miscellaneous costs" and "student opportunity fund" to be listed as separate line items in budgets.

##### **SCHOOL PERSONNEL**

###### **BENEFITS**

LR: 2300    Sponsor: Representative Hubbell of Bar Harbor  
Title:        An Act To Enable Alternative Organizational Structures To Purchase Group Health Insurance for All Employees  
Comment:    This bill would allow a school administrative unit that is a member of an alternative organizational structure to obtain health insurance loss information on an aggregate basis and to purchase a single health insurance policy that is offered to all members of the alternative organizational structure.

##### **SCHOOL PERSONNEL**

###### **TRAINING**

LR: 2214    Sponsor: Representative Chenette of Saco  
Title:        An Act To Allow Trained, Nonmedical Employees in Schools To Administer Emergency Rescue Medications  
Comment:    This bill would authorize a school administrative unit to participate in a program to allow trained, nonmedical employees in schools to volunteer to provide medical assistance, specifically administering emergency rescue medication to pupils with epilepsy or other seizure disorders.

##### **SCHOOL POLICIES**

###### **COMPUTERS**

LR: 2484    Sponsor: Representative Brooks of Lewiston  
Title:        An Act To Improve Internet Safety for Children  
Comment:    This bill would require Internet safety training for children receiving laptops in school, which would include warnings against communicating with strangers.

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#### EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

##### SCHOOL POLICIES

##### CURRICULUM

LR: 2272 Sponsor: Representative Hubbell of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act To Establish a Specific Schedule for the Review of the Content Areas of Learning Standards

Comment: This bill would amend the law requiring the Commissioner of Education to review content standards and performance indicators of learning results to establish a specific schedule for the review of the content areas, such as science and technology and world languages.

LR: 2352 Sponsor: Representative Tuell of East Machias

Title: An Act To Facilitate Homegrown Education in Maine

Comment: This bill would remove the Common Core standards from the system of learning results by June 30, 2017 and transition the State back to locally developed standards.

##### SCHOOL POLICIES

##### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

LR: 2266 Sponsor: Representative Kornfield of Bangor

Title: An Act To Protect the Value of Diplomas for Maine's Students by Prohibiting Tiered Diploma Systems Based on Proficiency

Comment: This bill would prohibit school districts from adopting tiered diploma systems based upon student proficiency. The bill would not prohibit schools from awarding certificates of proficiency, but would prohibit school districts from adopting tiered diplomas to be awarded to students based on their ability to attain certain proficiency targets.

LR: 2532 Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Increase Awareness of Postsecondary Financial Aid Options

Comment: The bill would direct school guidance counselors to work with high school juniors and seniors on completing the free application for federal student aid form, even if the students are not intending to pursue postsecondary education.

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## **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

### **SCHOOL POLICIES**

#### **TESTING**

- LR: 2213    Sponsor: Representative Espling of New Gloucester
- Title:        An Act To Delay Any New Statewide Assessment Test
- Comment:    This bill would delay the implementation of any test chosen by the Department of Education to replace the Smarter Balanced assessment by one year but allow schools to opt in to that new test under a pilot program.
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- LR: 2397    Sponsor: Representative Golden of Lewiston
- Title:        An Act To Increase Information for Parents and Teachers Regarding Standardized Tests
- Comment:    This bill would require school boards to convene a stakeholder group of parents, teachers, school board members and administrators to develop a common policy and protocols concerning standardized testing and its usage. The group would be composed of a majority of parents and teachers. Each school board would be required to adopt a policy that clearly articulates the number of standardized assessments each student will be expected to take and provides a summary of the time students will spend on testing, and the board would be required to adopt a plan to communicate clearly with parents the testing schedule and the usefulness of the standardized tests.

### **SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

#### **CURRICULUM**

- LR: 2279    Sponsor: Representative Daughtry of Brunswick
- Title:        An Act To Require That High School Curricula Include Instruction Regarding Affirmative Consent, Communication and Decision-making Skills
- Comment:    This bill would require that high school curricula include instruction regarding affirmative consent, communication and decision-making skills.

### **SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

#### **NUTRITION PROGRAMS**

- LR: 2409    Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland
- Title:        An Act To Increase Collaboration between the Department of Education and School Food Service Directors
- Comment:    This bill would increase collaboration between the Department of Education and school food service directors.

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#### **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

##### **SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

##### **NUTRITION PROGRAMS**

LR: 2416 Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland  
Title: An Act To Feed Children from Low-income Families  
Comment: This bill would provide funding to subsidize students' copayments for reduced price lunch.

##### **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

##### **FUNDING**

LR: 2140 Sponsor: Senator Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis  
Title: An Act Regarding the Funding of Special Education  
Comment: This bill would require the State to pay the special education costs of school districts in alternative organizational structures.

LR: 2273 Sponsor: Representative Hubbell of Bar Harbor  
Title: An Act To Clarify the Liability for Special Education Costs under State-directed Student Transfers  
Comment: This bill would prohibit transfers effected by the Commissioner of Education or the State Board of Education from resulting in reduction of state liability for the subsidy of special education costs for individual transferred students.

##### **TEACHERS**

##### **CERTIFICATION**

LR: 2452 Sponsor: Representative Maker of Calais  
Title: An Act To Amend the Teacher Certification Statutes  
Comment: This bill would amend the teacher certification statutes.

##### **TEACHERS**

##### **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING**

LR: 2390 Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc  
Title: An Act To Improve Teaching Assignments in Maine's Public Schools  
Comment: This bill would expressly permit teachers to collectively bargain over involuntary transfers of teachers and require any transfer to be done with only the best interest of the students in mind.

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**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

**TRUANTS AND DROPOUTS**

**HABITUAL TRUANCY**

LR: 2370    Sponsor: Representative Warren of Hallowell

Title:        An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Truancy

Comment:    Currently, the laws governing truancy do not apply to children who are less than 7 years of age. This bill would provide that, if a child is enrolled in school, the laws governing truancy would apply.

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#### **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

##### **CONTAINERS - RETURNABLE**

##### **BOTTLES**

LR: 2337    Sponsor: Representative Mastraccio of Sanford  
Title:        An Act To Include 50-milliliter Liquor Bottles in Maine's Returnable Container Law  
Comment:    This bill would make 50-milliliter liquor containers subject to Maine's returnable container law.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPT**

##### **POWERS**

LR: 2251    Sponsor: Representative Fredette of Newport  
Title:        Resolve, Directing the Department of Environmental Protection To Conduct Testing of Well Water in the Town of Plymouth  
Comment:    This resolve would direct the Department of Environmental Protection to conduct testing of well water in the Town of Plymouth.

LR: 2493    Sponsor: Representative Timberlake of Turner  
Title:        An Act To Create Stability in the Control of Pesticides  
Comment:    This bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt statewide standards for the use of pesticides and prohibit a municipality from adopting a different standard. A municipality that adopted a different standard prior to the department's establishment of standards could enforce that standard only if it creates an entity similar to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control.

#### **LAND USE**

##### **SHORELAND ZONING**

LR: 2270    Sponsor: Senator Breen of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Reestablish Recreational Use of Historic Trolley Lines  
Comment:    This bill would exempt a parcel of land in the Town of Gray from shoreland zoning requirements so that the Maine Narrow Gauge Railroad may reuse an old trolley track site and move from downtown Portland to Gray.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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## **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

### **OILS**

#### **SPILLS**

LR: 2301 Sponsor: Representative Duchesne of Hudson

Title: An Act To Revise Oil Spill Reporting Standards

Comment: This bill would set the minimum oil spill size requiring a report to the Department of Environmental Protection at 10 gallons.

## **PROTECTED NATURAL RESOURCES**

### **SAND DUNES**

LR: 2443 Sponsor: Representative Blume of York

Title: An Act To Improve the Management of "Beach-cast" Seaweed for Purposes of Health, Ecology and Tourism

Comment: This bill would amend the law regarding the management of "beach-cast" seaweed in coastal sand dune systems in order to help towns be more responsive to increasing accumulations of seaweed on our beaches.

## **TOXIC SUBSTANCES**

### **TOXIC CHEMICALS**

LR: 2351 Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc

Title: An Act To Protect Firefighters by Prohibiting the Use of Certain Flame-retardant Chemicals in New Upholstered Furniture

Comment: This bill would prohibit the use of certain flame-retardant chemicals in new upholstered furniture.

## **WASTE FACILITIES**

### **LANDFILLS**

LR: 2267 Sponsor: Senator Dill of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Extend the Funding Period for Landfill Closure Costs To Include Applications Pending Prior to September 1, 1989

Comment: Under current law, the Department of Environmental Protection pays 75% of certain landfill closure costs incurred on or after July 1, 1994 and before December 31, 2025 if the Commissioner originally issued the operation license for that landfill on or before September 1, 1989. This bill would expand eligibility for funding landfill closure costs to landfills for which the application for an operation license was received on or before September 1, 1989.

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**ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**WASTES**

**SLUDGE**

LR: 2281    Sponsor: Representative Kruger of Thomaston  
Title:        An Act To Require an Environmental Impact Statement for a Dredging Project in the Penobscot River Watershed and To Require That the Dredging Activity Be the Least Environmentally and Economically Damaging Alternative Available  
Comment:    This bill would require that an environmental impact assessment be completed for a dredging project in the Penobscot River watershed. It also would require that the dredging activity be the least environmentally and economically damaging alternative available.

**WASTES**

**SPECIAL WASTES**

LR: 2205    Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin  
Title:        An Act To Create a Battery Stewardship Program  
Comment:    This bill would create a battery stewardship program to require labeling of batteries, indicating the chemistry used to store energy, and to require the provider of a battery to develop and maintain a program to manage discarded batteries.

**WATER QUALITY**

**WASTEWATER DISCHARGES**

LR: 2318    Sponsor: Representative Powers of Naples  
Title:        An Act To Require Houseboats To Have a Marine Sanitation Device  
Comment:    This bill would require houseboats to have a marine sanitation device to prevent the overboard discharge of treated or untreated sewage or any waste derived from sewage. The bill would also define "houseboat" as any watercraft that is moored, docked or anchored and is used for a dwelling on the inland waters of the State.



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## **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **ALTERNATIVE ENERGY**

#### **HYDROPOWER**

LR: 2173 Sponsor: Representative Fredette of Newport

Title: Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission To Conduct a Study Regarding the Transmission of Hydroelectric Power from Canada to Maine and New England

Comment: This resolve would direct the Public Utilities Commission to conduct a study regarding the transmission of hydroelectric power from Canada to Maine and New England.

### **ALTERNATIVE ENERGY**

#### **SOLAR ENERGY**

LR: 2479 Sponsor: Representative Gideon of Freeport

Title: An Act To Make Maine Energy-independent

Comment: This bill would facilitate grid-scale solar projects that are community-owned and located on properties that cannot be used for other development.

### **ALTERNATIVE ENERGY**

#### **WIND ENERGY**

LR: 2203 Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin

Title: An Act To Protect the Scenic Character of Maine's Special Places

Comment: This bill would extend from 8 miles to 15 miles the requirement for a visual impact assessment for a grid-scale wind energy development for a specified list of scenic resources determined to be of particularly high scenic value or significance.

## **ELECTRIC UTILITIES**

### **DELIVERY**

LR: 2138 Sponsor: Representative Chipman of Portland

Title: An Act To Require Electric Utility Meter Reading and Billing Dates To Be Changed upon the Request of Customers

Comment: This bill requires electric utilities to change meter reading dates and billing dates upon the request of customers.

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#### ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

##### ELECTRIC UTILITIES

###### DELIVERY

- LR: 2507 Sponsor: Representative Dion of Portland  
Title: An Act Regarding the Competitive Bidding Process for Nontransmission Alternatives  
Comment: The bill would provide an incentive to an electric transmission and distribution utility to develop and deploy nontransmission alternatives.
- LR: 2508 Sponsor: Representative Dion of Portland  
Title: An Act To Establish a Pilot Program To Enhance the Development of Distributed Generation in Maine  
Comment: This bill would authorize an electric transmission and distribution utility to propose to the Public Utility Commission and to implement a limited distributed generation program capped at a specified megawatt level.

##### ELECTRIC UTILITIES

###### PLANNING

- LR: 2461 Sponsor: Senator Patrick of Oxford  
Title: An Act To Include Energy from Combined Heat and Power Facilities as Part of the Maine Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard  
Comment: This bill would allow energy generated by combined heat and power facilities to be eligible energy under Maine's renewable energy portfolio standard.
- LR: 2489 Sponsor: Representative Wadsworth of Hiram  
Title: An Act To Ensure a Timely Reduction in Energy Costs for Maine Consumers  
Comment: This bill would direct the 2 investor-owned electricity utilities in the State to purchase their respective New England power pool load ratio share of natural gas pipeline capacity at the lowest price available as determined by each utility's competitive solicitation process.

#### ENERGY

##### ELECTRICITY GENERATION

- LR: 2506 Sponsor: Representative Dion of Portland  
Title: An Act To Clarify Laws Relating to Affiliate Ownership of Electric Generation  
Comment: This bill would address ambiguities in statute regarding affiliates of electric transmission and distribution companies seeking to interconnect with the electric transmission and distribution system.

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## **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **ENERGY**

#### **PLANNING**

LR: 2331    Sponsor: Representative Campbell of Orrington  
Title:        An Act To Encourage the Development of Electrical and Natural Gas Infrastructure in Bucksport  
Comment:    This bill would encourage the development of electrical and natural gas infrastructure at the former site of the mill in Bucksport.

### **GAS UTILITIES**

#### **NATURAL GAS**

LR: 2380    Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick  
Title:        An Act To Establish a Single Government Entity To Coordinate and Ensure Pipeline Safety in Maine  
Comment:    This bill would require a single government entity to have pipeline facility inspection authority, require first responders to have 24-hour access to pipeline facilities, ensure these responders are equipped and trained to deal safely with pipeline incidents and require pipeline owners to educate citizens fully about the dangers of hazardous material transportation.

## **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

### **POWERS**

LR: 2435    Sponsor: Representative Grohman of Biddeford  
Title:        An Act To Make Efficient Heat Pumps Available to Low-income Customers  
Comment:    This bill would allow transmission and distribution utilities to implement a program to make efficient heat pumps available for use by low-income customers and others who face significant barriers to purchasing a heat pump directly. The program, whose design is subject to review by the Public Utilities Commission, may include special rates for participating customers to cover program costs, which costs may be paid only by participating customers, and the program must offer customer choice of qualified 3rd-party installers and distributors.

Potential JR 217:        LD1257

LR: 2475    Sponsor: Representative Pouliot of Augusta  
Title:        An Act To Implement a Maine Solar Policy To Maximize Ratepayer Benefits  
Comment:    This bill would implement solar policy proposals that maximize benefits to ratepayers developed as part of the Public Utilities Commission stakeholder process.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2546 Representative Babbidge, C

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#### **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

##### **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

###### **POWERS**

LR: 2546 Sponsor: Representative Babbidge of Kennebunk

Title: An Act To Establish Policy Regarding Distributed Solar Power

Comment: This bill would establish policy concerning continued use and expansion of solar energy through information gathered and studied by the Public Utilities Commission.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2475 Representative Pouliot, M

##### **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

###### **PROCEDURES**

LR: 2217 Sponsor: Representative Dunphy of Old Town

Title: An Act To Prevent Discontinuation of Utility Services to Customers Who Rely on Life-sustaining Medical Devices

Comment: This bill would prevent the discontinuation of utility services to customers who rely on life-sustaining medical devices at home.

#### **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

##### **CELLULAR PHONES**

LR: 2137 Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc

Title: An Act To Increase Access to Call Location Information by Law Enforcement Agencies

Comment: This bill would require wireless service providers to provide call location information when requested by a law enforcement agency for the purpose of responding to emergency situations.

#### **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

##### **RELAY SERVICES**

LR: 2459 Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick

Title: An Act To Revise Qualifications for Certain Members of the Telecommunications Relay Services Advisory Council

Comment: This bill would revise the qualifications of 4 members of the Telecommunications Relay Services Advisory Council.

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## **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

#### **TELEPHONE SYSTEMS**

LR: 2308    Sponsor: Representative Vachon of Scarborough  
Title:        An Act To Prohibit Telecommunications Companies from Charging Consumers a Fee To Have an Unlisted Telephone Number  
Comment:    This bill would prevent telecommunications companies from charging an additional fee to customers who choose to have an unlisted telephone number.

### **UTILITY DISTRICTS**

#### **CHARTER CHANGES**

LR: 2264    Sponsor: Senator Patrick of Oxford  
Title:        An Act To Make Changes to the Rumford Water District Charter  
Comment:    This bill would amend the language of the charter of the Rumford Water District to delete obsolete language and to clarify the purposes and powers of the district, consistent with the Standard Water District Enabling Act.

### **UTILITY DISTRICTS**

#### **POWERS**

LR: 2202    Sponsor: Representative Nadeau of Winslow  
Title:        An Act To Allow the Kennebec Sanitary Treatment District To Establish and Maintain a Capital Reserve Fund  
Comment:    This bill would allow the Kennebec Sanitary Treatment District to establish a capital reserve fund to help in paying for the maintaining, upgrading and replacing of its aging infrastructure.

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**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**DAY CARE**

LR: 2410    Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Feed Young Children by Strengthening the Child and Adult Care Food Program  
Comment:    This bill would provide for feeding young children by strengthening the child and adult care food program.

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**FOSTER CARE**

LR: 2404    Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick  
Title:        An Act To Establish the Maine Foster Children's Bill of Rights  
Comment:    This bill would establish the Maine Foster Children's Bill of Rights.

LR: 2554    Sponsor: Representative Malaby of Hancock  
Title:        An Act To Enact the Foster Parents' Bill of Rights  
Comment:    This bill would enact the foster parents' bill of rights. It would enumerate the rights of foster parents, including the right to training, consultation and assistance in evaluating, identifying and accessing services to meet their needs related to their role as foster parents; the right to all pertinent information known to the Department of Health and Human Services about a foster child; and the right to a written explanation of the plan concerning the placement of a child in the foster parents' home.

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

LR: 2411    Sponsor: Representative Picchiotti of Fairfield  
Title:        An Act To Enhance the Family Reunification Process  
Comment:    This bill would add de facto parents to the types of parents recognized by the Department of Health and Human Services for purposes of the reunification and placement process. It would not change procedures in the reunification and placement process.

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#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

##### **DEATH**

##### **RECORDS**

LR: 2263    Sponsor: Senator Libby of Androscoggin

Title:        An Act To Amend Maine's Death Certificate Disclosure Law

Comment:    This bill would allow the sole living parent of a minor to obtain a certified copy of the death certificate of the minor's other parent.

##### **DISABLED PERSONS**

##### **PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITY**

LR: 2426    Sponsor: Representative Peterson of Rumford

Title:        An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Oversight over and Responsibility for the Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program

Comment:    This bill would transfer authority over the Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program Fund to a program administrator, eliminate the Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program Fund Board, authorize the establishment of an advisory board and transfer authority for administration of the fund from the Finance Authority of Maine to the Office of the Treasurer of State.

##### **ELDERLY**

##### **NUTRITION SERVICES**

LR: 2525    Sponsor: Representative Hamann of South  
Portland

Title:        An Act To Provide Meals to Homebound Individuals

Comment:    This bill would fully fund the waitlist for Meals on Wheels.

##### **FOOD STAMPS**

##### **SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM**

LR: 2280    Sponsor: Representative Hamann of South  
Portland

Title:        An Act To Eliminate Asset Tests for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits

Comment:    This bill would require the Department of Health and Humans Services to eliminate asset tests for individuals applying for supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits.

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#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

##### **GENERAL ASSISTANCE**

###### **ADMINISTRATION**

LR: 2432 Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook

Title: An Act To Promote the Success and Accountability of Welfare Reform Initiatives in Maine

Comment: This bill would require certain public benefit programs administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Family Independence to measure annually outcomes for populations served and provide data to ensure state and federal funds are used to better manage performance and would require that legislation affecting the general assistance, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and food supplement programs be evaluated to determine financial and human impact.

LR: 2536 Sponsor: Representative Grohman of Biddeford

Title: An Act To Engender Financial Responsibility among Recipients of Public Assistance

Comment: This bill would set up a state-funded pilot program for certain recipients of public assistance to teach them budgeting skills and encourage them to access community and social services.

##### **GENERAL ASSISTANCE**

###### **ELIGIBILITY**

LR: 2437 Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin

Title: An Act To Reform General Assistance Benefits

Comment: This bill would prohibit the State from paying benefits for any additional child born after the recipient has been accepted into a general assistance program.

#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPT**

###### **ADMINISTRATION**

LR: 2421 Sponsor: Representative Sirocki of Scarborough

Title: An Act To Amend the Membership of the Maine Vaccine Board To Remove the Treasurer of State

Comment: This bill would remove the Treasurer of State as a member of the Maine Vaccine Board.



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#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

##### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPT**

##### **ADMINISTRATION**

LR: 2514    Sponsor: Representative Frey of Bangor  
Title:        An Act To Support State Psychiatric and Forensic Workers  
Comment:    This bill would provide funding for a wage adjustment stipend for state employees in the state psychiatric and forensic facilities to assist in recruitment and retention. This bill also would include monthly reporting requirements for the Department of Health and Human Services on worker injury rates, the use of mandated overtime and other worker safety issues.

##### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPT**

##### **POWERS**

LR: 2121    Sponsor: Representative Hickman of Winthrop  
Title:        Resolve, To Strengthen Public-private Partnerships To End Hunger in Maine by 2025  
Comment:    This resolve would strengthen public-private partnerships to end hunger in Maine by 2025.

LR: 2235    Sponsor: Representative Beebe-Center of Rockland  
Title:        An Act To Establish an Advisory Committee To Study the Prevalence and Service Needs of People Who are Deaf or Blind or Have a Dual Sensory Loss  
Comment:    This bill would establish an advisory committee to study the prevalence and service needs of people who are deaf or blind or have a dual sensory loss.

LR: 2523    Sponsor: Speaker Eves of North Berwick  
Title:        An Act To Support and Strengthen the Direct Care Workforce  
Comment:    This bill would establish a career pathways program that encourages workers to enter into the field of long-term care and to move up through career steps over time. This program, which would build off current efforts within the Department of Health and Human Services, would be designed to develop and implement advanced training for direct care workers and efforts to expand services provided by direct care workers to persons receiving home-based and community-based services; identify the high-demand occupations within long-term care; and establish pathways to those occupations by creating clear and tangible linkages between programs, offering scholarships to participants and leveraging other public money.

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#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

##### **HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**

##### **CERTIFICATE OF NEED**

LR: 2442 Sponsor: President Thibodeau of Waldo

Title: An Act To Improve Hospital Governance by Removing the Requirement for a Certificate of Need for Intracorporation Transfers

Comment: This bill would remove the requirement for a certificate of need when there is a change in ownership or acquisition of control in which the entities or health facilities involved are already in the same corporate family, such as when the entities or health facilities involved are subsidiaries of the same parent corporation or the transaction involves a parent and its subsidiary.

##### **HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**

##### **FINANCING**

LR: 2293 Sponsor: Senator Burns of Washington

Title: An Act To Provide an Annual Cost-of-living Adjustment to Nursing Facilities

Comment: This bill would provide funds to give nursing facilities the annual cost-of-living adjustment in accordance with Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 67, the Principles of Reimbursement for Nursing Facilities, Section 91, and would require an annual cost-of-living adjustment using the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for medical care services in nursing homes and adult day care services.

LR: 2294 Sponsor: Senator Burns of Washington

Title: An Act To Preserve MaineCare Assisted Living by Providing a Cost-of-living Adjustment to Private Nonmedical Institutions and Adult Family Care Homes

Comment: This bill would provide funds to give adult family care homes and so-called "Appendix C" private nonmedical institutions a 4% cost-of-living rate increase in funding in the 2nd year of the current biennium, and provides that annual cost-of-living adjustments must be provided by rule for each fiscal year thereafter in accordance with the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index medical care services index.

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#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

##### **HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**

##### **REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**

LR: 2182 Sponsor: Representative Kinney of Knox

Title: An Act To Prohibit State Funding of Health Care Services Provided by Certain Health Care Providers

Comment: This bill would prohibit all state funding currently provided to Planned Parenthood and would instead provide those funds to other health care providers established under Maine law that are able to provide those same women's health care services.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2531 Representative Guerin, S

LR: 2531 Sponsor: Representative Guerin of Glenburn

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Payment of State Funds to Entities That Perform Abortions or Operate Facilities at Which Abortions Are Performed

Comment: The bill would prohibit payment of state funds to an entity that performs nonfederally qualified abortions or operates a facility where nonfederally qualified abortions are performed. This bill also prioritizes the allocation of state funds to health care entities.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2182 Representative Kinney, M

##### **HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

##### **DELIVERY**

LR: 2171 Sponsor: Senator Cyrway of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Require That Licensed Marijuana Growers Implement Adequate Odor Control Technology

Comment: This bill would require that licensed marijuana growers implement adequate odor control technology.

LR: 2246 Sponsor: Senator Gratwick of Penobscot

Title: Resolve, To Establish the Telehealth Working Group

Comment: This resolve would establish the Telehealth Working Group to examine issues associated with the increasing role of remote patient care and monitoring. The resolve would direct the group to develop recommendations and report back to the Legislature.

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#### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##### HEALTH CARE SERVICES

##### DELIVERY

LR: 2481 Sponsor: Representative Sanderson of Chelsea

Title: An Act To Make Consistent Certain Laws Governing the Medical Use of Marijuana by Qualifying Minors and Adults

Comment: Under current law, an adult qualifying patient who is visiting Maine from another jurisdiction that authorizes the medical use of marijuana and who possesses valid written certification may engage in conduct authorized for a qualifying patient under Maine law without prior consultation with a physician in Maine. This bill would amend the law governing qualifying patients who are minors so that it is consistent with the laws governing adult qualifying patients.

LR: 2537 Sponsor: Representative Hymanson of York

Title: Resolve, To Establish a Task Force To Recommend Improvements to Maine's Medical Marijuana Laws

Comment: This bill would establish a task force to recommend improvements to Maine's medical marijuana laws. In developing its recommendations, the task force will consider issues including, but not limited to, the sealing or expunging of criminal records of certain nonviolent, nontrafficking offenses; facilitating research to establish an impairment limit for driving; and increasing the State's investment in prevention, treatment and recovery services.

LR: 2547 Sponsor: Representative Beck of Waterville

Title: Resolve, To Clarify Inspections of Caregivers under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act

Comment: This resolve would require the Department of Health and Human Services to establish clear standards for the inspection of caregivers under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act.

LR: 2550 Sponsor: Representative Beck of Waterville

Title: An Act To Allow Greater Patient Access to Primary Caregivers under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act

Comment: This bill would increase the number of patients that may be served by a single primary caregiver from 5 to 50.

Potential JR 217: LD5

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**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

**ORGAN TRANSPLANTS**

LR: 2307    Sponsor: Representative Vachon of Scarborough  
Title:        An Act To Encourage Living Kidney Donation  
Comment:    This bill would allow individual grants of up to \$5,000 for living kidney donors to cover lost wages, unreimbursed travel and lodging costs and medical expenses associated with the donation. The bill also would include a grant provision for a specialized transplant educator.

**HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

**PRESCRIPTION DRUGS**

LR: 2125    Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin  
Title:        An Act To Increase Access to Oral Contraceptives  
Comment:    This bill would authorize doctors to prescribe a year's supply of oral contraceptives at a time.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2160    Senator Miramant, D

LR: 2160    Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox  
Title:        An Act To Improve Access to Women's Health Care  
Comment:    This bill would provide that, after obtaining an initial prescription for an oral contraceptive and a 3-month period of using that contraceptive to check for contraindication, a woman may obtain up to a 12-month supply of that contraceptive. In order to continue to refill the supply, a woman requesting the refill would be required to complete an annual risk self-assessment, which the pharmacy would review and keep on file. If a health insurance company pays for the prescriptions for a participant of a health insurance plan, it would continue to do so under the provisions of this bill.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2125    Senator Brakey, E

LR: 2436    Sponsor: Representative Cooper of Yarmouth  
Title:        An Act To Limit the Increase in the Price of Prescription Drugs  
Comment:    This bill would prohibit the sale of a prescription drug in Maine if its price has more than doubled in the previous 12 months or is proposed to be increased by more than twice its current price unless the manufacturer is able to demonstrate that the cost of manufacturing the drug justifies the price increase.

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**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

**PRESCRIPTION DRUGS**

LR: 2520    Sponsor: Representative Hamann of South  
Portland  
Title:        An Act To Prevent Fatal Opioid Overdoses among Youth and Seniors  
Comment:    This bill would allow school nurses and people caring for senior citizens to have  
access to naloxone hydrochloride.

**HEALTH CARE SERVICES**

**RESPITE CARE**

LR: 2548    Sponsor: Representative Jorgensen of Portland  
Title:        An Act To Strengthen the Respite Care Fund  
Comment:    This bill would allocate funding to the Respite Care Fund for a second program to  
provide short-term respite care for people with diseases other than Alzheimer's  
and dementia who are significantly limited in their ability to care for themselves  
and dependent upon others to help them with activities of daily living.

**MEDICAID**

**MAINECARE**

LR: 2195    Sponsor: Representative Tepler of Topsham  
Title:        An Act to Provide MaineCare Coverage for Dental Services To Intellectually  
Disabled Adults  
Comment:    This bill would provide MaineCare coverage to intellectually disabled adults  
receiving so-called Section 21 or Section 29 services for the same level of dental  
services that are provided to children under MaineCare.

LR: 2291    Sponsor: Representative Malaby of Hancock  
Title:        Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Amend Its  
Rules Regarding MaineCare Reimbursement of Air Ambulance Services  
Comment:    Current law provides that MaineCare reimbursement rate for ambulance services  
may not be less than 65% of the average allowable reimbursement rate under  
Medicare for such services. This bill would direct the Department of Health and  
Human Services to amend its rules to implement the law.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2354 Representative Lajoie, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2515 Senator Burns, D

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**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**MEDICAID**

**MAINECARE**

- LR: 2325    Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin  
Title:        An Act To Impose Penalties for Certain Transfers of Assets at Less Than Fair Market Value by Individuals  
Comment:    This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to impose an asset transfer penalty, with a lookback period of 60 months, on a person seeking to qualify for MaineCare funding and support of any long-term care services, and who has made a transfer or other disposal of assets at less than fair market value.
- LR: 2354    Sponsor: Representative Lajoie of Lewiston  
Title:        An Act To Require the State To Adequately Pay for Emergency Medical Services  
Comment:    This bill would increase the MaineCare reimbursement for ambulance services to the federal Medicare allowable rate.
- Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2291   Representative Malaby, R  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2515   Senator Burns, D
- LR: 2407    Sponsor: Senator Woodsome of York  
Title:        An Act To Increase Access to Opiate Addiction Treatment in Maine  
Comment:    This bill would increase access to opiate addiction treatment by setting the MaineCare reimbursement rate for outpatient methadone treatment at a level equal to the rates in effect prior to the 2010 and 2012 rate cuts.
- LR: 2450    Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook  
Title:        An Act To Eliminate the Waiting List for Community-based Services Provided under MaineCare for Individuals with a Brain Injury, an Intellectual Disability or Autism  
Comment:    This bill would use excess proceeds from the state liquor contract to provide funding to eliminate the waiting list for community-based services provided under MaineCare for individuals with a brain injury, an intellectual disability or autism.

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#### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##### MEDICAID

##### MAINECARE

LR: 2515 Sponsor: Senator Burns of Washington

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Amend Its Rules To Provide Fair Access to, and Prevent Abuse of, Ambulance Services

Comment: This bill would direct the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt rules designed to prevent abuse of ambulance services by MaineCare members and would set the reimbursement rate of these services at the Medicare rate.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2291 Representative Malaby, R

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2354 Representative Lajoie, M

LR: 2522 Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Increase Salaries for Personal Care Assistants

Comment: This bill would increase MaineCare reimbursement for salaries for personal care assistants.

Closely Related CO: LD 886 Representative Espling, E

##### MEDICAID

##### MANAGED CARE PLAN

LR: 2454 Sponsor: Representative Vachon of Scarborough

Title: An Act To Clarify Medicaid Managed Care Ombudsman Services

Comment: This bill would amend the laws regarding the Medicaid managed care ombudsman to make them consistent with federal law and guidance. It also clarifies the services the ombudsman provides.

##### MEDICAID

##### PROVIDERS

LR: 2229 Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin

Title: An Act To Align the Asset Lookback Standards for Senior Care

Comment: This bill would establish a 5-year asset lookback period for Medicaid qualification for services with private nonmedical institutions and home-based care identical to the current standards associated with nursing homes.



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### **Bill Requests For Screening**

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#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

##### **MEDICAID**

##### **REIMBURSEMENT**

LR: 2471    Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook  
Title:        An Act To Expand Resources for Independent Living Services for People with Disabilities  
Comment:    This bill would redirect current federal reimbursement under the federal Social Security Act to better meet the needs of people with disabilities to maximize their ability to live independently.

#### **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

##### **CHILDREN**

LR: 2428    Sponsor: Senator Gratwick of Penobscot  
Title:        An Act To Improve the Quality of Mental Health Care Provided to Children in State Custody in Compliance with Federal Law and National Standards  
Comment:    This bill would require the State to comply with federal law and national professional standards in the assessment and provision of mental health services to children in Department of Health and Human Services custody. This bill will require that all children placed in state custody have a mental health assessment within 30 days and set guidelines for the provision of services, use of psychotropic medication and continuing evaluation of a child's needs.

Closely Related CO:            LD 213    Senator Gratwick, G

#### **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

##### **PLANNING**

LR: 2456    Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook  
Title:        Resolve, To Improve Access to and the Quality of Services for Persons with Mental Illness  
Comment:    This resolve would require the Department of Health and Human Services, by November 1, 2016, to develop an extensive and comprehensive plan to improve access to and the quality of care for patients who need inpatient and residential mental health services, whether forensic or civil. The plan would include an evaluation of the need for such services in Maine, the number of patients who need the services, a 10-year projection of the number of patients who will need to be served and multiple options for meeting any unmet needs that are determined to exist or improvements to care that need to be made.

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#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

##### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

##### **LEAD POISONING**

LR: 2533 Sponsor: Representative Devin of Newcastle

Title: An Act To Ensure Lead Paint Protection and Mitigation Programs Are Enforced

Comment: The bill would develop an approach to ensure that Maine children are fully protected from lead poisoning and that lead paint protection and mitigation programs are enforced.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2541 Representative Jorgensen, E

LR: 2541 Sponsor: Representative Jorgensen of Portland

Title: An Act To Protect Families from Lead Paint Poisoning

Comment: This bill would add testing for lead paint to the home visiting program, which is an existing program administered by the Department of Health and Human Services. A home visitor would ask a parent for permission to test for lead paint and, if the parent agreed, would collect a paint sample to be tested by the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention. If lead paint is detected, the parent would be notified, and, if the level is high, a lead inspector would confirm the reading.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2533 Representative Devin, M

##### **SMOKING**

##### **CIGARETTES**

LR: 2336 Sponsor: Representative Short of Pittsfield

Title: An Act Regarding Wholesale Sales of Cigarettes

Comment: This bill would require distributors of cigarettes to sell cigarettes to stores at the same price.

##### **SMOKING**

##### **PUBLIC PROTECTION**

LR: 2339 Sponsor: Representative Kinney of Knox

Title: An Act To Limit Smoking to Designated Areas at Certain Outdoor Events

Comment: This bill would limit smoking to designated areas at certain outdoor events.

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#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

##### **SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

##### **EDUCATION**

LR: 2555 Sponsor: Senator Willette of Aroostook

Title: An Act To Amend the Law Regarding the Diversion Alert Program

Comment: This bill would provide additional funding for the diversion alert program and move the program from the Office of the Attorney General to the Department of Public Safety.

##### **SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

##### **PREVENTION**

LR: 2165 Sponsor: Representative Hamann of South Portland

Title: An Act To Prevent Substance Abuse

Comment: This bill would appropriate funds to the Maine Association of Substance Abuse Programs to provide education programs to prevent drug addiction and counseling services to help recovering drug addicts avoid relapse.

##### **SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

##### **TREATMENT**

LR: 2385 Sponsor: Representative Dion of Portland

Title: An Act To Establish the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program in Maine

Comment: This bill would establish the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion, or "LEAD," program to address drug crimes by diverting low-level offenders into community-based treatment and support services. Case managers will work with offenders to get them into treatment and connect with other supports such as housing, health care, job training and mental health services. This legislation will establish 8 pilot projects in communities around the State. It will provide \$250,000 for each project. This funding will allow for a full-time case manager to work with people struggling with addiction and provide flexible funding to assist participants as they seek to stabilize their lives and move past addiction.

LR: 2492 Sponsor: Representative Lyford of Eddington

Title: An Act To Require That a Person Undergoing Methadone Treatment Be Accompanied by a Driver or Have Another Transportation Arrangement

Comment: This bill would require that a person undergoing a methadone treatment be accompanied by a designated driver or have an alternative means of getting home after the treatment.

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#### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

##### **SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

##### **TREATMENT**

LR: 2501 Sponsor: Representative Maker of Calais

Title: An Act To Support Maine People in Recovery

Comment: This bill would provide funding for 3 new centers in different parts of the State to coordinate and run peer support programs to help persons in recovery from drug addiction. Two of these centers would be located outside of Maine's service centers, in order to serve populations in more rural parts of the State. Funding for each center would support the hiring of a coordinator who would support recovery group facilitation, peer mentoring and peer recovery resource connecting, and the centers could be coordinated and housed within existing health care settings, such as rural health care centers.

##### **TEMPORARY ASSIST TO NEEDY FAMILIES**

##### **PROVISIONS**

LR: 2417 Sponsor: President Thibodeau of Waldo

Title: An Act To Ensure Accountability in Maine's Welfare System

Comment: This bill would amend certain of the State's laws governing benefits provided under the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program, or TANF, the Additional Support for People in Retraining and Education program, or ASPIRE, and the food supplement program. This bill would: require work searches by certain recipients of TANF benefits; prohibit the use of electronic benefits cards to access TANF outside the State; limit certain cash withdrawals of TANF benefits; prohibit the use of TANF benefits and electronic benefits cards for certain specified products; amend the laws governing the imposition of sanctions under the ASPIRE and TANF programs; remove the limit on education, training and treatment for participants in the ASPIRE program; amend the laws governing the receipt of alternative aid; and eliminate eligibility for convicted drug traffickers under TANF and the food supplement program.

Potential JR 217: LD452, 1144, 1375

Closely Related CO: LD 1097 Senator Libby, N

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**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**TEMPORARY ASSIST TO NEEDY FAMILIES**

**TRANSITION**

LR: 2401    Sponsor: Representative Herbig of Belfast

Title:        An Act To Provide Job Opportunities to Families Participating in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program

Comment:    This bill would establish a transitional employment program for certain people with children who are current or former recipients of benefits under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, in order to provide them with the opportunity for temporary employment and improve their potential employability through increased work experience in a competitive work environment.

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#### **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

##### **FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

##### **CREDIT UNIONS**

LR: 2464    Sponsor: Senator Hamper of Oxford  
Title:        An Act To Promote Access to Financial Institutions by Entities That Are Authorized under State Law  
Comment:    Current law limits the ability of medical marijuana providers to access financial institutions that are federally insured. This bill would allow state-chartered credit unions to procure private deposit insurance in lieu of federal deposit insurance.

##### **INSURANCE**

##### **HEALTH**

LR: 2197    Sponsor: Representative Brooks of Lewiston  
Title:        An Act To Protect Consumers from Excess Copayments for Prescription Drugs  
Comment:    This bill would prohibit a health insurance company from requiring a consumer to pay a copayment that exceeds the total of the pharmacy's acquisition cost for the drug and the pharmacy's dispensing fee.

LR: 2248    Sponsor: Senator Gratwick of Penobscot  
Title:        An Act To Clarify and Expand Maine's Laws Governing Private Payer Parity for Telehealth Services  
Comment:    This bill would ensure that services rendered by telehealth are reimbursed appropriately and at parity with face-to-face services, when equivalent.

LR: 2249    Sponsor: Senator Langley of Hancock  
Title:        An Act To Create Improved Consumer Protection against Long-term Care Insurance Premium Rate Increases  
Comment:    This bill would amend the laws governing long-term care insurance to implement certain safeguards based on consumer age and limit the amount and number of increases over a defined period of time.

LR: 2309    Sponsor: Representative Vachon of Scarborough  
Title:        An Act To Require Health Insurance Carriers To Provide Notification to Medicare-eligible Customers  
Comment:    This bill would require an individual health insurance carrier to notify policyholders 3 months before they turn 65 years of age that upon turning 65 years of age they may not stay on the carrier's plan, they must enroll in Medicare and they must cancel their premium tax credit.

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**INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**INSURANCE**  
**HEALTH**

- LR: 2420    Sponsor: Representative Sirocki of Scarborough  
Title:        An Act To Repeal the Laws Establishing the Board of Trustees of Dirigo Health  
Comment:    This bill would repeal the laws establishing the Board of Trustees of Dirigo Health.
- LR: 2485    Sponsor: Representative Brooks of Lewiston  
Title:        An Act To Improve Insurance Coverage for Breast Cancer Screening and To Inform Patients If They Have Increased Breast Density  
Comment:    This bill would require insurance companies to cover additional breast cancer screening tests recommended by a patient's physician. It would also require that, if it is determined by a medical provider that a patient undergoing mammography has increased breast density, the patient be informed of that fact.

**INSURANCE**  
**MOTOR VEHICLE**

- LR: 2190    Sponsor: Representative Turner of Burlington  
Title:        An Act To Insure Individual Drivers Instead of Motor Vehicles  
Comment:    This bill would require an individual licensed to operate a motor vehicle to obtain insurance instead of requiring motor vehicles to be insured.

**INSURANCE PRACTICES**  
**REINSURANCE**

- LR: 2371    Sponsor: Senator Whittemore of Somerset  
Title:        An Act To Amend the Maine Guaranteed Access Reinsurance Association Act  
Comment:    This bill would amend the Maine Guaranteed Access Reinsurance Association Act to reflect changes in the individual health insurance market following passage of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

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**INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**WORKERS COMPENSATION**

**INSURANCE**

LR: 2362    Sponsor: Representative DeChant of Bath

Title:        An Act To Require Workers' Compensation Insurance Carriers To Reimburse the State the Amount of Certain Withheld Benefits

Comment:    This bill would require workers' compensation insurance carriers to account for and reimburse the State the amount of weekly indemnity benefits withheld from an injured worker during the course of the claim due to the worker's receiving benefits under the Employment Security Law.



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#### **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

##### **FISH**

##### **PROTECTION**

LR: 2344 Sponsor: Representative Wood of Greene

Title: An Act To Establish a Fall Fish Stocking Program for Lakes and Ponds That Do Not Meet the Equitable Access Requirements

Comment: This bill would establish a fall fish stocking program for lakes and ponds that do not meet the equitable access requirements that provide the public with the same level of access to a body of water as an owner of property on that body of water.

##### **GAME**

##### **MOOSE**

LR: 2161 Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians

Title: An Act To Reduce Diabetes and Obesity among Members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians by Recognizing and Providing for the Right of Tribal Members To Hunt Moose for Sustenance throughout Aroostook County

Comment: This bill would allow the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians to issue up to 75 tribal moose permits per year to resident tribal members to hunt in Aroostook County to improve health conditions with preferred protein sustenance and traditional, physical activity.

Potential JR 217: LD888

##### **RECREATION**

##### **ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES**

LR: 2305 Sponsor: Representative Martin of Sinclair

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Fees for All-terrain Vehicle Registrations

Comment: This bill would increase the resident all-terrain vehicle registration fee from \$33.00 to \$38.00 and the nonresident all-terrain vehicle registration fee from \$68.00 to \$73.00, and would allocate all of the \$5.00 increase to the ATV Recreational Management Fund in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands.

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#### **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

##### **RECREATION**

##### **SNOWMOBILES**

LR: 2349    Sponsor: Representative Black of Wilton  
Title:        An Act To Allow the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands To Transfer Ownership of Snowmobile Trail Grooming Equipment to Incorporated Nonprofit Snowmobile Clubs  
Comment:    This bill would authorize the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to transfer ownership of snowmobile trail maintenance equipment to incorporated nonprofit snowmobile clubs for snowmobile trail maintenance on snowmobile trail systems currently maintained by the State.

##### **RECREATION**

##### **WATERCRAFT**

LR: 2238    Sponsor: Representative Doore of Augusta  
Title:        An Act To Ensure That Public Boat Ramps Are Accessible to Persons with Physical Disabilities  
Comment:    This bill would require that 4 public boat ramps be made accessible to persons with physical disabilities each year.

LR: 2290    Sponsor: Representative Stanley of Medway  
Title:        An Act To Allow Persons 16 Years of Age and Older To Operate Personal Watercraft  
Comment:    This bill would reduce from 18 to 16 the age at which a person may operate a personal watercraft.

LR: 2319    Sponsor: Representative Powers of Naples  
Title:        An Act Regarding Lake Moorings  
Comment:    This bill would amend the laws governing lake moorings.  
Potential JR 217:        LD22

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#### JUDICIARY

##### ABORTION

##### NOTIFICATION

LR: 2169 Sponsor: Representative Espling of New Gloucester

Title: An Act Regarding the Disposition of Fetal Tissue from Abortions

Comment: This bill would require a person performing an abortion to report to the Department of Health and Human Services information about the final disposition of fetal tissue from the abortion.

##### ABUSE

##### CHILD

LR: 2413 Sponsor: Representative Malaby of Hancock

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding the Right to Standing and Intervenor Status in Child Protection Proceedings

Comment: The bill would amend the rights of foster parents and grandparents regarding standing and intervenor status in child protection proceedings.

##### ABUSE

##### PROTECTION ACTIONS

LR: 2210 Sponsor: Representative Fowle of Vassalboro

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws on Protection from Abuse and Unauthorized Dissemination of Certain Private Images

Comment: Recent legislation prohibiting unauthorized dissemination of private images included amendments to the protection from abuse laws to coordinate the laws. This bill would further amend the protection of abuse laws with respect to the definition of "abuse" and remedies.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2211 Representative Fredette, K

LR: 2211 Sponsor: Representative Fredette of Newport

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Protection from Abuse Orders in Order To Implement the Laws Regarding the Unauthorized Dissemination of Certain Private Images

Comment: This bill would amend the laws regarding protection from abuse orders to make changes necessary to implement Public Law 2015, chapter 339, An Act To Prohibit the Unauthorized Dissemination of Certain Private Images.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2210 Representative Fowle, L

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**JUDICIARY**

**ABUSE**

**PROTECTION ACTIONS**

- LR: 2220    Sponsor: Senator Volk of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Protect Victims of Human Trafficking  
Comment:    This bill would strengthen the criteria for protection orders to better protect trafficking victims.
- LR: 2383    Sponsor: President Thibodeau of Waldo  
Title:        An Act To Enact The Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act  
Comment:    This bill would enact the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders, which establishes uniform procedures that enable courts to recognize and enforce valid domestic protection orders issued in other jurisdictions.

**ADOPTION**

**PROCEDURES**

- LR: 2177    Sponsor: Representative Melaragno of Auburn  
Title:        An Act To Allow One Spouse To Adopt a Child without Requiring Agreement by the Other Spouse  
Comment:    This bill would allow one spouse to petition the court to adopt a child without requiring the other spouse to join in the petition.
- LR: 2271    Sponsor: Senator Rosen of Hancock  
Title:        An Act To Clarify Financial Responsibility in Gestational Carrier Agreements  
Comment:    This bill would amend the Maine Parentage Act to clarify financial responsibility for the costs of delivering a child when the child is the subject of a gestational carrier agreement.
- LR: 2513    Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick  
Title:        Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Consider the Rights of Siblings in Situations of Adoption  
Comment:    This bill would require that the Department of Health and Human Services, when working with minors in the custody of the State who may be adopted, consider facilitating regular visitation between siblings.

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**JUDICIARY**

**CIVIL PROCEDURE**

**LIMITATION OF ACTIONS**

LR: 2498    Sponsor: Representative Corey of Windham  
Title:        An Act To Protect and Promote Access to Shooting Ranges  
Comment:    This bill would protect shooting ranges against private or public civil actions, including injunctive and nuisance actions, using state statutes or rules or local ordinances or standards that did not exist at the time of the initial construction or operation of the range.

**COURTS**

**DISTRICT COURT**

LR: 2254    Sponsor: Representative Long of Sherman  
Title:        An Act To Establish the County Court System and Provide for Elected Judges  
Comment:    This bill would abolish district courts and establish a county court system with judges elected by the voters of each county.

**COURTS**

**DRUG COURT**

LR: 2427    Sponsor: Representative Frey of Bangor  
Title:        An Act To Strengthen Programs To Help Individuals Overcome Addiction  
Comment:    This bill would provide the necessary funds to conduct an evaluation of the State's drug courts to ensure that the best and most effective practices are identified and implemented in drug courts across the State and fund a pilot project for new case management services for people in jail who are struggling with addiction.

**COURTS**

**SECURITY**

LR: 2326    Sponsor: Representative Head of Bethel  
Title:        An Act To Improve Security in Courtrooms  
Comment:    This bill would provide for a review of security in courtrooms to determine the need for more cameras and for funding for more cameras.

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**JUDICIARY**

**DOMESTIC RELATIONS**

**CHILD CUSTODY**

LR: 2527 Sponsor: Senator Dutremble of York

Title: An Act Regarding Shared Primary Residential Care of Children

Comment: This bill would define the term "shared primary residential care," require courts to consider the great value of keeping separated parents involved and engaged in their children's lives and require courts awarding custody of children to state clear and compelling reasons for their orders unless substantially equal residential care is ordered or the parents agree on some other custody arrangement.

Potential JR 217: LD642

**DOMESTIC RELATIONS**

**GRANDPARENTS**

LR: 2152 Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox

Title: An Act To Establish Visitation Rights for Grandparents

Comment: This bill would establish visitation rights for grandparents.

LR: 2355 Sponsor: Representative Picchiotti of Fairfield

Title: An Act To Ensure Children in the Care of Their Grandparents Can Access Fundamental Services

Comment: This bill would create state educational and health care consent laws for children in the care of their grandparents.

**DOMESTIC RELATIONS**

**PARENTAL RIGHTS**

LR: 2347 Sponsor: Senator Diamond of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Protect Victims of Sexual Assault

Comment: This bill would provide that a victim of sexual assault may petition the court for termination of the parental rights of the person who committed the sexual assault and require the court to terminate the parental rights upon clear and convincing evidence of the sexual assault.

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#### JUDICIARY

##### FREEDOM OF ACCESS

##### RECORD CONFIDENTIALITY

- LR: 2237    Sponsor: Representative Sanborn of Gorham  
Title:        An Act Regarding Public Access to Certain Records of the State Board of Nursing  
Comment:    This bill would enhance the safety of nurses working at family planning clinics by prohibiting the disclosure of State Board of Nursing licensing records.
- LR: 2369    Sponsor: Representative Warren of Hallowell  
Title:        An Act To Give Proper Oversight to the So-called Fusion Center Advisory Board  
Comment:    This bill would ensure that the so-called Fusion Center Advisory Board has sufficient security clearance to receive classified information and would require that the board treat as confidential information it receives.
- LR: 2422    Sponsor: Representative Goode of Bangor  
Title:        An Act To Increase the Safety of Social Workers  
Comment:    This bill would prohibit the publication of the home addresses of social workers.
- LR: 2462    Sponsor: Representative Hamann of South Portland  
Title:        An Act To Protect the Privacy of People Receiving Public Assistance  
Comment:    This bill would make it a crime to publish any personal information of an individual who is receiving public assistance.

#### HUMAN RIGHTS

##### HOUSING

- LR: 2539    Sponsor: Senator Cushing of Penobscot  
Title:        An Act To Ensure Nondiscrimination against Gun Owners in Housing  
Comment:    This bill would prohibit a landlord who receives public funds for rent from prohibiting a tenant from possessing a firearm while on the premises being rented.

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#### JUDICIARY

##### HUMAN RIGHTS

##### PRIVACY

LR: 2477 Sponsor: Representative Davitt of Hampden

Title: An Act To Ensure Protection against the Invasion of Privacy by Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

Comment: This bill would clarify that existing protections against the invasion of privacy also apply to using unmanned aerial vehicles to observe, photograph or record without consent or otherwise violate the privacy of an individual in an area where that individual has the reasonable expectation of privacy. As a violation of privacy, it would be a Class D crime.

Potential JR 217: LD482

##### PROBATE

##### GUARDIAN AD LITEM

LR: 2275 Sponsor: Representative Frey of Bangor

Title: An Act To Increase Compensation for Guardians Ad Litem Appointed in Child Protection Proceedings

Comment: This bill would set the rate of compensation for court-appointed guardians ad litem in child protection proceedings to the rates established for assigned counsel.

##### PROBATE

##### GUARDIANS

LR: 2429 Sponsor: Senator Gratwick of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Establish Educational and Licensing Requirements for Adult Guardians

Comment: This bill would establish educational and licensing requirements for adult guardians.

##### REAL ESTATE

##### CONVEYANCES

LR: 2143 Sponsor: Representative Malaby of Hancock

Title: An Act To Create a Transfer on Death Deed

Comment: This bill would authorize a special type of deed to transfer ownership of real estate upon death, outside of probate, to beneficiaries named on the deed.



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**JUDICIARY**

**REAL ESTATE**

**FORECLOSURE**

- LR: 2245    Sponsor: Representative Pierce of Dresden  
Title:        An Act To Ensure Consumer Protection in the Laws Governing Foreclosure  
Comment:    This bill, which is modeled on Nevada law, would establish a process of mandatory mediation for parties to a foreclosure.
- LR: 2418    Sponsor: Representative Monaghan of Cape Elizabeth  
Title:        An Act To Expedite Foreclosure Actions  
Comment:    This bill would permit the Foreclosure Mediation Fund to be used to support other expenses incurred by the court in support of resolving foreclosure cases.

**REAL ESTATE**

**TIMESHARES**

- LR: 2502    Sponsor: Representative Chenette of Saco  
Title:        An Act To Amend the Language of Liens on Time Shares  
Comment:    This bill would clarify that an individual's liability for a time share does not extend to the rest of the individual's estate.

**TORTS**

**LIABILITY**

- LR: 2204    Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin  
Title:        An Act To Clarify Limited Liability for Recreational and Harvesting Activities  
Comment:    This bill would limit the liability of a tenant or subtenant or the holder of an easement from a landowner who, in return for consideration, grants permission for recreational or harvesting activities to be conducted on land in control of the tenant, subtenant or easement holder.
- LR: 2419    Sponsor: Senator Volk of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Provide Immunity from Liability for a Person Operating a Motor Vehicle While Acting on Behalf of a Charitable Organization  
Comment:    This bill would exempt from liability a director, officer or volunteer of a charitable organization while that person is operating a motor vehicle for the benefit of the charitable organization.

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#### LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

##### BUSINESS PRACTICES

##### AUTOMOBILE SALES

LR: 2153    Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox  
Title:        An Act To Clarify the Contracts Used for Automobile Sales  
Comment:    This bill would provide that when the terms of an agreement are established during the negotiations for purchase of an automobile, a summary must be presented in plain language for the buyer to review, and the signature acknowledging the terms must be immediately below the summary.

##### BUSINESS PRACTICES

##### FAIR CREDIT REPORTING

LR: 2224    Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin  
Title:        An Act Regarding Credit Checks  
Comment:    This bill would require all companies that perform credit checks for their services to report relevant information from their services to the credit reporting agencies.

##### BUSINESS PRACTICES

##### REGULATIONS

LR: 2189    Sponsor: Senator Dutremble of York  
Title:        An Act To Require Certain Retail Facilities Open to the Public To Be Equipped with Automated External Defibrillators  
Comment:    This bill would require a retail facility over a specified square footage to be equipped with an external defibrillator.

LR: 2276    Sponsor: Representative Daughtry of Brunswick  
Title:        An Act Regarding the Cancellation of Subscription Services  
Comment:    This bill would require that a business that makes an automatic renewal subscription offer for certain products or services present the consumer with an easily accessible disclosure of the methods by which the consumer may cancel the agreement.

##### BUSINESS PRACTICES

##### SALES

LR: 2228    Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin  
Title:        An Act To Reform Credit and Debit Card Standards  
Comment:    This bill would repeal the prohibition against a business's charging additional fees to customers who choose to pay with a credit or debit card.

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#### LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

##### BUSINESS PRACTICES

###### SUNDAY SALES

LR: 2233 Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin  
Title: An Act Regarding Retail Businesses on Sundays  
Comment: This bill would prohibit a retail business that is not owned by a person in this State from being open on Sundays.

##### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

###### BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

LR: 2196 Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland  
Title: An Act To Create and Sustain High-quality Maine Jobs  
Comment: This bill would create the Maine Capital Program within the Finance Authority of Maine with authority to provide loans or bond funding to eligible business projects that have projected costs of at least \$50,000,000 or are projected to result in the creation or retention of at least 250 full-time employment positions that pay at least 125% of the state annual average wage.

LR: 2252 Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland  
Title: An Act To Transfer the Maine Coworking Development Fund from the Department of Economic and Community Development to the Finance Authority of Maine  
Comment: The bill would transfer the Maine Coworking Development Fund from the Department of Economic and Community Development to the Finance Authority of Maine.

##### EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

###### LEAVE POLICIES

LR: 2154 Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox  
Title: An Act To Protect Worker Benefits  
Comment: This bill would provide that if an employee earns vacation time as part of the benefits offered by an employer, the employee must be paid for unused vacation time earned at the pay rate of the employee if the employee leaves that employee's job, voluntarily or involuntarily.

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#### **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

##### **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

##### **LEAVE POLICIES**

LR: 2497 Sponsor: Senator Haskell of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Strengthen the Economic Well-being of Maine's Workforce by Ensuring Employees Can Earn Paid Sick Time

Comment: This bill would require employers of 11 or more employees to allow employees to earn 56 hours of paid sick time.

##### **EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES**

##### **DRUG TESTING**

LR: 2124 Sponsor: Senator Cyrway of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Permit Employers To Drug-test Their Employees and Prohibit an Employee from Using or Being under the Influence of Marijuana in the Workplace

Comment: This bill would allow employers to test their employees to determine whether the employees were under the influence of marijuana while in the workplace.

##### **EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES**

##### **PROTECTIONS**

LR: 2219 Sponsor: Senator Volk of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Protect Low-wage Workers

Comment: This bill would increase the minimum wage, clarify the authority of municipalities and counties to enact ordinances governing employment and make changes to the laws governing the employment of minors.

Potential JR 217: LD 36,52,72,77,92,487,843,1393

##### **EMPLOYMENT SECURITY**

##### **EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION**

LR: 2449 Sponsor: Senator Volk of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Appeal of Unemployment Tax Cases To Conform with Federal Law

Comment: This bill would amend the laws governing the appeal of unemployment tax cases to conform with federal law. This bill would establish a first level of appeal in unemployment contribution cases to the Division of Administrative Hearings within the Department of Labor.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

##### FINANCE AUTHORITY PROGRAMS

- LR: 2382    Sponsor: President Thibodeau of Waldo  
Title:        Resolve, To Establish a Program To Support Maine Agriculture and Improve Nutrition in the State  
Comment:    This resolve would direct the Finance Authority of Maine to establish a program by contracting with an appropriate statewide organization to purchase and distribute Maine agricultural and seafood commodities.
- LR: 2453    Sponsor: Representative Fecteau of Biddeford  
Title:        An Act To Protect Taxpayer Dollars and Ensure the Integrity of State Economic Development Programs  
Comment:    This bill would reform the Maine New Markets Capital Investment Program by directing the Governor and State Tax Assessor to recapture tax credits associated with any fraudulent transactions that have occurred under this program; designate the Finance Authority of Maine, instead of a qualified community development entity, as the owner of tax credits under this program; and increase accountability for future projects in the program by establishing job creation and job quality standards.
- LR: 2460    Sponsor: Senator Patrick of Oxford  
Title:        An Act To Create a Maine State Rural Investment Tax Credits Program  
Comment:    This bill would establish a program to replace the Maine New Markets Capital Investment Program.
- LR: 2535    Sponsor: Representative Hamann of South Portland  
Title:        An Act To Establish the Let's Grow Maine Program  
Comment:    This bill would establish the Let's Grow Maine Program, to be administered by the Finance Authority of Maine and funded by 25% of the revenue from the tax on certain tobacco products, to purchase fruits and vegetables from Maine's farms for distribution to schools, seniors and low-income individuals.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

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#### LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

##### HOUSING

##### CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

- LR: 2191    Sponsor: Representative Battle of South Portland  
Title:        An Act Requiring Builders To Provide Information Regarding Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems  
Comment:    This bill would require builders of new, one-or-2-family dwellings that are 3 stories or less to provide to the purchasers a cost estimate from the builder for an automatic fire sprinkler system, as well as information from the State Fire Marshall's office about the benefits of such a system.

##### HOUSING

##### ENERGY ASSISTANCE

- LR: 2359    Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan  
Title:        An Act To Provide Heating Assistance for Maine Seniors and Families  
Comment:    This bill would provide heating assistance for Maine seniors and families using proceeds from the State's liquor contract.
- LR: 2487    Sponsor: Representative Gideon of Freeport  
Title:        An Act To Facilitate Affordable Green Housing  
Comment:    This bill would create new financing mechanisms to make older housing stock more heat-efficient and electricity-efficient.
- LR: 2499    Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox  
Title:        An Act To Provide Incentives to Homeowners To Increase the Use of Clean Energy  
Comment:    This bill would strengthen the residential solar panel rebate program.

##### HOUSING

##### RENTAL

- LR: 2439    Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin  
Title:        An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Apartment Housing  
Comment:    This bill would make it a crime for a person to remove or disable a smoke or carbon monoxide detector in an apartment, block an exit if the blockage results in injury or death or intentionally cause damage to an apartment under the person's control.

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### Bill Requests For Screening

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#### LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

##### HOUSING

##### RENTAL

LR: 2529 Sponsor: Representative Moonen of Portland

Title: An Act To Improve Transparency and Strengthen Consumer Protection in Rental Housing

Comment: This bill would require local code enforcement officers to keep a publicly accessible online database of complaints and violations related to rental housing.

##### JOB TRAINING

##### PROGRAMS

LR: 2367 Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Enhance Economic Development through the Attraction and Support of Immigrant Populations

Comment: This bill would develop a highly coordinated pathway system that is easily understood and navigated for immigrants to integrate into the workforce and community. As part of this system, this bill would create pilot projects throughout the State that enhance access to services and training for immigrants and have defined, measurable outcomes for individuals.

LR: 2398 Sponsor: Representative Golden of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Ensure Central Maine Companies Have Access to Skilled Labor

Comment: This bill would provide funding of \$75,000 in each year of the biennium to the Department of Education for the New Mainers Program in Lewiston adult education.

LR: 2480 Sponsor: Representative Gideon of Freeport

Title: An Act To Create the Maine Workforce Academy

Comment: This bill would create a program to facilitate paid work or training for Maine students with Maine businesses. The program is intended for students who have graduated from high school but have not yet attended community college or a 4-year college.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

##### **LABOR RELATIONS**

##### **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING**

LR: 2402    Sponsor: Senator Patrick of Oxford  
Title:        An Act To Improve Working Conditions for Public Sector Employees by  
               Removing the Prohibition against Striking  
Comment:    This bill would remove the prohibition against striking for public sector  
               employees under all sections of public sector labor law in Maine.

##### **LICENSING**

##### **DENTAL PERSONNEL**

LR: 2231    Sponsor: Representative Rykerson of Kittery  
Title:        An Act Regarding Clinical Practice Requirements for Licensure as an  
               Independent Practice Dental Hygienist  
Comment:    This bill would require applicants for licensure as independent practice dental  
               hygienists to provide proof of having at least 5 years of clinical practice  
               experience, including part-time practice or employment, to meet the clinical  
               practice requirement for licensure.

LR: 2414    Sponsor: Representative Sirocki of Scarborough  
Title:        An Act To Conform Maine Law to the Requirements of the American Dental  
               Association Commission on Dental Accreditation  
Comment:    The bill would conform Maine law to the requirements of the American Dental  
               Association Commission on Dental Accreditation.

##### **LICENSING**

##### **MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS**

LR: 2247    Sponsor: Senator Gratwick of Penobscot  
Title:        An Act To Adopt the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact  
Comment:    This bill would adopt the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact so that Maine  
               health care providers, institutions and patients can practice across state lines and  
               in different licensure regions.



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

**Bill Requests For Screening**

**Sorted By Subject**

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**LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**

**WORKERS COMPENSATION**

**BENEFITS**

LR: 2147    Sponsor: Senator Johnson of Lincoln

Title:        An Act To Ensure the Proportional Offset against Social Security Retirement  
Benefits of Workers' Compensation Awards

Comment:    This bill would ensure the proportional offset against social security retirement  
benefits of workers' compensation awards.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

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#### MARINE RESOURCES

##### AQUACULTURE

##### SHELLFISH

LR: 2387 Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland  
Title: An Act To Protect Shellfish Conservation Areas  
Comment: This bill would amend the permit criteria related to unreasonably interfering with fishing that a municipal shellfish aquaculture proposed project must meet.

##### COMMERCIAL FISHING

##### LICENSES

LR: 2381 Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland  
Title: An Act To Ensure Fairness in Shellfish and Marine Worm Digger Licensing  
Comment: This bill would require municipal licensing for the taking of marine worms.

LR: 2391 Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians  
Title: An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment by Removing Barriers to the Granting of Commercial Lobster and Crab Fishing Licenses to Members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians  
Comment: This bill would waive for 3 years the requirement that a member of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians have 1,000 hours of experience and have completed a 2-year apprenticeship in lobster fishing in order to be granted a commercial lobster and crab fishing license.

LR: 2500 Sponsor: Representative Blume of York  
Title: An Act To Implement an Owner-operator Requirement in the Scallop and Sea Urchin Fisheries  
Comment: This bill would require scallop and sea urchin dragging license holders to own and operate their vessels in order to participate in the relevant fishery.

##### COMMERCIAL FISHING

##### PRACTICES

LR: 2474 Sponsor: Representative Devin of Newcastle  
Title: Resolve, To Ensure the Sustainability of the Periwinkle Fishery  
Comment: This resolve would require the Department of Marine Resources to adopt major substantive rules regarding the harvest of periwinkles including limits on the size and volume of periwinkles harvested and the time and location of the harvest.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

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#### MARINE RESOURCES

##### FISH

##### EELS

LR: 2144 Sponsor: Representative Beebe-Center of Rockland

Title: An Act To Improve the Elver Season

Comment: This bill would allow the Commissioner of Marine Resources to set the starting date for the elver season based on weather conditions.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2183 Representative Tuell, W

LR: 2183 Sponsor: Representative Tuell of East Machias

Title: An Act To Extend the Length of Maine's Elver Fishing Season in Certain Circumstances

Comment: This bill would allow the Commissioner of Marine Resources to extend the State's elver harvesting season by an additional 2 weeks if the State's annual harvest quota has not been reached.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2144 Representative Beebe-Center, P

LR: 2424 Sponsor: Representative Kumiega, III of Deer Isle

Title: An Act To Provide Flexibility To Designate the Closed Period for Elver Harvesting

Comment: This bill would require the Commissioner of Marine Resources to set the 48-hour weekly closed period to harvest elvers by rule prior to the start of the season to increase fishing opportunities, based on the timing of the tides. Currently the period in statute is from noon Friday to noon Sunday.

##### LOBSTERS

##### LICENSING

LR: 2530 Sponsor: Representative Devin of Newcastle

Title: An Act To Recognize a Previously Completed Lobster Apprenticeship Program or Relevant Lobster Fishing Experience

Comment: This bill would enable recognition of and credit for the previous completion of the lobster apprenticeship program by an applicant for a lobster fishing license. It also would permit the requirement for completion of the lobster apprenticeship program to be waived for an applicant who demonstrates relevant experience.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **MARINE RESOURCES**

##### **LOBSTERS**

##### **MANAGEMENT ZONES**

LR: 2423 Sponsor: Representative Kumiega, III of Deer Isle

Title: An Act To Improve Maine's Lobster Licensing and Limited-entry System

Comment: This bill would change the lobster licensing and limited-entry system to remove the option for zones to use tags as an entry mechanism, change the time frame to convert a student license to a commercial license, create a new Class II limited lobster and crab fishing license eligible for a maximum of 300 rather than 800 traps, eliminate the current limit on increasing trap tags and eliminate the apprenticeship requirement in the island limited-entry program.

#### **MARINE RESOURCES DEPT**

##### **RULES**

LR: 2185 Sponsor: Representative Hanley of Pittston

Title: Resolve, To Postpone Implementation of Department of Marine Resources Rules Regarding Smelt

Comment: This resolve would postpone for 2 years implementation of the most recently adopted rules of the Department of Marine Resources regarding smelt.

#### **SHELLFISH**

##### **CLAMS**

LR: 2543 Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Change the Size Restriction on Soft-shell Clams

Comment: This bill would change the size restriction on soft-shell clams from the current minimum shell length of 2 inches to a prohibition on possession of soft-shell clams with shell lengths that are less than 1.5 inches or greater than 3.5 inches.

#### **SHELLFISH**

##### **HARVESTING**

LR: 2388 Sponsor: Representative McCreight of Harpswell

Title: An Act Regarding Authorized Municipal Shellfish Conservation Areas

Comment: This bill would allow the closure of authorized municipal shellfish conservation areas to all fisheries under certain circumstances. A municipality may apply to the Department of Marine Resources to close areas with a documented conservation investment by the municipality to foster the health and growth of shellfish when such a closure is necessary to allow shellfish to achieve legally harvestable size.

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### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

##### **COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

###### **SERVICES**

LR: 2405    Sponsor: Representative Chace of Durham  
Title:        An Act To Revise the Governance of the Cumberland County Recreation Center  
Comment:    This bill would change the entity responsible for the management of the Cumberland County Recreation Center to the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners.

##### **LEGISLATURE**

###### **LEGISLATORS**

LR: 2425    Sponsor: Representative Lockman of Amherst  
Title:        An Act To Require Random Drug Testing of Legislators  
Comment:    This bill would require random drug testing of legislators.

##### **MUNICIPALITIES**

###### **ORDINANCES**

LR: 2341    Sponsor: Representative Lockman of Amherst  
Title:        An Act To Ensure That Local Governments Are in Compliance with Federal Immigration Law  
Comment:    This bill would prohibit local governments from enacting an order or ordinance that prohibits communicating or cooperating with federal agencies or officials to verify or report the immigration status of an alien in that locality.

##### **MUNICIPALITIES**

###### **PROPERTY TRANSFER**

LR: 2208    Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin  
Title:        An Act To Transfer Approximately .75 Acres of Land from the Town of Madrid to the Madrid Historical Society  
Comment:    This bill would transfer approximately .75 acres of land from the Town of Madrid to the Madrid Historical Society.

##### **MUNICIPALITIES**

###### **REIMBURSEMENT**

LR: 2178    Sponsor: Representative Verow of Brewer  
Title:        An Act To Require Disclosure of Settlement Amounts between Persons and Local Governments  
Comment:    This bill would require disclosure of monetary settlement amounts between persons and local governments.

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### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

##### **MUNICIPALITIES**

###### **SECESSION**

LR: 2184 Sponsor: Senator Edgecomb of Aroostook

Title: An Act To Allow a Part of the Town of Caribou To Secede and Form the Town of Lyndon

Comment: This bill would begin the process of permitting a portion of the Town of Caribou to secede and form the new town called Lyndon.

##### **NOTARIES PUBLIC**

###### **OUT OF STATE NOTARIES**

LR: 2451 Sponsor: Representative Maker of Calais

Title: An Act To Permit a Resident of a Canadian Province Adjoining Maine To Qualify as a Notary Public

Comment: This bill would allow a person from an adjoining province of Canada to qualify to be a notary public in Maine.

#### **STATE GOVERNMENT**

##### **APPOINTMENTS**

LR: 2379 Sponsor: Senator Johnson of Lincoln

Title: An Act To Ensure the Continued Operation of Boards and Commissions in State Government

Comment: This bill would provide that the President of the Senate may nominate persons to positions subject to nomination by the Governor, except for a nominating process set forth in the Constitution of Maine, if these positions are vacant for 6 months or more because no nomination is made or a nomination is made and withdrawn.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2324 Senator Katz, R

#### **STATE GOVERNMENT**

##### **CONTRACTED SERVICES**

LR: 2236 Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin

Title: An Act To Prohibit Certain Entities Who Have Contracts with the State from Expending Funds To Influence Elections

Comment: This bill would require that, with respect to state contracts with private organizations and contracts with state employee unions, if an organization or its members receive payment of over \$10,000 in public money for services provided in a given year, the contract must include a clause prohibiting the organization from spending financial resources to influence state elections, including donations to candidates, political action committees and political parties, for a period of 4 years from receipt of final payment.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

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#### **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

##### **STATE GOVERNMENT**

##### **CONTRACTED SERVICES**

LR: 2538    Sponsor: Representative Ward of Dedham  
Title:        An Act To Eliminate Conflict of Interest in Publicly Funded Projects  
Comment:    This bill would require that bidding on a publicly funded project be limited to persons without an ownership stake in the project.

##### **STATE GOVERNMENT**

##### **EXECUTIVE DEPT**

LR: 2324    Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec  
Title:        An Act To Strengthen Intragovernment Communication and Ensure the Ability of Boards and Commissions To Function  
Comment:    This bill would require that the commissioner of an executive branch department or the commissioner's designee attend and participate in legislative hearings and work sessions.

This bill would also allow the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to jointly fill vacancies of more than 30 days on boards and commissions. Those appointments will be active until the Governor issues an appointment or, in the event of a confirmable appointment, until the date of the confirmation hearing before the appropriate joint standing committee of the Legislature for the Governor's nominee.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2379 Senator Johnson, C

##### **STATE GOVERNMENT**

##### **PROGRAM REVIEW**

LR: 2408    Sponsor: Senator Hill of York  
Title:        An Act To Provide Accountability in State Government Partnerships  
Comment:    This bill would require each state agency to annually report to the legislative committee of jurisdiction on any federal grant programs in which the agency participates and on grant programs in which the agency chose not to participate.

##### **STATE GOVERNMENT**

##### **PURCHASES**

LR: 2156    Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox  
Title:        An Act To Reduce Fuel Costs to State, County and Local Government  
Comment:    This bill would require that fuel economy be the first consideration for purchasing a vehicle for use by state, local or county government or a government agency.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

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#### **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

##### **STATE GOVERNMENT**

##### **PURCHASES**

LR: 2207 Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin

Title: An Act To Give Preference to Maine Vendors and American Products When Issuing State Funding

Comment: This bill would give preference in the awarding of state contracts and purchases to in-state vendors whose bids are within 5% of the lowest bid by an out-of-state vendor and whose qualifications are equal to those of that out-of-state vendor.

Potential JR 217: LD407

##### **STATE GOVERNMENT**

##### **STATE COMMEMORATIONS**

LR: 2146 Sponsor: Representative Duchesne of Hudson

Title: An Act To Establish November 1st as Veterans in the Arts and Humanities Day

Comment: This bill would establish November 1st as Veterans in the Arts and Humanities Day.

LR: 2259 Sponsor: Representative Tuell of East Machias

Title: An Act To Establish September 11th as First Responders Day and Provide an Exemption from the Tax on Prepared Foods for First Responders on September 11th

Comment: This bill would designate September 11th of each calendar year as First Responders Day. This bill would also exempt any first responder or active or honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces from paying meals tax on September 11th.

LR: 2277 Sponsor: Representative Daughtry of Brunswick

Title: An Act To Make Preparations for Maine's 200th Anniversary

Comment: This bill would establish a commission to prepare for and plan activities around the 200th anniversary of the State.

LR: 2278 Sponsor: Representative Daughtry of Brunswick

Title: An Act Regarding Maine's Bicentennial

Comment: This bill would establish and fund a position at the Maine State Museum to coordinate activities around Maine's 200th anniversary.



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**Bill Requests For Screening**

**Sorted By Subject**

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**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**STATE OFFICERS**

**GOVERNOR**

LR: 2127    Sponsor: Representative Hamann of South  
Portland

Title:        An Act To Increase Accountability in the Governor's Expense Account

Comment:    This bill would require the Governor's office to account for the money in the Governor's expense account and restrict the expense account's use so that money in the expense account may not be used to purchase liquor, tobacco products, lottery tickets, tattoo marks or figures, bail, gifts for political donors or any product or service that may be perceived as immoral, offensive or unbecoming to the Office of Governor. It includes penalties for violations and failure to report.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

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#### TAXATION

##### INCOME TAX

##### CHECKOFFS

LR: 2311 Sponsor: Representative Davitt of Hampden

Title: An Act To Establish the Veterans Count Maine Donation Fund

Comment: This bill would establish the Veterans Count Maine Donation Fund funded by a \$2 voluntary checkoff on personal income tax forms. The fund would provide funding to nonprofit agencies that provide assistance to Maine veterans.

Potential JR 217: LD544

##### INCOME TAX

##### CREDITS

LR: 2193 Sponsor: Representative McCreight of Harpswell

Title: An Act To Facilitate Student Loan Repayment by Allowing Graduates To Claim Educational Opportunity Tax Credits on Eligible Portions of Consolidated Loans

Comment: This bill would amend the law by allowing graduates who have consolidated their eligible student loans with their noneligible student loans to claim educational opportunity tax credits on those portions of their loans that are eligible, if they provide sufficient proof of which parts of the consolidated loans, and thus payments, are eligible.

LR: 2342 Sponsor: Senator Libby of Androscoggin

Title: An Act To Expand the Dental Care Access Credit

Comment: This bill would expand the dental care access credit. Under current law, the credit will not be available after 2020, this bill would extend the credit until 2025.

LR: 2415 Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Attract Talent to Maine by Promoting the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit

Comment: This bill would provide funding to promote the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit.

LR: 2524 Sponsor: Speaker Eves of North Berwick

Title: An Act To Strengthen Maine's Economy and Create New Jobs in the State

Comment: This bill would establish a clean energy jobs tax credit. The bill would provide a tax credit for each new clean energy job created within the State by the taxpayer.

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#### TAXATION

##### INCOME TAX

##### CREDITS

LR: 2542    Sponsor: Representative Beck of Waterville  
Title:        An Act To Encourage Maine Employers To Offer and Employees To Enroll in Disability Income Protection Plans in the Workplace  
Comment:    This bill would encourage employers to offer and employees to enroll in group disability income protection plans in the workplace by clarifying the ability of employers to offer appropriate opt-out enrollment to provide lower premium rates. This bill would provide employers an incentive to offer these plans by providing a limited tax credit to offset employer costs of administering a group disability income protection plan for employees.

##### INCOME TAX

##### DEDUCTIONS

LR: 2434    Sponsor: Representative Fredette of Newport  
Title:        An Act To Make Additional Technical Changes to Recently Enacted Tax Legislation Concerning Pension Income  
Comment:    This bill would make additional technical changes to recently enacted tax legislation concerning pension income.

LR: 2510    Sponsor: Representative Welsh of Rockport  
Title:        An Act To Provide Incentives for Child Care and Elder Care  
Comment:    This bill would provide incentives for child care and elder care by reforming the tax laws to allow family members to make tax-deductible contributions to a caregiver's retirement plan.

LR: 2518    Sponsor: Representative Pouliot of Augusta  
Title:        An Act To Improve Access to Higher Education, Encourage Homeownership, Manage Medical Expenses and Strengthen Charitable Institutions by Eliminating Limitations on Claiming Itemized Deductions From Maine Adjusted Gross Income  
Comment:    This bill would amend the law to allow taxpayers to claim all itemized charitable, mortgage interest and medical deductions. In addition, the bill would remove the \$27,500 cap on itemized deductions.

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#### TAXATION

##### MISCELLANEOUS TAXES

##### EXCISE TAX

LR: 2335 Sponsor: Senator Dill of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Assumption of Motor Vehicle Leases

Comment: This bill would ensure that municipalities charge the same amount of excise tax for a motor vehicle upon the assumption of a lease on that motor vehicle.

LR: 2534 Sponsor: Senator Valentino of York

Title: An Act To Exempt Members of the Maine National Guard from the Vehicle Excise Tax

Comment: This bill would provide to full-time members of the Maine National Guard the same exemption from the excise tax imposed on motor vehicles as is currently provided to active military stationed in Maine.

##### MISCELLANEOUS TAXES

##### INSURANCE TAX

LR: 2292 Sponsor: Representative Malaby of Hancock

Title: An Act To Waive the Fee on Annuitizing Financial Instruments

Comment: Under current law, when a financial instrument is annuitized, a 2% premium tax is imposed based on the value of the principal. This bill would waive the premium fee imposed on annuitizing financial instruments.

##### MISCELLANEOUS TAXES

##### SERVICE PROVIDER TAX

LR: 2384 Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook

Title: An Act To Fix Changes Made to Maine's Provider Tax

Comment: This bill would allow for eligible MaineCare providers to receive a small increase in reimbursement rates to offset the cost of the increased tax to the provider through the State's tax and match program.

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### Bill Requests For Screening

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#### TAXATION

##### MISCELLANEOUS TAXES

##### SERVICE PROVIDER TAX

LR: 2496 Sponsor: Senator Cushing of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Repeal the Service Provider Tax on So-called Appendix C Private Nonmedical Institutions

Comment: This bill would repeal the service provider tax for private nonmedical institution services provided by MaineCare Appendix C private nonmedical institutions. The service provider tax would be maintained at a level of 6% for private nonmedical institution services that are provided by MaineCare Appendix B, D, E or F private nonmedical institutions and for personal home care services.

Potential JR 217: LD502

##### PROPERTY TAX

##### ELDERLY

LR: 2551 Sponsor: Representative Martin of Eagle Lake

Title: An Act To Provide State Funding for the School Costs Portion of a Property Tax Bill for a Senior Citizen Whose Property Valuation Is below \$100,000

Comment: This bill would provide state funding for the school costs portion of a property tax bill for a person who is 65 years of age or older and whose property valuation is below \$100,000.

##### PROPERTY TAX

##### FAIRNESS CREDIT

LR: 2218 Sponsor: Senator Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis

Title: An Act To Adjust the Property Tax Fairness Credit

Comment: This bill would make adjustments to the property tax fairness credit to increase the amount of credit certain households may claim for property taxes or rent paid.

Potential JR 217: LD1095

LR: 2265 Sponsor: Representative Beck of Waterville

Title: An Act To Exempt Social Security Income from the Property Tax Fairness Credit

Comment: This bill would exempt social security income from the property tax fairness credit.

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#### TAXATION

##### PROPERTY TAX

##### FAIRNESS CREDIT

LR: 2377 Sponsor: Senator Johnson of Lincoln

Title: An Act To Adjust the Property Tax Fairness Credit To Ensure Sustainable Island Resident Populations

Comment: This bill would adjust the property tax fairness credit to ensure sustainable island resident populations. The adjustment would be based on the cost of living on an island and would help to alleviate the burden that a higher cost of living on an island places on the recruitment and retention of year-round island residents.

LR: 2504 Sponsor: Representative Brooks of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Increase the Maximum Property Tax Fairness Credit for Taxpayers Who Are 65 Years of Age or Older

Comment: This bill would increase the maximum property tax fairness credit for taxpayers who are 65 years of age or older from \$900 to \$1,200.

Potential JR 217: LD76

##### PROPERTY TAX

##### RELIEF

LR: 2393 Sponsor: Representative Wadsworth of Hiram

Title: An Act To Reduce the Property Taxes of Volunteer Firefighters

Comment: This bill would reduce the property taxes of volunteer firefighters.

#### SALES AND USE TAX

##### EXEMPT ITEMS

LR: 2215 Sponsor: Senator Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis

Title: An Act To Protect Maine's Natural Resources Jobs by Exempting from Sales Tax Petroleum Products Used in Farming, Fishing and Forestry

Comment: This bill would exempt from the sales tax all petroleum products used by persons engaged in farming, fishing or forestry.

Potential JR 217: LD 432, LD290, LD30

#### SALES AND USE TAX

##### EXEMPT PURCHASERS

LR: 2128 Sponsor: Representative Turner of Burlington

Title: An Act To Allow Parent-teacher Associations To Be Exempt from the Sales Tax

Comment: This bill would exempt parent-teacher associations from the sales tax.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening**  
**Sorted By Subject**

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**TAXATION**

**SALES AND USE TAX**

**EXEMPT PURCHASERS**

LR: 2431    Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook  
Title:        An Act To Create Equity among Essential Nonprofit Health Care Providers in Relation to the Sales Tax  
Comment:    This bill would add community health centers serving all individuals regardless of insurance status and ability to pay to the list of nonprofits exempted from paying sales tax.

**TAX ASSESSMENT**

**VALUATION**

LR: 2268    Sponsor: Senator Dill of Penobscot  
Title:        Resolve, To Modify the State Valuation of the Town of Old Town To Reflect the Loss in Valuation of the Former Old Town Fuel and Fiber Pulp Mill  
Comment:    This resolve would modify the state valuation of the Town of Old Town to reflect the loss in valuation of the former Old Town Fuel and Fiber pulp mill.

LR: 2289    Sponsor: Representative Stanley of Medway  
Title:        An Act To Promote Snowmobile and All-terrain Vehicle Trails  
Comment:    This bill would allow for a 10% reduction in the value of a parcel of land when determining property tax for that parcel if the parcel's owner has allowed a club such as an all-terrain vehicle or snowmobile club to make a trail through that parcel.

**TAX INCREMENT FINANCING**

**DISTRICTS**

LR: 2188    Sponsor: Representative Turner of Burlington  
Title:        An Act To Provide Sensible Options for Tax Increment Financing Proceeds in Small Towns  
Comment:    This bill would clarify the procedure for municipalities to jointly participate in a tax increment financing district and permit municipalities with a population of fewer than 1,500 persons singly or jointly to include certain regional and municipal improvements in project costs.

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**TAXATION**

**TAX INCREMENT FINANCING**

**USES EXPANDED**

LR: 2200 Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Amend and Clarify the Brunswick Naval Air Station Job Increment Financing Fund

Comment: This bill would amend the Brunswick Naval Air Station Job Increment Financing Fund so that a portion of money that goes to Southern Maine Community College is used only to support direct workforce and educational programs related to the target industry sectors at Brunswick Landing.



## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

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#### TRANSPORTATION

##### MOTOR CARRIERS

###### WEIGHT

LR: 2348 Sponsor: Senator Diamond of Cumberland  
Title: Resolve, To Require the Department of Transportation To Establish a Working Group To Examine Weight Limits for Tractor-trailers with Different Axle Spacings  
Comment: This bill would direct the Department of Transportation to convene a working group to examine amending the law to include greater flexibility in axle spacing and weight limits for the combination vehicle consisting of a 4-axle single unit truck operating in combination with a 2-axle trailer, which has a gross allowable weight of 94,000 pounds.  
Potential JR 217: LD293

##### MOTOR VEHICLES

###### INSPECTION

LR: 2198 Sponsor: Representative Sherman of Hodgdon  
Title: Resolve, To Require the State Police To Study Automobile Inspection and the Reliability of Automobiles Bought from Used Automobile Dealers  
Comment: This resolve would require the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police to study the uniformity of automobile inspections across the State and the number of used automobiles sold by used car dealers that do not pass their first inspection after purchase.

##### MOTOR VEHICLES

###### LIGHTS

LR: 2283 Sponsor: Senator Cyrway of Kennebec  
Title: An Act To Prohibit Alley Lights on Other Than Law Enforcement Vehicles  
Comment: This bill would prohibit the placement of alley lights on other than law enforcement vehicles.

##### MOTOR VEHICLES

###### NUMBER PLATES

LR: 2310 Sponsor: Representative Head of Bethel  
Title: An Act To Include Emergency Medical Service Vehicles in the Firefighter Registration Plate Program  
Comment: This bill would include emergency medical service vehicles in the firefighter registration plate program.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **TRANSPORTATION**

##### **MOTOR VEHICLES**

##### **REGISTRATION**

- LR: 2221    Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin  
Title:        An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Commercial Truck Registration Requirements  
Comment:    This bill would exempt owners of trucks over 6,000 pounds that serve no commercial purpose from the requirement to register such vehicles as commercial vehicles.
- LR: 2226    Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin  
Title:        An Act To Expand Access to Farm Vehicle License Plates  
Comment:    This bill would allow vehicles used exclusively for farm work to be registered with farm vehicle plates.

#### **NAVIGATION**

##### **FERRIES**

- LR: 2364    Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox  
Title:        An Act To Improve the Safety of Ferries in the State  
Comment:    This bill would improve the safety of ferries in the State by implementing recommendations of a safety management systems report issued in 2008 addressing standard operating procedure matters and amending the membership of the Maine State Ferry Advisory Board within the Department of Transportation.

#### **OPERATORS LICENSES**

##### **AUTOMOBILE**

- LR: 2240    Sponsor: Representative Hanington of Lincoln  
Title:        An Act To Authorize an Individual Holding a Restricted License To Operate a Motor Vehicle between Midnight and 5:00 a.m. in Circumstances of Employment Need or Medical Need  
Comment:    This bill would allow a person under 18 years of age who has been issued a driver's license to receive from the Secretary of State authority, during the initial 9-month period of restriction, to operate a motor vehicle between the hours of 12 a.m. and 5 a.m. if that person demonstrates a specific employment need or specific circumstances of medical necessity involving the person or a member of that person's immediate family.

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#### TRANSPORTATION

##### OPERATORS LICENSES

##### SUSPENSION

- LR: 2181    Sponsor: Representative Kinney of Knox  
Title:        An Act To Authorize a Person Whose Driver's License Is Suspended Due To Failure To Pay Child Support To Drive to and from a Place of Employment  
Comment:    This bill would allow a person whose driver's license was suspended because of failure to pay child support to hold a driver's license that is restricted to travel to and from that person's place of employment.
- LR: 2494    Sponsor: Representative Wadsworth of Hiram  
Title:        An Act To Suspend a Driver's License after a Fatal Accident Resulting from Criminal Speeding  
Comment:    This bill would require the suspension of a driver's license if the driver is involved in a fatal accident resulting from the driver's criminal speeding.

#### PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

##### COMPANIES

- LR: 2298    Sponsor: Senator Haskell of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Allow Municipalities To Regulate Transportation Network Companies  
Comment:    This bill would allow a municipality to regulate the operations of a transportation network company, including the driver and motor vehicle, at a municipal airport.

#### RAILROADS

##### SAFETY

- LR: 2519    Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act Regarding Pedestrians Crossing Train Tracks  
Comment:    This bill would prohibit pedestrians from crossing at railroad crossings if the crossing gates are down or flashing lights are engaged.

#### RAILROADS

##### TRACKS

- LR: 2517    Sponsor: Senator Gratwick of Penobscot  
Title:        An Act To Prohibit the Abandonment of Railroad Ties  
Comment:    This bill would prohibit a railroad company or other company from abandoning treated railroad ties, which are the result of replacement or repairs, along a railway line or in a railway yard for more than 90 days. This bill would require abandoned railroad ties to be disposed of at a disposal site permitted by the Department of Environmental Protection.

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#### **TRANSPORTATION**

##### **RAILROADS**

##### **TRAILS**

LR: 2313    Sponsor: Representative Maker of Calais  
Title:        An Act To Expand Access to Calais via the Sunrise Trail  
Comment:    This bill would provide for studying and funding the removal of train tracks on the snowmobile trail between Ayer's Point and Calais.

##### **ROADS**

##### **BRIDGES**

LR: 2126    Sponsor: Senator Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis  
Title:        Resolve, To Name a Bridge in the Town of Sebec the John R. Brainard Bridge  
Comment:    This resolve would name a bridge in Sebec the John R. Brainard Bridge.

##### **ROADS**

##### **CONSTRUCTION**

LR: 2199    Sponsor: Representative Sherman of Hodgdon  
Title:        Resolve, Requiring the Department of Transportation To Expedite Planning and Upgrading of Route 1 between Houlton and Topsfield  
Comment:    This resolve would require the Department of Transportation to expedite planning for the upgrading of United States Route 1 between Houlton and Topsfield.

##### **ROADS**

##### **HIGHWAY SAFETY**

LR: 2255    Sponsor: Representative Long of Sherman  
Title:        An Act To Ensure That Horse-drawn Wagons Are Safe and in Compliance with Safety Requirements  
Comment:    This bill would require horse-drawn wagons to comply with certain safety requirements, such as rubber tires and adequate lighting.

LR: 2400    Sponsor: Senator Collins of York  
Title:        Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Install a Traffic Signal Light in Wells  
Comment:    This resolve would direct the Department of Transportation to install a traffic signal light in Wells at the intersection of routes 109 and 9A.

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### **Bill Requests For Screening**

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#### **TRANSPORTATION**

##### **ROADS**

##### **MAINTENANCE**

- LR: 2186    Sponsor: Representative Hanley of Pittston  
Title:        An Act To Eliminate the Use of Calcium Chloride on the Roads of the State  
Comment:    This bill would eliminate the use of calcium chloride on the roads statewide.
- LR: 2357    Sponsor: Representative Hilliard of Belgrade  
Title:        An Act To Require Municipalities To Maintain Certain Rights-of-way to Standards Required by Federal Postal Regulations  
Comment:    This bill would require municipalities to maintain rights-of-way over which there are mail routes to the standards required by federal postal regulations.

##### **ROADS**

##### **OUTDOOR ADVERTISING**

- LR: 2241    Sponsor: Senator Diamond of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Promote Business by Allowing Increased Opportunity for Advertising  
Comment:    This bill would allow the placement of a sign advertising a business on property that is not the property upon which the business is located as long as the property is owned by the business.

##### **ROADS**

##### **REST AREAS**

- LR: 2216    Sponsor: Representative Davitt of Hampden  
Title:        Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Name the Southbound Interstate 95 Rest Area in Hampden the Hannibal Hamlin Rest Area  
Comment:    This resolve would direct the Department of Transportation to name the southbound Interstate 95 rest area in Hampden the Hannibal Hamlin Rest Area.

#### **TRAFFIC REGULATIONS**

##### **PARKING**

- LR: 2222    Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin  
Title:        An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Requirements for Private Parking Signs  
Comment:    This bill would require owners and operators of private parking lots that ticket or affix a wheel boot to out-of-compliance vehicles in their lots to clearly state on visible signs the amount that owners of out-of-compliance vehicles will be charged for any given period of time.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

**Bill Requests For Screening**

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**TRANSPORTATION**

**TRANSPORTATION DEPT**

**ADMINISTRATION**

LR: 2448 Sponsor: Representative Golden of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Provide Wage Parity and Promote Retention for Transportation Workers in the Department of Transportation

Comment: This bill would allocate funding for wage adjustments to benefit employees in the Transportation Worker job classes who have experienced wage compression due to new hires starting at step 4 in the pay schedule.

**TRANSPORTATION DEPT**

**PLANNING**

LR: 2330 Sponsor: Representative Campbell of Orrington

Title: An Act To Encourage the Development of Commercial Transportation Opportunities in Bucksport

Comment: This bill would encourage the development of a transportation facility, including upgrading roads, rail and water access, at the former site of the mill in Bucksport.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Bill Requests For Screening**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

##### **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

###### **AGENCY STORES**

LR: 2505    Sponsor: Representative Herbig of Belfast  
Title:        Resolve, Directing the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations To Amend Its Rules To Allow Retailers To Return Promotional Alcoholic Beverages to Distributors  
Comment:    This resolve would direct the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to amend its rules to allow retailers to return promotional alcoholic beverages to distributors.

##### **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

###### **BEER**

LR: 2395    Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin  
Title:        An Act To Allow All Beer Manufacturers To Provide Samples of Products to Retail Licensees  
Comment:    This bill would allow all beer manufacturers, regardless of size, to provide samples of products to retail licensees.

##### **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

###### **BUREAU OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

LR: 2455    Sponsor: Representative Kinney of Limington  
Title:        An Act To Improve and Enhance Maine's Spirits Business  
Comment:    This bill would allow the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to collect spirits sales data of on-premises licensees and disseminate that data in the aggregate.

##### **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

###### **LICENSING**

LR: 2396    Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin  
Title:        An Act To Permit Tasting Rooms and Pubs Operated by a Manufacturer under an On-premises Retail License To Sell Their Products for On-premises or Off-premises Consumption without Physical Separation or Separate Inventory  
Comment:    This bill would remove the requirement that a manufacturer that holds an on-premises liquor license and that also sells food maintain separate entrances and physical separation of on-premises and off-premises retail areas.

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**VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

**LIQUOR SALES**

LR: 2151    Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox

Title:        An Act To Allow Distilleries To Retain Product for Retail Sales

Comment:    This bill would provide that a distillery that has retail locations is not required to transport alcohol that is destined for retail sale in those locations to the facility designated by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverage and Lottery Operations for inspection. The distillery would be required to maintain records of all alcohol sold at retail and submit documentation for these sales to the bureau or a designated contractor on a monthly basis.

Potential JR 217:        LD986

LR: 2180    Sponsor: Representative Luchini of Ellsworth

Title:        An Act Regarding the Distribution and Off-site Storage of Spirits by Licensed Reselling Agents

Comment:    This bill would authorize the sale of spirits to on-premises licensees to be transacted at the reseller's agency liquor store location or at a licensed off-site facility.

LR: 2261    Sponsor: Representative Parry of Arundel

Title:        An Act To Allow Municipalities To Adjust Times of Operation for Establishments That Serve Alcohol

Comment:    This bill would allow municipalities to extend the time that establishments serve alcohol by one hour outside current State statutes for opening and closing times.

Potential JR 217:        LD1436

LR: 2288    Sponsor: Representative Hawke of Boothbay Harbor

Title:        An Act To Update the Laws Regarding the Sale of Alcohol at Golf Courses

Comment:    This bill would update in statutes the term "golf club" to "golf course" and clarify that a golf course includes all areas of sales and service of alcohol.

LR: 2295    Sponsor: Senator Patrick of Oxford

Title:        An Act To Clarify the Definition of "Sales Representative"

Comment:    This bill would exempt from licensing by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations a sales representative who is employed by a distributor and who does not participate in product sampling or tasting with the public.



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#### **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

##### **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

##### **LIQUOR SALES**

LR: 2372 Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox

Title: An Act To Allow Nonprofit Organizations To Auction, Raffle or Sell Donated Bottles of Wine

Comment: This bill would allow a nonprofit organization to occasionally auction, raffle or sell donated bottles of wine without a license from the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations.

LR: 2457 Sponsor: Representative Kinney of Limington

Title: An Act To Support Vendors at Gated, Paid-entry Events

Comment: This bill would allow attendees of gated, paid-entry events to consume beer or wine in any area within the gated event as long as the beverage was purchased at the event and served in a disposable unmarked container.

##### **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

##### **WINE**

LR: 2148 Sponsor: Senator Johnson of Lincoln

Title: An Act To Allow the Direct Shipment of Wine in Containers of Less Than 750 Milliliters

Comment: This bill would allow the direct shipment of wine in containers of less than 750 milliliters.

LR: 2150 Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox

Title: An Act To Allow Wineries To Provide Sample Tasting

Comment: This bill would allow wineries to provide tasting samples of products offered for sale at taste-testing events. Samples must be 4 ounces or less and may be provided only to persons 21 years of age or older.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

##### ELECTIONS

##### ABSENT VOTING

LR: 2302 Sponsor: Representative Chipman of Portland

Title: An Act To Expand Early Processing of Absentee Ballots

Comment: This bill would allow a municipality to process absentee ballots as early as the 4th day before the election. It would also authorize the Secretary of State to make available high-speed tabulators for absentee ballots and allow a municipality to bring absentee ballots to a central location for tabulating by the high-speed tabulators as long as security guidelines are properly followed.

Potential JR 217: LD585 and LD 1335

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2303 Representative O'Connor, B

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2346 Senator Cyrway, S

LR: 2303 Sponsor: Representative O'Connor of Berwick

Title: An Act To Expand the Early Processing of Absentee Ballots

Comment: This bill would allow a municipality to opt to process absentee ballots as early as the 4th day before the election and would allow the Secretary of State to make available high-speed tabulators.

Potential JR 217: LD585 and LD1335

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2346 Senator Cyrway, S

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2302 Representative Chipman, B

LR: 2346 Sponsor: Senator Cyrway of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Authorize the Expansion of Processing of Absentee Ballots

Comment: Under current law, municipal clerks are authorized to process absentee ballots on the Monday before the election as long as established notice, inspection, processing and security procedures are followed. This bill would provide that a municipality may opt to process absentee ballots as early as the 4th day before the election as long as all of these procedures are followed.

Potential JR 217: LD585 and 1335

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2302 Representative Chipman, B

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2303 Representative O'Connor, B

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#### **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

##### **ELECTIONS**

##### **CAMPAIGN FINANCE**

LR: 2540 Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan

Title: An Act To Create Transparency in Elections

Comment: This bill would require national organizations to disclose their donor lists. This requirement would apply to political committees and ballot question committees that spend more than \$5,000 to influence the outcome of an election or referendum.

##### **ELECTIONS**

##### **NOMINATIONS**

LR: 2430 Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin

Title: An Act To Allow for the Nomination of a Candidate by Multiple Political Parties

Comment: This bill would amend Maine's election laws to allow a candidate for any state, county or local office with partisan elections to receive the nomination of multiple political parties.

##### **ELECTIONS**

##### **REFERENDA**

LR: 2304 Sponsor: Representative Parry of Arundel

Title: An Act To Adjust the Timing for Recounts in Certain Municipal and Local School Elections

Comment: This bill would increase the time to collect signatures for a recount in a municipal, local school or local referendum election. Current law allows 5 business days after the election to collect the signatures for a recount and requires the voter list to be sealed for 5 business days after the election. This bill would increase the time to collect signatures from 5 business days to 10 business days. An automatic recount would be triggered if any of the municipalities hand count ballots for the election in question and the total vote difference is 10 votes or less.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

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#### **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

##### **ELECTIONS**

##### **REGISTRATION OF VOTERS**

- LR: 2194    Sponsor: Representative Chenette of Saco  
Title:        An Act To Require the Secretary of State To Automatically Register  
Nonregistered Persons Who Are Qualified To Vote from Records from the  
Bureau of Motor Vehicles  
Comment:    This bill would require the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor  
Vehicles to provide the Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions  
electronic records containing the legal name, age, residence and citizenship  
information and electronic signature of each person who may qualify as a voter as  
prescribed by rule. It also would direct the Secretary of State to register as a voter  
each nonregistered person who is qualified to vote and to notify persons how to  
decline registration and how to adopt political party affiliation and would allow  
automatic voter registration connected to a person's driver's license.

##### **ELECTIONS**

##### **VOTING PROCEDURES**

- LR: 2258    Sponsor: Representative Tuell of East Machias  
Title:        RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To  
Require Certain Elected Officials To Be Elected by a Majority of Voters  
Qualified To Vote  
Comment:    This resolution would propose to amend the Constitution of Maine to require the  
Governor, United States Senators and Representatives, members of the  
Legislature and other statewide office holders to be elected by a majority of  
eligible voters. If a majority was not obtained, a run-off election would be held.

##### **GAMBLING**

##### **BINGO**

- LR: 2227    Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin  
Title:        An Act To Legalize Bingo at Campgrounds and Summer Camps  
Comment:    This bill would legalize the playing of bingo at campgrounds and summer camps.  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2239 Senator Collins, R

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

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#### VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

##### GAMBLING

##### BINGO

LR: 2239 Sponsor: Senator Collins of York  
Title: An Act To Allow Minors at Licensed Campgrounds To Participate in Certain Seasonal Activities  
Comment: This bill would allow minors under 16 years of age, without being accompanied by an adult, to participate in a bingo or beano game operated at a licensed campground as long as the prize is a nonmonetary prize, which may include a credit for food served on the premises of the campground, valued at no more than \$10.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2227 Senator Brakey, E

##### GAMBLING

##### CASINO GAMBLING

LR: 2162 Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians  
Title: An Act To Alleviate Unemployment in Aroostook and Washington Counties by Authorizing a Tribal Casino To Be Operated by the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians on Tribal Lands in Aroostook County  
Comment: This bill would authorize a tribal casino operated by the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians in Houlton. The purpose of this bill is to reduce unemployment within all 4 federally recognized Indian tribes and in Aroostook and Washington counties, promote economic development for all 4 tribes and in Aroostook and Washington counties and fund critical tribal government programs including elder care, housing, health and education.

Potential JR 217: LD1066, LD1446

LR: 2164 Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians  
Title: An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment, Fund Economic Development for the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and Provide Funding for Essential Tribal Government Health and Housing Programs in Aroostook County by Annually Apportioning a Percentage of Slot Machine Income from the Casino in Bangor to Federally Recognized Tribes in Aroostook County  
Comment: This bill would distribute 2% of the net slot machine income from slot machines at the casino in Bangor to the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and 2% to the Aroostook Band of Micmacs. Current law provides that 4% of net slot machine income from the casino in Oxford be distributed to the Penobscot Nation and the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

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#### **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

##### **GAMBLING**

##### **GAMES OF CHANCE**

- LR: 2345    Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians
- Title:        An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment and Fund Critical Tribal Government Programs for Federally Recognized Tribes in the State by Exempting the Tribes from State Gaming Laws for Gaming Conducted on Tribal Lands Using 350 or Fewer Slot Machines and Located More Than 80 Miles from an Existing Casino
- Comment:    This bill would exempt federally recognized Indian tribes located in this State from state gaming laws for gaming conducted on tribal lands in order to provide these tribes the same opportunities for alleviating tribal unemployment, raising tribal government revenues and providing funding for vital tribal programs as have been available to federally recognized tribes in other states beginning with the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in *California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians*, 480 U.S. 202 (1987).

##### **GAMBLING**

##### **PROCEEDS**

- LR: 2282    Sponsor: Representative Luchini of Ellsworth
- Title:        An Act Regarding Distributions from Casinos
- Comment:    This bill would remove the requirement that a percentage of the Agricultural Fair Support Fund be disbursed to commercial tracks.

##### **LOBBYISTS**

##### **QUALIFICATIONS**

- LR: 2187    Sponsor: Representative Sirocki of Scarborough
- Title:        An Act To Require Lobbyists To Be Sworn in When Registering as Lobbyists
- Comment:    This bill would require a person, when registering as a lobbyist with the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices, to be administered and swear to an oath to tell the truth when working as a lobbyist.

#### **VETERANS**

##### **VETERANS HOMES**

- LR: 2260    Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec
- Title:        An Act To Update the Laws Governing the Maine Veterans' Home
- Comment:    This bill would update the laws governing the Maine Veterans' Home.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
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Total number of bills screened: 397

## **PART 3**



## 1st Regular Session of the 127th Legislature - Committee Bills Carried Over

Approved	ACF	783	Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish a Right to Food
Approved	ACF	866	An Act to Ensure Efficiency and Safety in the Bureau of Forestry
Approved	ACF	991	An Act to Amend Maine's Genetically Modified Food Products Labeling Law
*Approved	ACF	1022	An Act To Protect the Future of Harness Racing
Approved	ACF	1099	An Act To Establish a Fund for the Operations and Outreach Activities of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Animal and Plant Disease and Insect Control Laboratory
Approved	ACF	1178	An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Maple Syrup Task Force
Approved	ACF	1326	An Act to Require Labeling of All Genetically modified Products
Approved	AFA	2	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Purchase and Development of the Bar Harbor Ferry Terminal as a Multimodal Transportation Facility
Approved	AFA	68	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Attract Business by Investing in High-speed Broadband Infrastructure
Approved	AFA	100	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Help Small Businesses
Approved	AFA	108	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Riverfront Community Development
Approved	AFA	193	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects
Approved	AFA	212	An Act Concerning Cost-of-living Adjustments for Certain Retirees
Approved	AFA	217	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Development of a Multimodal Transportation Facility
Approved	AFA	254	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Waterfront Development
Approved	AFA	354	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Enhance Public Transportation in the Bangor Area
Approved	AFA	385	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Improvements to Facilities at the University of Maine System Campuses
Approved	AFA	386	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Farmland Restoration
Approved	AFA	387	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Agricultural Enterprises and Encourage the Use of Local Farm Products in Public Schools
Approved	AFA	426	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Address Sea Level Rise
Approved	AFA	438	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Maine's Rail Infrastructure and Expand Passenger Rail Service
Approved	AFA	453	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Upgrade and Replace Infrastructure of the Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation
Approved	AFA	518	An Act To Clarify and Protect Certain Public Service Retirement Benefits
Approved	AFA	628	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Transportation Infrastructure
Approved	AFA	654	An Act To Expand the 1998 Special Retirement Plan To Include Detectives in the Office of the Attorney General

Approved	AFA	733	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Build the Infrastructure Needed To End Hunger in Central and Northern Maine
Approved	AFA	747	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Assist in the Creation and Retention of Jobs and Improve Access to Higher Education in Maine
Approved	AFA	784	An Act To Authorize a Revenue Bond for a Student Loan Reduction Plan
Approved	AFA	873	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Housing for Homeless Veterans
Approved	AFA	875	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve Highways, Bridges, Ports, Railroads and Other Multimodal Facilities
Approved	AFA	924	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Enhance State Parks
Approved	AFA	927	An Act To Remove the Age Penalty for State Retirees Working at Institutions That Are Closing
Approved	AFA	931	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Research and Development for the University of Maine System
Approved	AFA	995	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Participating Local Districts in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System
Approved	AFA	996	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Food Processing Infrastructure in Rural Areas of the State
Approved	AFA	998	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Collect Data on and To Monitor Ocean Acidification
Approved	AFA	1018	An Act To Make Certain Necessary Appropriations and Allocations
Approved	AFA	1020	An Act To Make Certain Necessary Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations
Approved	AFA	1021	An Act To Amend the Laws Pertaining to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System
Approved	AFA	1032	An Act To Implement the Combination Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution Retirement Plan Described in a Report Submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs in March 2012
Approved	AFA	1053	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Stimulate Investment in Innovation by Maine Businesses To Produce Nationally and Globally Competitive Products and Services
Approved	AFA	1069	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Upgrade Municipal Culverts at Stream Crossings
Approved	AFA	1234	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Acquire the Frances Perkins Homestead
Approved	AFA	1248	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Land for Maine's Future Fund
Approved	AFA	1334	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Repair and Renovate the Former Cutler Naval Base in Washington County To Facilitate Development and Stimulate the Economy
Approved	AFA	1336	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Maine's Community Colleges
Approved	AFA	1341	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve Maine's Housing Stock and Reduce Heating Costs and Oil Consumption
Approved	AFA	1447	An Act To Authorize Increased Borrowing by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority To Support the Maine Correctional Center in South Windham
Approved	CJPS	195	An Act Regarding County Jails
Approved	CJPS	440	An Act to Create a Secure, Therapeutic Mental Health Unit
Approved	CJPS	655	Resolve, To Study the Feasibility of a State Firefighter Training Facility

Approved	CJPS	823	An Act To Upgrade the Concealed Handgun Permit Law
*Approved	CJPS	1002	An Act Regarding the Electronic Monitoring Program
Approved	CJPS	1114	An Act to Protect Maine's Children from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation
Approved	CJPS	1387	An Act Regarding the State Board of Corrections
*Approved	EDU	215	An Act To Improve Student Retention in Maine's Postsecondary Institutions
Approved	EDU	305	An Act to Authorize Circus Conservatory of America to Grant Baccalaureate Degrees
Approved	EDU	356	An Act to Permit the New England School of Dental Technology to Grant the Degree of Bachelor of Science
*Approved	EDU	419	An Act To Establish the Summer Success Program Fund
Approved	EDU	981	An Act to Establish a Veterinary School
Approved	EDU	1033	Resolve, To Assist the University of Maine System and Maine Community College System to Reduce the Need for Remedial Education
*Approved	EDU	1253	An Act To Improve the Evaluation of Elementary and Secondary Schools
Approved	EDU	1370	An Act to Improve the Quality of Teachers
Approved	EDU	1394	An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Commission to Strengthen the Adequacy and Equity of Certain Cost Components of the School Funding Formula.
Approved	ENR	313	An Act To Create a Sustainable Solution to the Handling, Management and Disposal of Solid Waste in the State
Approved	ENR	394	Resolve, to Lower the Department of Environmental Protection's 5-point Odor Intensity Referencing Scale for Odor Control at Solid Waste Processing Facilities
Approved	ENR	713	Resolve, To Further Protect Lake Water Quality
Approved	ENR	795	An Act to Encourage Prudent Development along the Coast or in a Flood Zone by Considering Predictions for Sea Level Rise
Approved	EUT	273	An Act to Encourage and Enhance the Future of Waste-to-Energy Facilities by Establishing a Portfolio Requirement for Electricity from Waste Energy Resources
Approved	EUT	466	An Act to Increase Competition and Ensure a Robust Information and Telecommunications Market
Approved	EUT	826	An Act to Promote Maine's Economic Development and Critical Communications fo Rural Family Farms, Businesses and Residences by Strategic Public Investments in High Speed Internet
Approved	EUT	879	An Act to Insure High-quality Telecommunications Services for Maine Consumers and Businesses
Approved	EUT	881	An Act to Allow the PUC to Contract for Liquefied Natural Gas Storage and Distribution
Approved	EUT	1073	An Act To Lower Energy Costs and Increase Access to Solar Energy for Agricultural Businesses
Approved	EUT	1075	An Act to Amend the Charter of the Canton Water District
Approved	EUT	1302	An Act to Increase Competition and Ensure a Robust Information and Telecommunications Market
Approved	EUT	1315	An Act to Amend Maine's Restructuring Laws
Approved	EUT	1339	An Act to Provide Relief to Maine Ratepayers

Approved	EUT	1382	An Act to Assist Low-Income Electricity Consumers
Approved	EUT	1398	An Act to Reduce Electric Rates for Maine Businesses
*Approved	HHS	90	Resolve, To Ensure Appropriate Personal Needs Allowances for Persons Residing in Long-term Care Facilities
Approved	HHS	180	An Act to Allow Terminally Ill Patients to Choose to Use Experimental Treatments
Approved	HHS	213	An Act to Ensure the Comprehensive Medical, Dental, Educational and Behavioral Assessment of Children Entering State Custody
Approved	HHS	475	Resolve, To Increase MaineCare Services for Certain Recipients to Allow Them to Remain at Home
*Approved	HHS	552	An Act To Provide Funding for Home Visiting Services
Approved	HHS	622	An Act to Require Training of Mandated Reporters Under the Child Abuse Laws
Approved	HHS	633	An Act to Improve the Health of Maine Citizens and the Economy of Maine by Providing Affordable Market-based Coverage Options to Low-income Uninsured Citizens
*Approved	HHS	661	An Act To Fund HIV, Sexually Transmitted Diseases and Viral Hepatitis Screening, Prevention, Diagnostic and Treatment Services
Approved	HHS	726	An Act to Increase Patient Safety in Maine's Medical Marijauna Program
Approved	HHS	842	An Act to Establish Peer Center Reimbursement
*Approved	HHS	860	Resolve, To Adjust Reimbursement Rates for Dental Services and Improve Access to Dental Care under the MaineCare Program
Approved	HHS	885	An Act to Promote Enhanced Eligibility Verification in Maine's Welfare System
Approved	HHS	886	Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Increase Reimbursement Rates for Home-based and Community-based Services.
Approved	HHS	949	An Act to Enact the Recommendations of the Commission on Independent Living and Disability
Approved	HHS	966	An Act to Assist Patients in Need of Psychiatric Services
Approved	HHS	1030	An Act to Better Coordinate the Work of Mental Health Crisis Agencies with Law Enforcement Agencies
Approved	HHS	1097	An Act to Improve the Integrity of Maine's Welfare Programs
Approved	HHS	1149	Resolve, Directing the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention to Report on Progress Toward Meeting Healthy Maine 2020 Goals Pertaining to Reproductive Health
Approved	HHS	1209	An Act to Increase the Effectiveness of Peer Supports in the State
Approved	HHS	1267	An Act to Assist Working Families with Young Children
Approved	HHS	1268	An Act to Reform Welfare by Establishing Bridges to Sustainable Employment
*Approved	HHS	1412	An Act To Fund a Training Partnership between Riverview Psychiatric Center and the University of Maine at Augusta
Approved	IFS	704	An Act Regarding Notice Provided by Insurance Carriers to Health Care Providers
Approved	IFS	889	An Act to Protect Maine's Small Businesses from High Interest Rates on Commercial and Business Loans
Approved	IFS	944	An Act Regarding Recovery of Emergency Response Costs Related to an OUI Offense
Approved	IFS	1150	An Act Regarding Maximum Allowable Cost Pricing Lists Used by Pharmacy Benefit Managers

Approved	IFS	1305	An Act to Encourage Health Insurance Consumers to Comparison Shop for Health Care Procedures and Treatments
Approved	IFS	1318	An Act to Promote Individual Private Savings Accounts Through a Public-Private Partnership
Approved	IFW	609	An Act to Provide an Incentive to Nonresident Landowners Who Own More Than 250 Acres to Keep that Land Open for Hunting
Approved	IFW	640	Resolve, To Establish a Working Group to Review the Incidental Take Permitting Process Under the Endangered Species Law
Approved	IFW	668	An Act to Market Maine's Hunting and Fishing Opportunities
Approved	JUD	8	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 301: Fee Schedule and Administrative Procedures for Payment of Commission Assigned Counsel, a Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services.
Approved	JUD	221	An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Service Animal Housing Accommodations
Approved	JUD	267	An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission
Approved	JUD	268	An Act Regarding the Penobscot Nation's and Passamaquoddy Tribe's Authority to Exercise Jurisdiction Under the Federal Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 and the Federal Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013
Approved	JUD	775	An Act to Streamline Judicial Review of Certain Land Use Decision
Approved	JUD	778	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 3: Eligibility Requirements for Specialized Case Types, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services
Approved	JUD	890	An Act to Ensure a Continuing Home Court for Cases Involving Children
Approved	JUD	951	An Act to Restore Judicial Discretion in the Administration of Fines
Approved	JUD	1065	An Act To Amend the Law Regarding Temporary Powers of Attorney over Minors and Incapacitated Persons
Approved	JUD	1163	An Act to Amend the Garnishment Laws of the State
Approved	JUD	1177	An Act to Enact the Recommendations of the Probate and Trust Law Advisory Commission Regarding the Maine Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act
Approved	JUD	1181	An Act to Limit Liability for Certain Successor Corporations Under Specific Circumstances
Approved	JUD	1214	An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Mental Health Working Group
Approved	JUD	1224	An Act To Amend the Child Protective Services Laws
Approved	JUD	1241	An Act To Increase Government Efficiency
Approved	JUD	1311	An Act to Establish the Patient Compensation System Act
Approved	JUD	1322	An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Probate and Trust Law Advisory Commission Concerning the Probate Code
Approved	JUD	1433	An Act to Create the Office of the Public Defender and Amend the Duties of the Commission on Indigent Legal Services
*Approved	LCED	249	An Act To Enable Seniors To Remain in Their Homes
*Approved	LCED	1062	An Act To Support Housing for Homeless Veterans
*Approved	LCED	1300	An Act To Create and Sustain Jobs through Development of Cooperatives

Approved	LCRED	429	An Act to Modify the Disbursement from the Maine Economic Improvement Fund
Approved	LCRED	674	An Act to Support Maine's Working Families
Approved	LCRED	690	An Act to Ensure the Safety of Home Birth
Approved	LCRED	1137	An Act to Promote Reemployment of Unemployed Workers
Approved	LCRED	1240	An Act to Phase Out the Payment of Subminimum Wages to Workers with Disabilities
Approved	LCRED	1384	An Act to Improve Workplace Safety by Simplifying and Improving Employers' Substance Abuse Policy Requirements
Approved	LCRED	1389	An Act to Conform Maine Law to Federal Law Regarding Closings and Mass Layoffs and To Strengthen Employee Severance Pay Protections.
Approved	MAR	405	An Act to Support Expanded Capacity for Breeding Wild Atlantic Salmon in Downeast Rivers
Approved	MAR	427	An Act to Address and Mitigate the Effects of Marine Debris
Approved	MAR	493	An Act to Create the Ocean Acidification Council
*Approved	SLG	6	Resolve, To Implement Recommendations of the Government Oversight Committee To Strengthen the Ethics Practices and Procedures for Executive Branch Employees
Approved	SLG	166	An Act to Allow York County to Better Provide Rescue and Ambulance Services
Approved	SLG	1190	An Act to Amend the Androscoggin County Charter
Approved	SLG	1206	An Act to Allow County Corrections Officers to Participate in the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program
Approved	SLG	1286	An Act to Ensure the Use of Environmentally Responsible Insulation Materials in Taxpayer-funded Building Projects
Approved	SLG	1298	An Act Relating to the Creation of Public-private Facilities and Infrastructure
Approved	SLG	1325	An Act to Ensure a Public Process When Discontinuing or Abandoning a Public Road
Approved	SLG	1328	An Act to Clarify the Ownership of and Access to Ancient and Family Burying Grounds
Approved	TAX	49	An Act to Exempt from Excise Tax Certain Vehicles Used by Persons with a Disability
*Approved	TAX	281	Resolve, To Modify the State Valuation of the Towns of Madison, Skowhegan, East Millinocket and Jay To Reflect the Loss of Valuation of Major Taxpayers in Those Towns
*Approved	TAX	365	An Act To Provide a Tax Reduction for Modifications To Make a Home More Accessible for a Person with a Disability
*Approved	TAX	498	An Act To Restore the Super Credit for Substantially Increased Research and Development
Approved	TAX	646	An Act to Provide Incentives for Municipal Cooperation and Shared Services
*Approved	TAX	867	An Act To Provide Tax Fairness and To Lower Medical Expenses for Patients under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act
*Approved	TAX	898	An Act To Reduce Student Loan Debt through an Expansion of the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit
Approved	TAX	973	An Act to Ensure that Nicotine Products are Taxed Equally
*Approved	TAX	1000	An Act To Define Prosthetic and Orthotic Devices for Purposes of the Sales Tax Law

*Approved	TAX	1004	An Act To Provide Incentives To Foster Economic Growth and Build Infrastructure in the State by Encouraging Visual Media Production
*Approved	TAX	1142	An Act Regarding the Taxation of Out-of-state Pensions
Approved	TAX	1254	An Act to Implement and Fund an Integrated Beach Management Program
Approved	TAX	1421	An Act to Establish a Tax-free Savings Program for Individuals with Disabilities
Approved	TRA	227	An Act to Remove Barriers to Job Opportunities for Young Truck Drivers
Approved	TRA	287	An Act to Improve Traffic Safety During Political Campaign Seasons
Approved	TRA	687	An Act to Expand Classification Categories for Motor Vehicles in the State
*Approved	TRA	845	An Act To Address Unmet Public Transportation Needs
Approved	TRA	1110	An Act to Modernize Road User Fees
Approved	VLA	742	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Require That Signatures on a Direct Initiative of Legislation Come from Each Congressional District
Approved	VLA	805	Resolve, Authorizing Certain Individuals to Bring Suit Against the Department of Health and Human Services
Approved	VLA	904	An Act to Increase Fairness in Campaign Financing
Approved	VLA	997	An Act to Streamline the Licensing Requirements For and Payments From Veterans' Organizations
Approved	VLA	1279	An Act to Authorize Advance Deposit Wagering for Horse Racing
Approved	VLA	1280	An Act To Provide Income Tax Relief by Expanding Gaming Opportunities
*Approved	VLA	1331	An Act To Provide Enhanced Enforcement of the Laws Governing Alcoholic Beverages
*Approved	VLA	1343	An Act To Increase Access to Postsecondary Education for Maine National Guard Members

\* - Carried over by S.P. 555 Joint Order

## **PART 4**



## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

#### Sorted By Sponsor

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland**

LR: 2252

Title: An Act To Transfer the Maine Coworking Development Fund from the Department of Economic and Community Development to the Finance Authority of Maine

Comment: The bill would transfer the Maine Coworking Development Fund from the Department of Economic and Community Development to the Finance Authority of Maine.

LR: 2409

Title: An Act To Increase Collaboration between the Department of Education and School Food Service Directors

Comment: This bill would increase collaboration between the Department of Education and school food service directors.

LR: 2410

Title: An Act To Feed Young Children by Strengthening the Child and Adult Care Food Program

Comment: This bill would provide for feeding young children by strengthening the child and adult care food program.

LR: 2415

Title: An Act To Attract Talent to Maine by Promoting the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit

Comment: This bill would provide funding to promote the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening**  
**Sorted By Sponsor**

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**Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland**

LR: 2416

Title: An Act To Feed Children from Low-income Families

Comment: This bill would provide funding to subsidize students' copayments for reduced price lunch.

LR: 2532

Title: An Act To Increase Awareness of Postsecondary Financial Aid Options

Comment: The bill would direct school guidance counselors to work with high school juniors and seniors on completing the free application for federal student aid form, even if the students are not intending to pursue postsecondary education.

**Sponsor: Representative Babbidge of Kennebunk**

LR: 2546

Title: An Act To Establish Policy Regarding Distributed Solar Power

Comment: This bill would establish policy concerning continued use and expansion of solar energy through information gathered and studied by the Public Utilities Commission.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2475 Representative Pouliot, M

**Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc**

LR: 2137

Title: An Act To Increase Access to Call Location Information by Law Enforcement Agencies

Comment: This bill would require wireless service providers to provide call location information when requested by a law enforcement agency for the purpose of responding to emergency situations.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

#### Sorted By Sponsor

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**Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc**

LR: 2141

Title: An Act To Allow Maine Residents To Access the Online Reservation Site for State Parks 24 Hours before Nonresidents

Comment: This bill would allow Maine residents to access the online reservation site for state parks 24 hours before nonresidents.

LR: 2142

Title: An Act To Ensure Restitution at the Full Value of the Stolen Property for Victims of Theft

Comment: This bill would ensure restitution at the full value of the stolen property for victims of theft.

LR: 2351

Title: An Act To Protect Firefighters by Prohibiting the Use of Certain Flame-retardant Chemicals in New Upholstered Furniture

Comment: This bill would prohibit the use of certain flame-retardant chemicals in new upholstered furniture.

LR: 2390

Title: An Act To Improve Teaching Assignments in Maine's Public Schools

Comment: This bill would expressly permit teachers to collectively bargain over involuntary transfers of teachers and require any transfer to be done with only the best interest of the students in mind.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

**Bill Requests For Screening**

**Sorted By Sponsor**

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**Sponsor: Representative Battle of South Portland**

LR: 2191

Title: An Act Requiring Builders To Provide Information Regarding Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems

Comment: This bill would require builders of new, one-or-2-family dwellings that are 3 stories or less to provide to the purchasers a cost estimate from the builder for an automatic fire sprinkler system, as well as information from the State Fire Marshall's office about the benefits of such a system.

**Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians**

LR: 2161

Title: An Act To Reduce Diabetes and Obesity among Members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians by Recognizing and Providing for the Right of Tribal Members To Hunt Moose for Sustenance throughout Aroostook County

Comment: This bill would allow the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians to issue up to 75 tribal moose permits per year to resident tribal members to hunt in Aroostook County to improve health conditions with preferred protein sustenance and traditional, physical activity.

Potential JR 217: LD888

LR: 2162

Title: An Act To Alleviate Unemployment in Aroostook and Washington Counties by Authorizing a Tribal Casino To Be Operated by the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians on Tribal Lands in Aroostook County

Comment: This bill would authorize a tribal casino operated by the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians in Houlton. The purpose of this bill is to reduce unemployment within all 4 federally recognized Indian tribes and in Aroostook and Washington counties, promote economic development for all 4 tribes and in Aroostook and Washington counties and fund critical tribal government programs including elder care, housing, health and education.

Potential JR 217: LD1066, LD1446

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

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#### **Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians**

LR: 2164

Title: An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment, Fund Economic Development for the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and Provide Funding for Essential Tribal Government Health and Housing Programs in Aroostook County by Annually Apportioning a Percentage of Slot Machine Income from the Casino in Bangor to Federally Recognized Tribes in Aroostook County

Comment: This bill would distribute 2% of the net slot machine income from slot machines at the casino in Bangor to the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and 2% to the Aroostook Band of Micmacs. Current law provides that 4% of net slot machine income from the casino in Oxford be distributed to the Penobscot Nation and the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

LR: 2345

Title: An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment and Fund Critical Tribal Government Programs for Federally Recognized Tribes in the State by Exempting the Tribes from State Gaming Laws for Gaming Conducted on Tribal Lands Using 350 or Fewer Slot Machines and Located More Than 80 Miles from an Existing Casino

Comment: This bill would exempt federally recognized Indian tribes located in this State from state gaming laws for gaming conducted on tribal lands in order to provide these tribes the same opportunities for alleviating tribal unemployment, raising tribal government revenues and providing funding for vital tribal programs as have been available to federally recognized tribes in other states beginning with the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in *California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians*, 480 U.S. 202 (1987).

LR: 2391

Title: An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment by Removing Barriers to the Granting of Commercial Lobster and Crab Fishing Licenses to Members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians

Comment: This bill would waive for 3 years the requirement that a member of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians have 1,000 hours of experience and have completed a 2-year apprenticeship in lobster fishing in order to be granted a commercial lobster and crab fishing license.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

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##### Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick

LR: 2296

Title: An Act To Require Background Checks for Private Sales or Transfers of Firearms

Comment: This bill would require a person who wishes to obtain a firearm in a private sale or transfer to first obtain a background check from a licensed firearm dealer.

LR: 2297

Title: Resolve, To Provide the Legislature with Information on the Need for Mental Health Services in County Jails

Comment: This resolve would direct the Consumer Council System of Maine to convene a working group to collect data to determine the unmet needs for mental health services in the county jails.

Potential JR 217: LD657

LR: 2380

Title: An Act To Establish a Single Government Entity To Coordinate and Ensure Pipeline Safety in Maine

Comment: This bill would require a single government entity to have pipeline facility inspection authority, require first responders to have 24-hour access to pipeline facilities, ensure these responders are equipped and trained to deal safely with pipeline incidents and require pipeline owners to educate citizens fully about the dangers of hazardous material transportation.

LR: 2404

Title: An Act To Establish the Maine Foster Children's Bill of Rights

Comment: This bill would establish the Maine Foster Children's Bill of Rights.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

#### Sorted By Sponsor

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick**

LR: 2459

Title: An Act To Revise Qualifications for Certain Members of the Telecommunications Relay Services Advisory Council

Comment: This bill would revise the qualifications of 4 members of the Telecommunications Relay Services Advisory Council.

LR: 2513

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Consider the Rights of Siblings in Situations of Adoption

Comment: This bill would require that the Department of Health and Human Services, when working with minors in the custody of the State who may be adopted, consider facilitating regular visitation between siblings.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Beck of Waterville**

LR: 2265

Title: An Act To Exempt Social Security Income from the Property Tax Fairness Credit

Comment: This bill would exempt social security income from the property tax fairness credit.

LR: 2542

Title: An Act To Encourage Maine Employers To Offer and Employees To Enroll in Disability Income Protection Plans in the Workplace

Comment: This bill would encourage employers to offer and employees to enroll in group disability income protection plans in the workplace by clarifying the ability of employers to offer appropriate opt-out enrollment to provide lower premium rates. This bill would provide employers an incentive to offer these plans by providing a limited tax credit to offset employer costs of administering a group disability income protection plan for employees.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

#### Sorted By Sponsor

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Beck of Waterville**

LR: 2547

Title: Resolve, To Clarify Inspections of Caregivers under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act

Comment: This resolve would require the Department of Health and Human Services to establish clear standards for the inspection of caregivers under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act.

LR: 2550

Title: An Act To Allow Greater Patient Access to Primary Caregivers under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act

Comment: This bill would increase the number of patients that may be served by a single primary caregiver from 5 to 50.

Potential JR 217: LD5

##### **Sponsor: Representative Beebe-Center of Rockland**

LR: 2144

Title: An Act To Improve the Elver Season

Comment: This bill would allow the Commissioner of Marine Resources to set the starting date for the elver season based on weather conditions.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2183 Representative Tuell, W

LR: 2234

Title: An Act To Allow Municipalities To Enhance Children's Safety in "Safe Zones"

Comment: This bill would allow a municipality to prohibit firearms in an area of the municipality that is frequented by minors and that has been designated as a safe zone by the municipality.



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### Bill Requests For Screening

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Beebe-Center of Rockland**

LR: 2235

Title: An Act To Establish an Advisory Committee To Study the Prevalence and Service Needs of People Who are Deaf or Blind or Have a Dual Sensory Loss

Comment: This bill would establish an advisory committee to study the prevalence and service needs of people who are deaf or blind or have a dual sensory loss.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Black of Wilton**

LR: 2349

Title: An Act To Allow the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands To Transfer Ownership of Snowmobile Trail Grooming Equipment to Incorporated Nonprofit Snowmobile Clubs

Comment: This bill would authorize the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to transfer ownership of snowmobile trail maintenance equipment to incorporated nonprofit snowmobile clubs for snowmobile trail maintenance on snowmobile trail systems currently maintained by the State.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Blume of York**

LR: 2443

Title: An Act To Improve the Management of "Beach-cast" Seaweed for Purposes of Health, Ecology and Tourism

Comment: This bill would amend the law regarding the management of "beach-cast" seaweed in coastal sand dune systems in order to help towns be more responsive to increasing accumulations of seaweed on our beaches.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

#### Sorted By Sponsor

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Blume of York**

LR: 2500

Title: An Act To Implement an Owner-operator Requirement in the Scallop and Sea Urchin Fisheries

Comment: This bill would require scallop and sea urchin dragging license holders to own and operate their vessels in order to participate in the relevant fishery.

##### **Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin**

LR: 2125

Title: An Act To Increase Access to Oral Contraceptives

Comment: This bill would authorize doctors to prescribe a year's supply of oral contraceptives at a time.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2160 Senator Miramant, D

LR: 2221

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Commercial Truck Registration Requirements

Comment: This bill would exempt owners of trucks over 6,000 pounds that serve no commercial purpose from the requirement to register such vehicles as commercial vehicles.

LR: 2222

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Requirements for Private Parking Signs

Comment: This bill would require owners and operators of private parking lots that ticket or affix a wheel boot to out-of-compliance vehicles in their lots to clearly state on visible signs the amount that owners of out-of-compliance vehicles will be charged for any given period of time.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin**

LR: 2223

Title: An Act To Eliminate the Disclosure Requirement for a Person Carrying a Concealed Handgun without a Permit

Comment: This bill would eliminate the requirement that a person lawfully carrying a concealed handgun without a permit immediately disclose that fact to a law enforcement officer during the course of any arrest, detainment or routine traffic stop.

LR: 2224

Title: An Act Regarding Credit Checks

Comment: This bill would require all companies that perform credit checks for their services to report relevant information from their services to the credit reporting agencies.

LR: 2225

Title: An Act To Provide Military Families Free Access to State Parks

Comment: This bill would allow a Maine resident who is the spouse or child of a member of the military free access to state parks while that member of the military is away on active duty.

LR: 2226

Title: An Act To Expand Access to Farm Vehicle License Plates

Comment: This bill would allow vehicles used exclusively for farm work to be registered with farm vehicle plates.

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin**

LR: 2227

Title: An Act To Legalize Bingo at Campgrounds and Summer Camps

Comment: This bill would legalize the playing of bingo at campgrounds and summer camps.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2239 Senator Collins, R

LR: 2228

Title: An Act To Reform Credit and Debit Card Standards

Comment: This bill would repeal the prohibition against a business's charging additional fees to customers who choose to pay with a credit or debit card.

LR: 2229

Title: An Act To Align the Asset Lookback Standards for Senior Care

Comment: This bill would establish a 5-year asset lookback period for Medicaid qualification for services with private nonmedical institutions and home-based care identical to the current standards associated with nursing homes.

LR: 2233

Title: An Act Regarding Retail Businesses on Sundays

Comment: This bill would prohibit a retail business that is not owned by a person in this State from being open on Sundays.

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin**

LR: 2236

Title: An Act To Prohibit Certain Entities Who Have Contracts with the State from Expending Funds To Influence Elections

Comment: This bill would require that, with respect to state contracts with private organizations and contracts with state employee unions, if an organization or its members receive payment of over \$10,000 in public money for services provided in a given year, the contract must include a clause prohibiting the organization from spending financial resources to influence state elections, including donations to candidates, political action committees and political parties, for a period of 4 years from receipt of final payment.

LR: 2262

Title: An Act Regarding New School Construction

Comment: This bill would freeze the positions of the top 20 projects currently in place for state funding for school construction in the event that a new application process is begun.

LR: 2325

Title: An Act To Impose Penalties for Certain Transfers of Assets at Less Than Fair Market Value by Individuals

Comment: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to impose an asset transfer penalty, with a lookback period of 60 months, on a person seeking to qualify for MaineCare funding and support of any long-term care services, and who has made a transfer or other disposal of assets at less than fair market value.

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**Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin**

LR: 2430

Title: An Act To Allow for the Nomination of a Candidate by Multiple Political Parties

Comment: This bill would amend Maine's election laws to allow a candidate for any state, county or local office with partisan elections to receive the nomination of multiple political parties.

LR: 2437

Title: An Act To Reform General Assistance Benefits

Comment: This bill would prohibit the State from paying benefits for any additional child born after the recipient has been accepted into a general assistance program.

LR: 2439

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Apartment Housing

Comment: This bill would make it a crime for a person to remove or disable a smoke or carbon monoxide detector in an apartment, block an exit if the blockage results in injury or death or intentionally cause damage to an apartment under the person's control.

**Sponsor: Senator Breen of Cumberland**

LR: 2269

Title: An Act To Promote Private Fund-raising for the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf

Comment: This bill would enable the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf to engage in private fundraising to support its mission. It will use an existing 501(c)(3) organization as its fiscal agent.

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Breen of Cumberland**

LR: 2270

Title: An Act To Reestablish Recreational Use of Historic Trolley Lines

Comment: This bill would exempt a parcel of land in the Town of Gray from shoreland zoning requirements so that the Maine Narrow Gauge Railroad may reuse an old trolley track site and move from downtown Portland to Gray.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Brooks of Lewiston**

LR: 2197

Title: An Act To Protect Consumers from Excess Copayments for Prescription Drugs

Comment: This bill would prohibit a health insurance company from requiring a consumer to pay a copayment that exceeds the total of the pharmacy's acquisition cost for the drug and the pharmacy's dispensing fee.

LR: 2484

Title: An Act To Improve Internet Safety for Children

Comment: This bill would require Internet safety training for children receiving laptops in school, which would include warnings against communicating with strangers.

LR: 2485

Title: An Act To Improve Insurance Coverage for Breast Cancer Screening and To Inform Patients If They Have Increased Breast Density

Comment: This bill would require insurance companies to cover additional breast cancer screening tests recommended by a patient's physician. It would also require that, if it is determined by a medical provider that a patient undergoing mammography has increased breast density, the patient be informed of that fact.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Brooks of Lewiston**

LR: 2504

Title: An Act To Increase the Maximum Property Tax Fairness Credit for Taxpayers Who Are 65 Years of Age or Older

Comment: This bill would increase the maximum property tax fairness credit for taxpayers who are 65 years of age or older from \$900 to \$1,200.

Potential JR 217: LD76

##### **Sponsor: Senator Burns of Washington**

LR: 2250

Title: An Act To Expand the Definition of "Advocate" for Purposes of Disclosure of Information by a Criminal Justice Agency

Comment: This bill would allow a state criminal justice agency to disclose intelligence and investigative record information to employees or volunteers of a nongovernmental advocacy program for victims of mental illness, as well as domestic or family violence.

LR: 2293

Title: An Act To Provide an Annual Cost-of-living Adjustment to Nursing Facilities

Comment: This bill would provide funds to give nursing facilities the annual cost-of-living adjustment in accordance with Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 67, the Principles of Reimbursement for Nursing Facilities, Section 91, and would require an annual cost-of-living adjustment using the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for medical care services in nursing homes and adult day care services.



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##### **Sponsor: Senator Burns of Washington**

LR: 2294

Title: An Act To Preserve MaineCare Assisted Living by Providing a Cost-of-living Adjustment to Private Nonmedical Institutions and Adult Family Care Homes

Comment: This bill would provide funds to give adult family care homes and so-called "Appendix C" private nonmedical institutions a 4% cost-of-living rate increase in funding in the 2nd year of the current biennium, and provides that annual cost-of-living adjustments must be provided by rule for each fiscal year thereafter in accordance with the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index medical care services index.

LR: 2363

Title: An Act To Reduce the Trafficking of Illegal Drugs in the State

Comment: This bill would establish a unit within the Department of Public Safety consisting of State Police officers trained in drug trafficking interdiction techniques who will conduct patrols on selected highways and at selected access points to the State.

LR: 2463

Title: An Act To Provide Ballistic Vests to State Law Enforcement Officers

Comment: This bill would provide ballistic vests to state law enforcement officers.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2323 Representative McCabe, J

LR: 2515

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Amend Its Rules To Provide Fair Access to, and Prevent Abuse of, Ambulance Services

Comment: This bill would direct the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt rules designed to prevent abuse of ambulance services by MaineCare members and would set the reimbursement rate of these services at the Medicare rate.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2291 Representative Malaby, R

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2354 Representative Lajoie, M

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**Sponsor: Representative Campbell of Orrington**

LR: 2330

Title: An Act To Encourage the Development of Commercial Transportation Opportunities in Bucksport

Comment: This bill would encourage the development of a transportation facility, including upgrading roads, rail and water access, at the former site of the mill in Bucksport.

LR: 2331

Title: An Act To Encourage the Development of Electrical and Natural Gas Infrastructure in Bucksport

Comment: This bill would encourage the development of electrical and natural gas infrastructure at the former site of the mill in Bucksport.

**Sponsor: Representative Chace of Durham**

LR: 2405

Title: An Act To Revise the Governance of the Cumberland County Recreation Center

Comment: This bill would change the entity responsible for the management of the Cumberland County Recreation Center to the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Chenette of Saco**

LR: 2194

Title: An Act To Require the Secretary of State To Automatically Register Nonregistered Persons Who Are Qualified To Vote from Records from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles

Comment: This bill would require the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles to provide the Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions electronic records containing the legal name, age, residence and citizenship information and electronic signature of each person who may qualify as a voter as prescribed by rule. It also would direct the Secretary of State to register as a voter each nonregistered person who is qualified to vote and to notify persons how to decline registration and how to adopt political party affiliation and would allow automatic voter registration connected to a person's driver's license.

LR: 2214

Title: An Act To Allow Trained, Nonmedical Employees in Schools To Administer Emergency Rescue Medications

Comment: This bill would authorize a school administrative unit to participate in a program to allow trained, nonmedical employees in schools to volunteer to provide medical assistance, specifically administering emergency rescue medication to pupils with epilepsy or other seizure disorders.

LR: 2502

Title: An Act To Amend the Language of Liens on Time Shares

Comment: This bill would clarify that an individual's liability for a time share does not extend to the rest of the individual's estate.

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**Sponsor: Representative Chipman of Portland**

LR: 2138

Title: An Act To Require Electric Utility Meter Reading and Billing Dates To Be Changed upon the Request of Customers

Comment: This bill requires electric utilities to change meter reading dates and billing dates upon the request of customers.

LR: 2139

Title: An Act To Allow Municipalities To Restrict How Close to Daycare Facilities Convicted Sex Offenders May Live

Comment: This bill allows municipalities to restrict how close to daycare facilities convicted sex offenders may live.

LR: 2302

Title: An Act To Expand Early Processing of Absentee Ballots

Comment: This bill would allow a municipality to process absentee ballots as early as the 4th day before the election. It would also authorize the Secretary of State to make available high-speed tabulators for absentee ballots and allow a municipality to bring absentee ballots to a central location for tabulating by the high-speed tabulators as long as security guidelines are properly followed.

Potential JR 217: LD585 and LD 1335

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2303 Representative O'Connor, B

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2346 Senator Cyrway, S

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**Sponsor: Senator Collins of York**

LR: 2239

Title: An Act To Allow Minors at Licensed Campgrounds To Participate in Certain Seasonal Activities

Comment: This bill would allow minors under 16 years of age, without being accompanied by an adult, to participate in a bingo or beano game operated at a licensed campground as long as the prize is a nonmonetary prize, which may include a credit for food served on the premises of the campground, valued at no more than \$10.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2227 Senator Brakey, E

LR: 2340

Title: An Act To Improve School Construction Finance

Comment: This bill would amend a provision of law enacted by the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature that allows bonds issued by a regional school unit for a non-state-funded school construction project that is 100% locally funded to be repaid using a level debt payment structure by removing the requirement that the payment structure result in lower costs for the regional school unit throughout the life of the issue of the bonds. This change would facilitate the financing of these projects.

LR: 2400

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Install a Traffic Signal Light in Wells

Comment: This resolve would direct the Department of Transportation to install a traffic signal light in Wells at the intersection of routes 109 and 9A.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Cooper of Yarmouth**

LR: 2256

Title: An Act To Amend the Appointment Process for Members of the Land for Maine's Future Board and the Responsibilities of the Board

Comment: This bill would place the Land for Maine's Future Program under the direction and control of the Land for Maine's Future Board and require that board members be appointed by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House and the Governor.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2360 Representative McCabe, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2458 Senator Hill, D

LR: 2436

Title: An Act To Limit the Increase in the Price of Prescription Drugs

Comment: This bill would prohibit the sale of a prescription drug in Maine if its price has more than doubled in the previous 12 months or is proposed to be increased by more than twice its current price unless the manufacturer is able to demonstrate that the cost of manufacturing the drug justifies the price increase.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Corey of Windham**

LR: 2498

Title: An Act To Protect and Promote Access to Shooting Ranges

Comment: This bill would protect shooting ranges against private or public civil actions, including injunctive and nuisance actions, using state statutes or rules or local ordinances or standards that did not exist at the time of the initial construction or operation of the range.

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Cushing of Penobscot**

LR: 2496

Title: An Act To Repeal the Service Provider Tax on So-called Appendix C Private Nonmedical Institutions

Comment: This bill would repeal the service provider tax for private nonmedical institution services provided by MaineCare Appendix C private nonmedical institutions. The service provider tax would be maintained at a level of 6% for private nonmedical institution services that are provided by MaineCare Appendix B, D, E or F private nonmedical institutions and for personal home care services.

Potential JR 217: LD502

LR: 2539

Title: An Act To Ensure Nondiscrimination against Gun Owners in Housing

Comment: This bill would prohibit a landlord who receives public funds for rent from prohibiting a tenant from possessing a firearm while on the premises being rented.

##### **Sponsor: Senator Cyrway of Kennebec**

LR: 2124

Title: An Act To Permit Employers To Drug-test Their Employees and Prohibit an Employee from Using or Being under the Influence of Marijuana in the Workplace

Comment: This bill would allow employers to test their employees to determine whether the employees were under the influence of marijuana while in the workplace.

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**Sponsor: Senator Cyrway of Kennebec**

LR: 2136

Title: An Act To Require Ignition Interlock Devices on Vehicles Operated by First-time Operating-under-the-influence Offenders

Comment: This bill would require an ignition interlock device to be installed in the motor vehicle operated by a person who has been convicted of operating under the influence for the first time.

LR: 2171

Title: An Act To Require That Licensed Marijuana Growers Implement Adequate Odor Control Technology

Comment: This bill would require that licensed marijuana growers implement adequate odor control technology.

LR: 2283

Title: An Act To Prohibit Alley Lights on Other Than Law Enforcement Vehicles

Comment: This bill would prohibit the placement of alley lights on other than law enforcement vehicles.

LR: 2284

Title: An Act To Increase Sentences Imposed for Interstate Trafficking of Illegal Drugs

Comment: This bill would increase the sentences that are imposed for interstate trafficking of illegal drugs.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2244 Representative Pierce, J



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##### **Sponsor: Senator Cyrway of Kennebec**

LR: 2285

Title: An Act Regarding Ignition Interlock Devices

Comment: This bill would set the minimum alcohol concentration at which an ignition interlock device is set to lock a motor vehicle ignition at 0% BAC.

LR: 2346

Title: An Act To Authorize the Expansion of Processing of Absentee Ballots

Comment: Under current law, municipal clerks are authorized to process absentee ballots on the Monday before the election as long as established notice, inspection, processing and security procedures are followed. This bill would provide that a municipality may opt to process absentee ballots as early as the 4th day before the election as long as all of these procedures are followed.

Potential JR 217: LD585 and 1335

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2302 Representative Chipman, B

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2303 Representative O'Connor, B

##### **Sponsor: Representative Daughtry of Brunswick**

LR: 2276

Title: An Act Regarding the Cancellation of Subscription Services

Comment: This bill would require that a business that makes an automatic renewal subscription offer for certain products or services present the consumer with an easily accessible disclosure of the methods by which the consumer may cancel the agreement.

LR: 2277

Title: An Act To Make Preparations for Maine's 200th Anniversary

Comment: This bill would establish a commission to prepare for and plan activities around the 200th anniversary of the State.

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**Sponsor: Representative Daughtry of Brunswick**

LR: 2278

Title: An Act Regarding Maine's Bicentennial

Comment: This bill would establish and fund a position at the Maine State Museum to coordinate activities around Maine's 200th anniversary.

LR: 2279

Title: An Act To Require That High School Curricula Include Instruction Regarding Affirmative Consent, Communication and Decision-making Skills

Comment: This bill would require that high school curricula include instruction regarding affirmative consent, communication and decision-making skills.

**Sponsor: Senator Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis**

LR: 2126

Title: Resolve, To Name a Bridge in the Town of Sebec the John R. Brainard Bridge

Comment: This resolve would name a bridge in Sebec the John R. Brainard Bridge.

LR: 2135

Title: An Act To Prohibit Raising Cats and Dogs for Human Consumption

Comment: This bill would prohibit a person from raising cats or dogs for human consumption.

LR: 2140

Title: An Act Regarding the Funding of Special Education

Comment: This bill would require the State to pay the special education costs of school districts in alternative organizational structures.

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**Sponsor: Senator Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis**

LR: 2215

Title: An Act To Protect Maine's Natural Resources Jobs by Exempting from Sales Tax Petroleum Products Used in Farming, Fishing and Forestry

Comment: This bill would exempt from the sales tax all petroleum products used by persons engaged in farming, fishing or forestry.

Potential JR 217: LD 432, LD290, LD30

LR: 2218

Title: An Act To Adjust the Property Tax Fairness Credit

Comment: This bill would make adjustments to the property tax fairness credit to increase the amount of credit certain households may claim for property taxes or rent paid.

Potential JR 217: LD1095

LR: 2317

Title: An Act To Provide Wage Parity for Supervisors in Law Enforcement

Comment: This bill would allocate funding for wage adjustments for law enforcement supervisors in order to eliminate the salary schedule compression between supervisory and nonsupervisory job classifications.

**Sponsor: Representative Davitt of Hampden**

LR: 2216

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Name the Southbound Interstate 95 Rest Area in Hampden the Hannibal Hamlin Rest Area

Comment: This resolve would direct the Department of Transportation to name the southbound Interstate 95 rest area in Hampden the Hannibal Hamlin Rest Area.

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**Sponsor: Representative Davitt of Hampden**

LR: 2311

Title: An Act To Establish the Veterans Count Maine Donation Fund

Comment: This bill would establish the Veterans Count Maine Donation Fund funded by a \$2 voluntary checkoff on personal income tax forms. The fund would provide funding to nonprofit agencies that provide assistance to Maine veterans.

Potential JR 217: LD544

LR: 2477

Title: An Act To Ensure Protection against the Invasion of Privacy by Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

Comment: This bill would clarify that existing protections against the invasion of privacy also apply to using unmanned aerial vehicles to observe, photograph or record without consent or otherwise violate the privacy of an individual in an area where that individual has the reasonable expectation of privacy. As a violation of privacy, it would be a Class D crime.

Potential JR 217: LD482

**Sponsor: Representative DeChant of Bath**

LR: 2362

Title: An Act To Require Workers' Compensation Insurance Carriers To Reimburse the State the Amount of Certain Withheld Benefits

Comment: This bill would require workers' compensation insurance carriers to account for and reimburse the State the amount of weekly indemnity benefits withheld from an injured worker during the course of the claim due to the worker's receiving benefits under the Employment Security Law.

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**Sponsor: Representative Devin of Newcastle**

LR: 2166

Title: Resolve, To Improve Firearm Safety in Maine

Comment: This resolve would seek to improve firearm safety by establishing a commission whose duty would be to create safety standards that must be met by all firearm owners and users. This resolve would not limit access to firearms or the use of firearms.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2158 Senator Miramant, D

LR: 2167

Title: An Act To Allow Plantations To Establish Local Fireworks Ordinances

Comment: This bill would allow a plantation to establish ordinances for the sale and use of fireworks within that plantation.

LR: 2474

Title: Resolve, To Ensure the Sustainability of the Periwinkle Fishery

Comment: This resolve would require the Department of Marine Resources to adopt major substantive rules regarding the harvest of periwinkles including limits on the size and volume of periwinkles harvested and the time and location of the harvest.

LR: 2511

Title: An Act To Address the Costs for Certain Special Education Students

Comment: This bill would provide school administrative units with additional state funding for certain special education students under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in time for the 2016-2017 school year.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Devin of Newcastle**

LR: 2530

Title: An Act To Recognize a Previously Completed Lobster Apprenticeship Program or Relevant Lobster Fishing Experience

Comment: This bill would enable recognition of and credit for the previous completion of the lobster apprenticeship program by an applicant for a lobster fishing license. It also would permit the requirement for completion of the lobster apprenticeship program to be waived for an applicant who demonstrates relevant experience.

LR: 2533

Title: An Act To Ensure Lead Paint Protection and Mitigation Programs Are Enforced

Comment: The bill would develop an approach to ensure that Maine children are fully protected from lead poisoning and that lead paint protection and mitigation programs are enforced.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2541 Representative Jorgensen, E

##### **Sponsor: Senator Diamond of Cumberland**

LR: 2241

Title: An Act To Promote Business by Allowing Increased Opportunity for Advertising

Comment: This bill would allow the placement of a sign advertising a business on property that is not the property upon which the business is located as long as the property is owned by the business.

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#### Sponsor: Senator Diamond of Cumberland

LR: 2242

Title: An Act To Improve the Law Concerning Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Comment: This bill would exempt a battery-powered carbon monoxide detector from the requirement that a detector must be powered by a nonreplaceable 10-year battery if the detector uses a low-power radio frequency wireless communication signal or multiple sensors, has low-frequency audible notification capability or is connected to a control panel.

LR: 2347

Title: An Act To Protect Victims of Sexual Assault

Comment: This bill would provide that a victim of sexual assault may petition the court for termination of the parental rights of the person who committed the sexual assault and require the court to terminate the parental rights upon clear and convincing evidence of the sexual assault.

LR: 2348

Title: Resolve, To Require the Department of Transportation To Establish a Working Group To Examine Weight Limits for Tractor-trailers with Different Axle Spacings

Comment: This bill would direct the Department of Transportation to convene a working group to examine amending the law to include greater flexibility in axle spacing and weight limits for the combination vehicle consisting of a 4-axle single unit truck operating in combination with a 2-axle trailer, which has a gross allowable weight of 94,000 pounds.

Potential JR 217: LD293

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##### Sponsor: Senator Dill of Penobscot

LR: 2267

Title: An Act To Extend the Funding Period for Landfill Closure Costs To Include Applications Pending Prior to September 1, 1989

Comment: Under current law, the Department of Environmental Protection pays 75% of certain landfill closure costs incurred on or after July 1, 1994 and before December 31, 2025 if the Commissioner originally issued the operation license for that landfill on or before September 1, 1989. This bill would expand eligibility for funding landfill closure costs to landfills for which the application for an operation license was received on or before September 1, 1989.

LR: 2268

Title: Resolve, To Modify the State Valuation of the Town of Old Town To Reflect the Loss in Valuation of the Former Old Town Fuel and Fiber Pulp Mill

Comment: This resolve would modify the state valuation of the Town of Old Town to reflect the loss in valuation of the former Old Town Fuel and Fiber pulp mill.

LR: 2335

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Assumption of Motor Vehicle Leases

Comment: This bill would ensure that municipalities charge the same amount of excise tax for a motor vehicle upon the assumption of a lease on that motor vehicle.



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##### **Sponsor: Representative Dion of Portland**

LR: 2192

Title: An Act To Improve Pretrial Justice and Public Safety

Comment: This bill would implement the recommendations of the Pretrial Justice Reform Task Force, which was created to make recommendations designed to reduce the human and financial costs of pretrial incarceration, while maintaining individual and public safety and the integrity of the criminal justice system.

LR: 2385

Title: An Act To Establish the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program in Maine

Comment: This bill would establish the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion, or "LEAD," program to address drug crimes by diverting low-level offenders into community-based treatment and support services. Case managers will work with offenders to get them into treatment and connect with other supports such as housing, health care, job training and mental health services. This legislation will establish 8 pilot projects in communities around the State. It will provide \$250,000 for each project. This funding will allow for a full-time case manager to work with people struggling with addiction and provide flexible funding to assist participants as they seek to stabilize their lives and move past addiction.

LR: 2506

Title: An Act To Clarify Laws Relating to Affiliate Ownership of Electric Generation

Comment: This bill would address ambiguities in statute regarding affiliates of electric transmission and distribution companies seeking to interconnect with the electric transmission and distribution system.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Dion of Portland**

LR: 2507

Title: An Act Regarding the Competitive Bidding Process for Nontransmission Alternatives

Comment: The bill would provide an incentive to an electric transmission and distribution utility to develop and deploy nontransmission alternatives.

LR: 2508

Title: An Act To Establish a Pilot Program To Enhance the Development of Distributed Generation in Maine

Comment: This bill would authorize an electric transmission and distribution utility to propose to the Public Utility Commission and to implement a limited distributed generation program capped at a specified megawatt level.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Doore of Augusta**

LR: 2238

Title: An Act To Ensure That Public Boat Ramps Are Accessible to Persons with Physical Disabilities

Comment: This bill would require that 4 public boat ramps be made accessible to persons with physical disabilities each year.

LR: 2392

Title: An Act To Ensure State Retirees Receive the Same Health Information State Employees Receive

Comment: This bill would ensure state retirees receive the same health information and wellness advice that state employees receive and help contain health care costs.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Duchesne of Hudson**

LR: 2146

Title: An Act To Establish November 1st as Veterans in the Arts and Humanities Day

Comment: This bill would establish November 1st as Veterans in the Arts and Humanities Day.

LR: 2301

Title: An Act To Revise Oil Spill Reporting Standards

Comment: This bill would set the minimum oil spill size requiring a report to the Department of Environmental Protection at 10 gallons.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Dunphy of Old Town**

LR: 2217

Title: An Act To Prevent Discontinuation of Utility Services to Customers Who Rely on Life-sustaining Medical Devices

Comment: This bill would prevent the discontinuation of utility services to customers who rely on life-sustaining medical devices at home.

##### **Sponsor: Senator Dutremble of York**

LR: 2189

Title: An Act To Require Certain Retail Facilities Open to the Public To Be Equipped with Automated External Defibrillators

Comment: This bill would require a retail facility over a specified square footage to be equipped with an external defibrillator.

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##### Sponsor: Senator Dutremble of York

LR: 2472

Title: An Act To Increase Public Access to Information Regarding Crimes of Sexual Assault

Comment: This bill would require a criminal justice agency to acknowledge whether or not it is engaged in an active investigation of a sexual assault.

LR: 2473

Title: An Act To Require Full Restitution by a Person in a Position of Authority Who Misuses Funds in the Control of That Person

Comment: This bill would require that a person who uses that person's position of authority to misappropriate funds for that person's personal gain is required to pay full restitution of those funds as well as any investigative and prosecution costs.

LR: 2476

Title: An Act To Increase Penalties for Gross Sexual Assault

Comment: This bill would increase the penalty for a repeat offender convicted of gross sexual assault by one class of penalty. The bill would also repeal the statute of limitations for the crime of gross sexual assault.

LR: 2527

Title: An Act Regarding Shared Primary Residential Care of Children

Comment: This bill would define the term "shared primary residential care," require courts to consider the great value of keeping separated parents involved and engaged in their children's lives and require courts awarding custody of children to state clear and compelling reasons for their orders unless substantially equal residential care is ordered or the parents agree on some other custody arrangement.

Potential JR 217: LD642

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Edgecomb of Aroostook**

LR: 2184

Title: An Act To Allow a Part of the Town of Caribou To Secede and Form the Town of Lyndon

Comment: This bill would begin the process of permitting a portion of the Town of Caribou to secede and form the new town called Lyndon.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Espling of New Gloucester**

LR: 2169

Title: An Act Regarding the Disposition of Fetal Tissue from Abortions

Comment: This bill would require a person performing an abortion to report to the Department of Health and Human Services information about the final disposition of fetal tissue from the abortion.

LR: 2213

Title: An Act To Delay Any New Statewide Assessment Test

Comment: This bill would delay the implementation of any test chosen by the Department of Education to replace the Smarter Balanced assessment by one year but allow schools to opt in to that new test under a pilot program.

LR: 2306

Title: An Act To Require the Local Appointment of Inspectors of Weights and Measures

Comment: This bill would require the local appointment of inspectors of weights and measures.

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##### **Sponsor: Speaker Eves of North Berwick**

LR: 2523

Title: An Act To Support and Strengthen the Direct Care Workforce

Comment: This bill would establish a career pathways program that encourages workers to enter into the field of long-term care and to move up through career steps over time. This program, which would build off current efforts within the Department of Health and Human Services, would be designed to develop and implement advanced training for direct care workers and efforts to expand services provided by direct care workers to persons receiving home-based and community-based services; identify the high-demand occupations within long-term care; and establish pathways to those occupations by creating clear and tangible linkages between programs, offering scholarships to participants and leveraging other public money.

LR: 2524

Title: An Act To Strengthen Maine's Economy and Create New Jobs in the State

Comment: This bill would establish a clean energy jobs tax credit. The bill would provide a tax credit for each new clean energy job created within the State by the taxpayer.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Fecteau of Biddeford**

LR: 2176

Title: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Vocational High Schools

Comment: This bill would authorize a general fund bond issue in the amount of \$10,000,000 for vocational high schools.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Fecteau of Biddeford**

LR: 2453

Title: An Act To Protect Taxpayer Dollars and Ensure the Integrity of State Economic Development Programs

Comment: This bill would reform the Maine New Markets Capital Investment Program by directing the Governor and State Tax Assessor to recapture tax credits associated with any fraudulent transactions that have occurred under this program; designate the Finance Authority of Maine, instead of a qualified community development entity, as the owner of tax credits under this program; and increase accountability for future projects in the program by establishing job creation and job quality standards.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Foley of Wells**

LR: 2230

Title: An Act To Allow Members of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program To Reapply for Disability Retirement Benefits after Denial

Comment: This bill would allow members of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program who have applied for and been denied disability retirement benefits to apply again for the same disability under certain circumstances.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Fowle of Vassalboro**

LR: 2209

Title: An Act To Amend the Public Safety Laws

Comment: Recent legislation that added categories of persons to the list of persons prohibited from possessing firearms overlooked designating the class of crime for violations by persons in each new category. This bill would add the class of crime for each category of prohibited person.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Fowle of Vassalboro**

LR: 2210

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws on Protection from Abuse and Unauthorized Dissemination of Certain Private Images

Comment: Recent legislation prohibiting unauthorized dissemination of private images included amendments to the protection from abuse laws to coordinate the laws. This bill would further amend the protection of abuse laws with respect to the definition of "abuse" and remedies.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2211 Representative Fredette, K

LR: 2486

Title: An Act To Correct a Conflict in the Laws Regarding Schedule W Drugs

Comment: This bill would correct a conflict created by Public Law 2015, chapters 308 and 346 in the laws regarding schedule W drugs.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Fredette of Newport**

LR: 2173

Title: Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission To Conduct a Study Regarding the Transmission of Hydroelectric Power from Canada to Maine and New England

Comment: This resolve would direct the Public Utilities Commission to conduct a study regarding the transmission of hydroelectric power from Canada to Maine and New England.

LR: 2211

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Protection from Abuse Orders in Order To Implement the Laws Regarding the Unauthorized Dissemination of Certain Private Images

Comment: This bill would amend the laws regarding protection from abuse orders to make changes necessary to implement Public Law 2015, chapter 339, An Act To Prohibit the Unauthorized Dissemination of Certain Private Images.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2210 Representative Fowle, L



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##### **Sponsor: Representative Fredette of Newport**

LR: 2251

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Environmental Protection To Conduct Testing of Well Water in the Town of Plymouth

Comment: This resolve would direct the Department of Environmental Protection to conduct testing of well water in the Town of Plymouth.

LR: 2343

Title: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Marine Transportation and Port Infrastructure at Mack Point To Meet the Needs of the Marine Construction and Shipping Business Sector and To Create Jobs

Comment: This bill would authorize a general fund bond issue in the amount of \$15,000,000 to invest in marine transportation and port infrastructure at Mack Point to meet the needs of the marine construction and shipping business sector and to create jobs.

LR: 2434

Title: An Act To Make Additional Technical Changes to Recently Enacted Tax Legislation Concerning Pension Income

Comment: This bill would make additional technical changes to recently enacted tax legislation concerning pension income.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Frey of Bangor**

LR: 2275

Title: An Act To Increase Compensation for Guardians Ad Litem Appointed in Child Protection Proceedings

Comment: This bill would set the rate of compensation for court-appointed guardians ad litem in child protection proceedings to the rates established for assigned counsel.

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**Sponsor: Representative Frey of Bangor**

LR: 2427

Title: An Act To Strengthen Programs To Help Individuals Overcome Addiction

Comment: This bill would provide the necessary funds to conduct an evaluation of the State's drug courts to ensure that the best and most effective practices are identified and implemented in drug courts across the State and fund a pilot project for new case management services for people in jail who are struggling with addiction.

LR: 2514

Title: An Act To Support State Psychiatric and Forensic Workers

Comment: This bill would provide funding for a wage adjustment stipend for state employees in the state psychiatric and forensic facilities to assist in recruitment and retention. This bill also would include monthly reporting requirements for the Department of Health and Human Services on worker injury rates, the use of mandated overtime and other worker safety issues.

**Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook**

LR: 2384

Title: An Act To Fix Changes Made to Maine's Provider Tax

Comment: This bill would allow for eligible MaineCare providers to receive a small increase in reimbursement rates to offset the cost of the increased tax to the provider through the State's tax and match program.

LR: 2431

Title: An Act To Create Equity among Essential Nonprofit Health Care Providers in Relation to the Sales Tax

Comment: This bill would add community health centers serving all individuals regardless of insurance status and ability to pay to the list of nonprofits exempted from paying sales tax.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook**

LR: 2432

Title: An Act To Promote the Success and Accountability of Welfare Reform Initiatives in Maine

Comment: This bill would require certain public benefit programs administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Family Independence to measure annually outcomes for populations served and provide data to ensure state and federal funds are used to better manage performance and would require that legislation affecting the general assistance, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and food supplement programs be evaluated to determine financial and human impact.

LR: 2450

Title: An Act To Eliminate the Waiting List for Community-based Services Provided under MaineCare for Individuals with a Brain Injury, an Intellectual Disability or Autism

Comment: This bill would use excess proceeds from the state liquor contract to provide funding to eliminate the waiting list for community-based services provided under MaineCare for individuals with a brain injury, an intellectual disability or autism.

LR: 2456

Title: Resolve, To Improve Access to and the Quality of Services for Persons with Mental Illness

Comment: This resolve would require the Department of Health and Human Services, by November 1, 2016, to develop an extensive and comprehensive plan to improve access to and the quality of care for patients who need inpatient and residential mental health services, whether forensic or civil. The plan would include an evaluation of the need for such services in Maine, the number of patients who need the services, a 10-year projection of the number of patients who will need to be served and multiple options for meeting any unmet needs that are determined to exist or improvements to care that need to be made.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook**

LR: 2471

Title: An Act To Expand Resources for Independent Living Services for People with Disabilities

Comment: This bill would redirect current federal reimbursement under the federal Social Security Act to better meet the needs of people with disabilities to maximize their ability to live independently.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Gerrish of Lebanon**

LR: 2314

Title: An Act To Terminate Administration of the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey

Comment: Currently, the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey is administered in odd-numbered years to the parents of students in kindergarten to 3rd grade, and to students in 5th grade to 12th grade to assess the health status of Maine's youth. This bill would terminate administration of the survey.

##### **Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland**

LR: 2196

Title: An Act To Create and Sustain High-quality Maine Jobs

Comment: This bill would create the Maine Capital Program within the Finance Authority of Maine with authority to provide loans or bond funding to eligible business projects that have projected costs of at least \$50,000,000 or are projected to result in the creation or retention of at least 250 full-time employment positions that pay at least 125% of the state annual average wage.

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland**

LR: 2200

Title: An Act To Amend and Clarify the Brunswick Naval Air Station Job Increment Financing Fund

Comment: This bill would amend the Brunswick Naval Air Station Job Increment Financing Fund so that a portion of money that goes to Southern Maine Community College is used only to support direct workforce and educational programs related to the target industry sectors at Brunswick Landing.

LR: 2381

Title: An Act To Ensure Fairness in Shellfish and Marine Worm Digger Licensing

Comment: This bill would require municipal licensing for the taking of marine worms.

LR: 2387

Title: An Act To Protect Shellfish Conservation Areas

Comment: This bill would amend the permit criteria related to unreasonably interfering with fishing that a municipal shellfish aquaculture proposed project must meet.

LR: 2516

Title: Resolve, To Clarify the Law Regarding Access To Extracurricular and Interscholastic Activities

Comment: This resolve would direct the Department of Education to review the law related to public charter school students' participation in interscholastic activities in a school unit to ensure that the law is being implemented in a fair manner.

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**Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland**

LR: 2519

Title: An Act Regarding Pedestrians Crossing Train Tracks

Comment: This bill would prohibit pedestrians from crossing at railroad crossings if the crossing gates are down or flashing lights are engaged.

LR: 2521

Title: An Act To Place a 2-year Moratorium on All State Mandates Involving Public Education and To Evaluate Current Mandates

Comment: This bill would place a 2-year moratorium on all state mandates involving public education and would establish a commission to evaluate current mandates.

Potential JR 217: LD 793

LR: 2522

Title: An Act To Increase Salaries for Personal Care Assistants

Comment: This bill would increase MaineCare reimbursement for salaries for personal care assistants.

Closely Related CO: LD 886 Representative Espling, E

LR: 2543

Title: An Act To Change the Size Restriction on Soft-shell Clams

Comment: This bill would change the size restriction on soft-shell clams from the current minimum shell length of 2 inches to a prohibition on possession of soft-shell clams with shell lengths that are less than 1.5 inches or greater than 3.5 inches.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Gideon of Freeport**

LR: 2479

Title: An Act To Make Maine Energy-independent

Comment: This bill would facilitate grid-scale solar projects that are community-owned and located on properties that cannot be used for other development.

LR: 2480

Title: An Act To Create the Maine Workforce Academy

Comment: This bill would create a program to facilitate paid work or training for Maine students with Maine businesses. The program is intended for students who have graduated from high school but have not yet attended community college or a 4-year college.

LR: 2487

Title: An Act To Facilitate Affordable Green Housing

Comment: This bill would create new financing mechanisms to make older housing stock more heat-efficient and electricity-efficient.

LR: 2488

Title: An Act To Revitalize Infrastructure Investment To Create Jobs

Comment: This bill would appropriate proceeds from Maine's liquor contract to address emergency needs of the State's public infrastructure, including roads and bridges.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Golden of Lewiston**

LR: 2397

Title: An Act To Increase Information for Parents and Teachers Regarding Standardized Tests

Comment: This bill would require school boards to convene a stakeholder group of parents, teachers, school board members and administrators to develop a common policy and protocols concerning standardized testing and its usage. The group would be composed of a majority of parents and teachers. Each school board would be required to adopt a policy that clearly articulates the number of standardized assessments each student will be expected to take and provides a summary of the time students will spend on testing, and the board would be required to adopt a plan to communicate clearly with parents the testing schedule and the usefulness of the standardized tests.

LR: 2398

Title: An Act To Ensure Central Maine Companies Have Access to Skilled Labor

Comment: This bill would provide funding of \$75,000 in each year of the biennium to the Department of Education for the New Mainers Program in Lewiston adult education.

LR: 2448

Title: An Act To Provide Wage Parity and Promote Retention for Transportation Workers in the Department of Transportation

Comment: This bill would allocate funding for wage adjustments to benefit employees in the Transportation Worker job classes who have experienced wage compression due to new hires starting at step 4 in the pay schedule.



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**Sponsor: Representative Goode of Bangor**

LR: 2422

Title: An Act To Increase the Safety of Social Workers

Comment: This bill would prohibit the publication of the home addresses of social workers.

**Sponsor: Senator Gratwick of Penobscot**

LR: 2246

Title: Resolve, To Establish the Telehealth Working Group

Comment: This resolve would establish the Telehealth Working Group to examine issues associated with the increasing role of remote patient care and monitoring. The resolve would direct the group to develop recommendations and report back to the Legislature.

LR: 2247

Title: An Act To Adopt the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact

Comment: This bill would adopt the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact so that Maine health care providers, institutions and patients can practice across state lines and in different licensure regions.

LR: 2248

Title: An Act To Clarify and Expand Maine's Laws Governing Private Payer Parity for Telehealth Services

Comment: This bill would ensure that services rendered by telehealth are reimbursed appropriately and at parity with face-to-face services, when equivalent.

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**Sponsor: Senator Gratwick of Penobscot**

LR: 2428

Title: An Act To Improve the Quality of Mental Health Care Provided to Children in State Custody in Compliance with Federal Law and National Standards

Comment: This bill would require the State to comply with federal law and national professional standards in the assessment and provision of mental health services to children in Department of Health and Human Services custody. This bill will require that all children placed in state custody have a mental health assessment within 30 days and set guidelines for the provision of services, use of psychotropic medication and continuing evaluation of a child's needs.

Closely Related CO: LD 213 Senator Gratwick, G

LR: 2429

Title: An Act To Establish Educational and Licensing Requirements for Adult Guardians

Comment: This bill would establish educational and licensing requirements for adult guardians.

LR: 2517

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Abandonment of Railroad Ties

Comment: This bill would prohibit a railroad company or other company from abandoning treated railroad ties, which are the result of replacement or repairs, along a railway line or in a railway yard for more than 90 days. This bill would require abandoned railroad ties to be disposed of at a disposal site permitted by the Department of Environmental Protection.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Grohman of Biddeford**

LR: 2435

Title: An Act To Make Efficient Heat Pumps Available to Low-income Customers

Comment: This bill would allow transmission and distribution utilities to implement a program to make efficient heat pumps available for use by low-income customers and others who face significant barriers to purchasing a heat pump directly. The program, whose design is subject to review by the Public Utilities Commission, may include special rates for participating customers to cover program costs, which costs may be paid only by participating customers, and the program must offer customer choice of qualified 3rd-party installers and distributors.

Potential JR 217: LD1257

LR: 2438

Title: An Act To Allow School Resource Officers To Have Jurisdiction at Off-site Events

Comment: This bill would allow school resource officers to have jurisdiction at events that are school-related but are held outside the school district, such as proms.

LR: 2536

Title: An Act To Engender Financial Responsibility among Recipients of Public Assistance

Comment: This bill would set up a state-funded pilot program for certain recipients of public assistance to teach them budgeting skills and encourage them to access community and social services.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Guerin of Glenburn**

LR: 2373

Title: An Act Relating to Land for Maine's Future Bonds and To Provide Low-income Heating Assistance Upgrades

Comment: This bill would reauthorize certain Land for Maine's Future bonds and ensure the bonds are issued; move \$3,000,000 from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands, General Fund account to the Maine State Housing Authority to be used for low-income heating assistance upgrades; and move \$3,000,000 from the Bureau of Parks and Lands, Other Special Revenue Funds account relating to wood harvesting to the Bureau of Parks and Lands, General Fund account.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2212 Representative Timmons, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2130 Senator Katz, R

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2131 Representative McCabe, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2132 Representative Pouliot, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2133 Representative Vachon, K

LR: 2531

Title: An Act To Prohibit the Payment of State Funds to Entities That Perform Abortions or Operate Facilities at Which Abortions Are Performed

Comment: The bill would prohibit payment of state funds to an entity that performs nonfederally qualified abortions or operates a facility where nonfederally qualified abortions are performed. This bill also prioritizes the allocation of state funds to health care entites.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2182 Representative Kinney, M

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**Sponsor: Representative Hamann of South Portland**

LR: 2127

Title: An Act To Increase Accountability in the Governor's Expense Account

Comment: This bill would require the Governor's office to account for the money in the Governor's expense account and restrict the expense account's use so that money in the expense account may not be used to purchase liquor, tobacco products, lottery tickets, tattoo marks or figures, bail, gifts for political donors or any product or service that may be perceived as immoral, offensive or unbecoming to the Office of Governor. It includes penalties for violations and failure to report.

LR: 2165

Title: An Act To Prevent Substance Abuse

Comment: This bill would appropriate funds to the Maine Association of Substance Abuse Programs to provide education programs to prevent drug addiction and counseling services to help recovering drug addicts avoid relapse.

LR: 2280

Title: An Act To Eliminate Asset Tests for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits

Comment: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to eliminate asset tests for individuals applying for supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits.

LR: 2462

Title: An Act To Protect the Privacy of People Receiving Public Assistance

Comment: This bill would make it a crime to publish any personal information of an individual who is receiving public assistance.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Hamann of South Portland**

LR: 2520

Title: An Act To Prevent Fatal Opioid Overdoses among Youth and Seniors

Comment: This bill would allow school nurses and people caring for senior citizens to have access to naloxone hydrochloride.

LR: 2525

Title: An Act To Provide Meals to Homebound Individuals

Comment: This bill would fully fund the waitlist for Meals on Wheels.

LR: 2535

Title: An Act To Establish the Let's Grow Maine Program

Comment: This bill would establish the Let's Grow Maine Program, to be administered by the Finance Authority of Maine and funded by 25% of the revenue from the tax on certain tobacco products, to purchase fruits and vegetables from Maine's farms for distribution to schools, seniors and low-income individuals.

##### **Sponsor: Senator Hamper of Oxford**

LR: 2464

Title: An Act To Promote Access to Financial Institutions by Entities That Are Authorized under State Law

Comment: Current law limits the ability of medical marijuana providers to access financial institutions that are federally insured. This bill would allow state-chartered credit unions to procure private deposit insurance in lieu of federal deposit insurance.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Hanington of Lincoln**

LR: 2240

Title: An Act To Authorize an Individual Holding a Restricted License To Operate a Motor Vehicle between Midnight and 5:00 a.m. in Circumstances of Employment Need or Medical Need

Comment: This bill would allow a person under 18 years of age who has been issued a driver's license to receive from the Secretary of State authority, during the initial 9-month period of restriction, to operate a motor vehicle between the hours of 12 a.m. and 5 a.m. if that person demonstrates a specific employment need or specific circumstances of medical necessity involving the person or a member of that person's immediate family.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Hanley of Pittston**

LR: 2185

Title: Resolve, To Postpone Implementation of Department of Marine Resources Rules Regarding Smelt

Comment: This resolve would postpone for 2 years implementation of the most recently adopted rules of the Department of Marine Resources regarding smelt.

LR: 2186

Title: An Act To Eliminate the Use of Calcium Chloride on the Roads of the State

Comment: This bill would eliminate the use of calcium chloride on the roads statewide.

##### **Sponsor: Senator Haskell of Cumberland**

LR: 2298

Title: An Act To Allow Municipalities To Regulate Transportation Network Companies

Comment: This bill would allow a municipality to regulate the operations of a transportation network company, including the driver and motor vehicle, at a municipal airport.

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Haskell of Cumberland**

LR: 2497

Title: An Act To Strengthen the Economic Well-being of Maine's Workforce by Ensuring Employees Can Earn Paid Sick Time

Comment: This bill would require employers of 11 or more employees to allow employees to earn 56 hours of paid sick time.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Hawke of Boothbay Harbor**

LR: 2288

Title: An Act To Update the Laws Regarding the Sale of Alcohol at Golf Courses

Comment: This bill would update in statutes the term "golf club" to "golf course" and clarify that a golf course includes all areas of sales and service of alcohol.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Head of Bethel**

LR: 2123

Title: An Act To Allow Tiered Qualifications for Volunteer Firefighters in Certain Municipalities

Comment: This bill would provide that in a municipality with fewer than 2,500 permanent residents the fire chief, with the approval of the municipal officers of that municipality, may approve training for volunteer firefighters that provides for 3 tiers of qualifications.

Potential JR 217: LD 748

LR: 2310

Title: An Act To Include Emergency Medical Service Vehicles in the Firefighter Registration Plate Program

Comment: This bill would include emergency medical service vehicles in the firefighter registration plate program.



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##### **Sponsor: Representative Head of Bethel**

LR: 2326

Title: An Act To Improve Security in Courtrooms

Comment: This bill would provide for a review of security in courtrooms to determine the need for more cameras and for funding for more cameras.

LR: 2327

Title: An Act To Establish a Registry for Domestic Violence Offenders

Comment: This bill would establish a registry for domestic violence offenders.

LR: 2328

Title: An Act To Review the Impact of Withdrawal from Regional School Units

Comment: This bill would direct the Commissioner of Education to review the impact of a municipality's withdrawal from a regional school unit. It would also suspend withdrawals until July 1, 2017.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Herbig of Belfast**

LR: 2401

Title: An Act To Provide Job Opportunities to Families Participating in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program

Comment: This bill would establish a transitional employment program for certain people with children who are current or former recipients of benefits under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, in order to provide them with the opportunity for temporary employment and improve their potential employability through increased work experience in a competitive work environment.

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**Sponsor: Representative Herbig of Belfast**

LR: 2505

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations To Amend Its Rules To Allow Retailers To Return Promotional Alcoholic Beverages to Distributors

Comment: This resolve would direct the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to amend its rules to allow retailers to return promotional alcoholic beverages to distributors.

**Sponsor: Representative Hickman of Winthrop**

LR: 2120

Title: An Act To Increase Transparency in Cooperative Agreements Entered Into by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Comment: This bill would increase transparency in cooperative agreements entered into by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by requiring the department to solicit public comments regarding each such agreement, respond to questions and comments from the public, respond to inquiries and notify the Legislature regarding such agreements. The bill would also authorize the Legislature to hold a public hearing on any such agreement.

LR: 2121

Title: Resolve, To Strengthen Public-private Partnerships To End Hunger in Maine by 2025

Comment: This resolve would strengthen public-private partnerships to end hunger in Maine by 2025.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Higgins of Dover-Foxcroft**

LR: 2174

Title: An Act To Establish an Opportunity for Appeal of Certain Decisions Concerning Transfers of Students

Comment: Under current law, a decision on a request for a student transfer from one school administrative district to another may be appealed, but there is no similar provision for appealing a request involving a receiving school district that does not operate a public school. This bill would establish an opportunity for appeal.

##### **Sponsor: Senator Hill of York**

LR: 2274

Title: Resolve, To Bring Transparency and Consistency to the Reporting of Public School Expenses

Comment: This resolve would require the Maine Education Public Research Institute to conduct a study to determine why there has been an increase in costs for certain categories of expenditures for public schools over the last 10 years.

LR: 2408

Title: An Act To Provide Accountability in State Government Partnerships

Comment: This bill would require each state agency to annually report to the legislative committee of jurisdiction on any federal grant programs in which the agency participates and on grant programs in which the agency chose not to participate.

LR: 2458

Title: An Act To Improve the Land for Maine's Future Board

Comment: This bill would change the appointment process and quorum requirements for the Land for Maine's Future Board.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2256 Representative Cooper, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2360 Representative McCabe, J

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Hilliard of Belgrade**

LR: 2357

Title: An Act To Require Municipalities To Maintain Certain Rights-of-way to Standards Required by Federal Postal Regulations

Comment: This bill would require municipalities to maintain rights-of-way over which there are mail routes to the standards required by federal postal regulations.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Hubbell of Bar Harbor**

LR: 2272

Title: An Act To Establish a Specific Schedule for the Review of the Content Areas of Learning Standards

Comment: This bill would amend the law requiring the Commissioner of Education to review content standards and performance indicators of learning results to establish a specific schedule for the review of the content areas, such as science and technology and world languages.

LR: 2273

Title: An Act To Clarify the Liability for Special Education Costs under State-directed Student Transfers

Comment: This bill would prohibit transfers effected by the Commissioner of Education or the State Board of Education from resulting in reduction of state liability for the subsidy of special education costs for individual transferred students.

LR: 2300

Title: An Act To Enable Alternative Organizational Structures To Purchase Group Health Insurance for All Employees

Comment: This bill would allow a school administrative unit that is a member of an alternative organizational structure to obtain health insurance loss information on an aggregate basis and to purchase a single health insurance policy that is offered to all members of the alternative organizational structure.

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**Sponsor: Representative Hubbell of Bar Harbor**

LR: 2433

Title: An Act To Increase Transparency in the Setting of Normal Teacher Retirement Costs Rates for School Districts

Comment: This bill would require that an actuarial report on the estimated costs of normal teacher retirement be presented to a joint meeting of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters in the 2nd year of the biennium to project costs for the next biennium. Based on that actuarial report, a rate would be established in the 2nd year of the biennium for the amount school districts would have to pay in the new biennium and estimates would be published on what increase or decrease is projected in terms of dollar amount by district.

**Sponsor: Representative Hymanson of York**

LR: 2356

Title: An Act To Reduce Drunk Driving

Comment: This bill would establish a "24/7 Sobriety Program" under which repeat offenders of the laws governing operating under the influence do not lose their driver's license but are required to take daily breathalyzer tests.

LR: 2537

Title: Resolve, To Establish a Task Force To Recommend Improvements to Maine's Medical Marijuana Laws

Comment: This bill would establish a task force to recommend improvements to Maine's medical marijuana laws. In developing its recommendations, the task force will consider issues including, but not limited to, the sealing or expunging of criminal records of certain nonviolent, nontrafficking offenses; facilitating research to establish an impairment limit for driving; and increasing the State's investment in prevention, treatment and recovery services.

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Johnson of Lincoln**

LR: 2147

Title: An Act To Ensure the Proportional Offset against Social Security Retirement Benefits of Workers' Compensation Awards

Comment: This bill would ensure the proportional offset against social security retirement benefits of workers' compensation awards.

LR: 2148

Title: An Act To Allow the Direct Shipment of Wine in Containers of Less Than 750 Milliliters

Comment: This bill would allow the direct shipment of wine in containers of less than 750 milliliters.

LR: 2149

Title: An Act To Change the School Funding Formula To Provide Funding Based on a Minimum of One Teacher for Each School Day

Comment: This bill would change the school funding formula for small, isolated schools to provide funding based on a minimum of one teacher.

LR: 2377

Title: An Act To Adjust the Property Tax Fairness Credit To Ensure Sustainable Island Resident Populations

Comment: This bill would adjust the property tax fairness credit to ensure sustainable island resident populations. The adjustment would be based on the cost of living on an island and would help to alleviate the burden that a higher cost of living on an island places on the recruitment and retention of year-round island residents.

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Johnson of Lincoln**

LR: 2378

Title: An Act To Establish a Pilot Program To Prevent Student Drug Addiction

Comment: This bill would establish a pilot program funded through the Fund for a Healthy Maine to improve student health by preventing student drug and tobacco addiction, preventing abusive relationships between students and reducing teen pregnancy.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2478 Senator Whittemore, R

LR: 2379

Title: An Act To Ensure the Continued Operation of Boards and Commissions in State Government

Comment: This bill would provide that the President of the Senate may nominate persons to positions subject to nomination by the Governor, except for a nominating process set forth in the Constitution of Maine, if these positions are vacant for 6 months or more because no nomination is made or a nomination is made and withdrawn.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2324 Senator Katz, R

##### **Sponsor: Representative Jorgensen of Portland**

LR: 2541

Title: An Act To Protect Families from Lead Paint Poisoning

Comment: This bill would add testing for lead paint to the home visiting program, which is an existing program administered by the Department of Health and Human Services. A home visitor would ask a parent for permission to test for lead paint and, if the parent agreed, would collect a paint sample to be tested by the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention. If lead paint is detected, the parent would be notified, and, if the level is high, a lead inspector would confirm the reading.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2533 Representative Devin, M

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Jorgensen of Portland**

LR: 2548

Title: An Act To Strengthen the Respite Care Fund

Comment: This bill would allocate funding to the Respite Care Fund for a second program to provide short-term respite care for people with diseases other than Alzheimer's and dementia who are significantly limited in their ability to care for themselves and dependent upon others to help them with activities of daily living.

##### **Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec**

LR: 2130

Title: An Act To Reauthorize Certain Land for Maine's Future Bonds

Comment: This bill would reauthorize the issuance of the land conservation bonds that were ratified by the voters of the State in statewide elections held in November 2010 and November 2012. This bill would also make necessary changes to the law to ensure that those bonds are issued and funds are transferred in accordance with those ratified bonds.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2212 Representative Timmons, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2373 Representative Guerin, S

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2131 Representative McCabe, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2132 Representative Pouliot, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2133 Representative Vachon, K

LR: 2260

Title: An Act To Update the Laws Governing the Maine Veterans' Home

Comment: This bill would update the laws governing the Maine Veterans' Home.



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**Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec**

LR: 2324

Title: An Act To Strengthen Intragovernment Communication and Ensure the Ability of Boards and Commissions To Function

Comment: This bill would require that the commissioner of an executive branch department or the commissioner's designee attend and participate in legislative hearings and work sessions.

This bill would also allow the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to jointly fill vacancies of more than 30 days on boards and commissions. Those appointments will be active until the Governor issues an appointment or, in the event of a confirmable appointment, until the date of the confirmation hearing before the appropriate joint standing committee of the Legislature for the Governor's nominee.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2379 Senator Johnson, C

LR: 2365

Title: An Act To Establish the Maine Student Loan Borrower Bill of Rights

Comment: This bill, which is modeled on Connecticut's Student Loan Bill of Rights, would establish a Student Loan Ombudsman, regulate entities that service student loans, prohibit certain misleading and fraudulent actions and establish certain practices as unfair and deceptive.

LR: 2366

Title: An Act To Establish the Maine Tuition Integrity Act

Comment: This bill would establish laws governing for-profit colleges, including provisions requiring: evaluation at the program level; spending student tuition dollars on instruction rather than advertising and administrative salaries; meeting benchmarks for outcomes; obtaining correct accreditations; and informing students of the existence of certain barriers to certain types of licensure.

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec**

LR: 2367

Title: An Act To Enhance Economic Development through the Attraction and Support of Immigrant Populations

Comment: This bill would develop a highly coordinated pathway system that is easily understood and navigated for immigrants to integrate into the workforce and community. As part of this system, this bill would create pilot projects throughout the State that enhance access to services and training for immigrants and have defined, measurable outcomes for individuals.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Kinney of Limington**

LR: 2455

Title: An Act To Improve and Enhance Maine's Spirits Business

Comment: This bill would allow the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to collect spirits sales data of on-premises licensees and disseminate that data in the aggregate.

LR: 2457

Title: An Act To Support Vendors at Gated, Paid-entry Events

Comment: This bill would allow attendees of gated, paid-entry events to consume beer or wine in any area within the gated event as long as the beverage was purchased at the event and served in a disposable unmarked container.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Kinney of Knox**

LR: 2181

Title: An Act To Authorize a Person Whose Driver's License Is Suspended Due To Failure To Pay Child Support To Drive to and from a Place of Employment

Comment: This bill would allow a person whose driver's license was suspended because of failure to pay child support to hold a driver's license that is restricted to travel to and from that person's place of employment.

LR: 2182

Title: An Act To Prohibit State Funding of Health Care Services Provided by Certain Health Care Providers

Comment: This bill would prohibit all state funding currently provided to Planned Parenthood and would instead provide those funds to other health care providers established under Maine law that are able to provide those same women's health care services.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2531 Representative Guerin, S

LR: 2243

Title: An Act Regarding Sealing the Records of Class C, D and E Crimes

Comment: This bill would require the records of a person's Class C, D or E crime to be sealed after 10 years if the person has no further convictions.

LR: 2339

Title: An Act To Limit Smoking to Designated Areas at Certain Outdoor Events

Comment: This bill would limit smoking to designated areas at certain outdoor events.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Kornfield of Bangor**

LR: 2266

Title: An Act To Protect the Value of Diplomas for Maine's Students by Prohibiting Tiered Diploma Systems Based on Proficiency

Comment: This bill would prohibit school districts from adopting tiered diploma systems based upon student proficiency. The bill would not prohibit schools from awarding certificates of proficiency, but would prohibit school districts from adopting tiered diplomas to be awarded to students based on their ability to attain certain proficiency targets.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Kruger of Thomaston**

LR: 2281

Title: An Act To Require an Environmental Impact Statement for a Dredging Project in the Penobscot River Watershed and To Require That the Dredging Activity Be the Least Environmentally and Economically Damaging Alternative Available

Comment: This bill would require that an environmental impact assessment be completed for a dredging project in the Penobscot River watershed. It also would require that the dredging activity be the least environmentally and economically damaging alternative available.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Kumiega, III of Deer Isle**

LR: 2423

Title: An Act To Improve Maine's Lobster Licensing and Limited-entry System

Comment: This bill would change the lobster licensing and limited-entry system to remove the option for zones to use tags as an entry mechanism, change the time frame to convert a student license to a commercial license, create a new Class II limited lobster and crab fishing license eligible for a maximum of 300 rather than 800 traps, eliminate the current limit on increasing trap tags and eliminate the apprenticeship requirement in the island limited-entry program.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Kumiega, III of Deer Isle**

LR: 2424

Title: An Act To Provide Flexibility To Designate the Closed Period for Elver Harvesting

Comment: This bill would require the Commissioner of Marine Resources to set the 48-hour weekly closed period to harvest elvers by rule prior to the start of the season to increase fishing opportunities, based on the timing of the tides. Currently the period in statute is from noon Friday to noon Sunday.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Lajoie of Lewiston**

LR: 2354

Title: An Act To Require the State To Adequately Pay for Emergency Medical Services

Comment: This bill would increase the MaineCare reimbursement for ambulance services to the federal Medicare allowable rate.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2291 Representative Malaby, R

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2515 Senator Burns, D

##### **Sponsor: Senator Langley of Hancock**

LR: 2249

Title: An Act To Create Improved Consumer Protection against Long-term Care Insurance Premium Rate Increases

Comment: This bill would amend the laws governing long-term care insurance to implement certain safeguards based on consumer age and limit the amount and number of increases over a defined period of time.

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**Sponsor: Senator Langley of Hancock**

LR: 2334

Title: An Act To Amend Certain Education Statutes

Comment: This bill would authorize the Commissioner of Education to designate a school administrative unit to enroll a student who lives in a school administrative unit without a school or a contract with another school administrative unit. This bill would also amend the laws regarding public charter schools.

Potential JR 217: LD1448

**Sponsor: Senator Libby of Androscoggin**

LR: 2263

Title: An Act To Amend Maine's Death Certificate Disclosure Law

Comment: This bill would allow the sole living parent of a minor to obtain a certified copy of the death certificate of the minor's other parent.

LR: 2342

Title: An Act To Expand the Dental Care Access Credit

Comment: This bill would expand the dental care access credit. Under current law, the credit will not be available after 2020, this bill would extend the credit until 2025.

**Sponsor: Representative Lockman of Amherst**

LR: 2145

Title: An Act To Make Information on the Biennial Budget Available in a Timely Manner

Comment: This bill would require that the biennial budget be available online at least 72 hours before legislators vote on it. It would also require any amendments to be posted online at least 24 hours before legislators vote on them.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Lockman of Amherst**

LR: 2341

Title: An Act To Ensure That Local Governments Are in Compliance with Federal Immigration Law

Comment: This bill would prohibit local governments from enacting an order or ordinance that prohibits communicating or cooperating with federal agencies or officials to verify or report the immigration status of an alien in that locality.

LR: 2425

Title: An Act To Require Random Drug Testing of Legislators

Comment: This bill would require random drug testing of legislators.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Long of Sherman**

LR: 2253

Title: An Act To Provide Proper Funding for County Jails

Comment: This bill would appropriate funds to the counties sufficient to cover the costs of operating the county jails.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2286 Representative Nadeau, C

LR: 2254

Title: An Act To Establish the County Court System and Provide for Elected Judges

Comment: This bill would abolish district courts and establish a county court system with judges elected by the voters of each county.

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**Sponsor: Representative Long of Sherman**

LR: 2255

Title: An Act To Ensure That Horse-drawn Wagons Are Safe and in Compliance with Safety Requirements

Comment: This bill would require horse-drawn wagons to comply with certain safety requirements, such as rubber tires and adequate lighting.

**Sponsor: Representative Luchini of Ellsworth**

LR: 2180

Title: An Act Regarding the Distribution and Off-site Storage of Spirits by Licensed Reselling Agents

Comment: This bill would authorize the sale of spirits to on-premises licensees to be transacted at the reseller's agency liquor store location or at a licensed off-site facility.

LR: 2282

Title: An Act Regarding Distributions from Casinos

Comment: This bill would remove the requirement that a percentage of the Agricultural Fair Support Fund be disbursed to commercial tracks.

**Sponsor: Representative Lyford of Eddington**

LR: 2492

Title: An Act To Require That a Person Undergoing Methadone Treatment Be Accompanied by a Driver or Have Another Transportation Arrangement

Comment: This bill would require that a person undergoing a methadone treatment be accompanied by a designated driver or have an alternative means of getting home after the treatment.



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##### **Sponsor: Representative Maker of Calais**

LR: 2313

Title: An Act To Expand Access to Calais via the Sunrise Trail

Comment: This bill would provide for studying and funding the removal of train tracks on the snowmobile trail between Ayer's Point and Calais.

LR: 2451

Title: An Act To Permit a Resident of a Canadian Province Adjoining Maine To Qualify as a Notary Public

Comment: This bill would allow a person from an adjoining province of Canada to qualify to be a notary public in Maine.

LR: 2452

Title: An Act To Amend the Teacher Certification Statutes

Comment: This bill would amend the teacher certification statutes.

LR: 2501

Title: An Act To Support Maine People in Recovery

Comment: This bill would provide funding for 3 new centers in different parts of the State to coordinate and run peer support programs to help persons in recovery from drug addiction. Two of these centers would be located outside of Maine's service centers, in order to serve populations in more rural parts of the State. Funding for each center would support the hiring of a coordinator who would support recovery group facilitation, peer mentoring and peer recovery resource connecting, and the centers could be coordinated and housed within existing health care settings, such as rural health care centers.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Malaby of Hancock**

LR: 2143

Title: An Act To Create a Transfer on Death Deed

Comment: This bill would authorize a special type of deed to transfer ownership of real estate upon death, outside of probate, to beneficiaries named on the deed.

LR: 2291

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Amend Its Rules Regarding MaineCare Reimbursement of Air Ambulance Services

Comment: Current law provides that MaineCare reimbursement rate for ambulance services may not be less than 65% of the average allowable reimbursement rate under Medicare for such services. This bill would direct the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules to implement the law.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2354 Representative Lajoie, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2515 Senator Burns, D

LR: 2292

Title: An Act To Waive the Fee on Annuitizing Financial Instruments

Comment: Under current law, when a financial instrument is annuitized, a 2% premium tax is imposed based on the value of the principal. This bill would waive the premium fee imposed on annuitizing financial instruments.

LR: 2413

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding the Right to Standing and Intervenor Status in Child Protection Proceedings

Comment: The bill would amend the rights of foster parents and grandparents regarding standing and intervenor status in child protection proceedings.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Malaby of Hancock**

LR: 2554

Title: An Act To Enact the Foster Parents' Bill of Rights

Comment: This bill would enact the foster parents' bill of rights. It would enumerate the rights of foster parents, including the right to training, consultation and assistance in evaluating, identifying and accessing services to meet their needs related to their role as foster parents; the right to all pertinent information known to the Department of Health and Human Services about a foster child; and the right to a written explanation of the plan concerning the placement of a child in the foster parents' home.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Marean of Hollis**

LR: 2358

Title: An Act To Improve Maine's Companion Animal Sterilization Fund

Comment: This bill would require that the fund for the spaying and neutering of companion animals be administered by a nonprofit animal welfare group and amend the law regarding the payment of copayments.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Martin of Eagle Lake**

LR: 2551

Title: An Act To Provide State Funding for the School Costs Portion of a Property Tax Bill for a Senior Citizen Whose Property Valuation Is below \$100,000

Comment: This bill would provide state funding for the school costs portion of a property tax bill for a person who is 65 years of age or older and whose property valuation is below \$100,000.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Martin of Eagle Lake**

LR: 2552

Title: An Act To Make Corrections to the Biennial Budget Regarding the Maine Forest Service

Comment: This bill would make corrections to the biennial budget passed by the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature regarding the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Maine Forest Service.

LR: 2553

Title: An Act To Transfer Excess Revenue from the State's Liquor Contract in Fiscal Year 2016-17 to General Purpose Aid to Local Schools

Comment: This bill would transfer excess revenue from the State's liquor contract in fiscal year 2016-17 to general purpose aid to local schools.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Martin of Sinclair**

LR: 2305

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Fees for All-terrain Vehicle Registrations

Comment: This bill would increase the resident all-terrain vehicle registration fee from \$33.00 to \$38.00 and the nonresident all-terrain vehicle registration fee from \$68.00 to \$73.00, and would allocate all of the \$5.00 increase to the ATV Recreational Management Fund in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Mastraccio of Sanford**

LR: 2337

Title: An Act To Include 50-milliliter Liquor Bottles in Maine's Returnable Container Law

Comment: This bill would make 50-milliliter liquor containers subject to Maine's returnable container law.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan**

LR: 2131

Title: Resolve, To Reauthorize Bonds for Land for Maine's Future

Comment: This bill would reauthorize land for Maine's Future bonds that expired in November 2015.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2212 Representative Timmons, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2373 Representative Guerin, S

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2130 Senator Katz, R

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2132 Representative Pouliot, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2133 Representative Vachon, K

LR: 2321

Title: An Act To Amend the Maine Criminal Code To Clarify the Prohibition on the Exercise of Improper Influence

Comment: This bill would amend the Maine Criminal Code to clarify that a person is guilty of improper influence if, being a public servant, that person threatens any harm, including the withholding of public funds, to another entity with the intention of influencing that entity's action, decision, opinion, recommendation, nomination, vote or other exercise of discretion.

LR: 2323

Title: An Act To Ensure Adequate Funding To Provide Bulletproof Vests for All Members of Law Enforcement

Comment: This bill would appropriate funds sufficient to provide bulletproof vests for all members of law enforcement.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2463 Senator Burns, D

LR: 2359

Title: An Act To Provide Heating Assistance for Maine Seniors and Families

Comment: This bill would provide heating assistance for Maine seniors and families using proceeds from the State's liquor contract.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan**

LR: 2360

Title: An Act To Protect the Land for Maine's Future Program

Comment: This bill would protect the Land for Maine's Future Program by ensuring that the Land for Maine's Future Board is able to do its work to enable the continuance of the program.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2458 Senator Hill, D

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2256 Representative Cooper, J

LR: 2503

Title: An Act To Coordinate Education and Prevention Efforts in Our Schools To Stop Harmful Drug Use

Comment: This bill would link schools throughout the State with existing successful and effective programming to help prevent youth in the State from using harmful drugs.

LR: 2540

Title: An Act To Create Transparency in Elections

Comment: This bill would require national organizations to disclose their donor lists. This requirement would apply to political committees and ballot question committees that spend more than \$5,000 to influence the outcome of an election or referendum.

##### **Sponsor: Representative McClellan of Raymond**

LR: 2299

Title: An Act to Limit Municipalities' Exposure on Tuition Payments for Choice Students

Comment: This bill would ensure that a student in a regional school unit or any school choice situation would have state funding available at the State-set rate for the year and would prohibit a regional school unit or parent from negotiating a higher payment to a school charging a higher rate.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative McClellan of Raymond**

LR: 2440

Title: An Act To Create Arts Engage ME

Comment: This bill would allow the Maine Arts Commission to have a support organization.

LR: 2441

Title: An Act Regarding the Maine Arts Commission

Comment: This bill would allow the Maine Arts Commission to create an endowment fund.

##### **Sponsor: Representative McCreight of Harpswell**

LR: 2193

Title: An Act To Facilitate Student Loan Repayment by Allowing Graduates To Claim Educational Opportunity Tax Credits on Eligible Portions of Consolidated Loans

Comment: This bill would amend the law by allowing graduates who have consolidated their eligible student loans with their noneligible student loans to claim educational opportunity tax credits on those portions of their loans that are eligible, if they provide sufficient proof of which parts of the consolidated loans, and thus payments, are eligible.

LR: 2388

Title: An Act Regarding Authorized Municipal Shellfish Conservation Areas

Comment: This bill would allow the closure of authorized municipal shellfish conservation areas to all fisheries under certain circumstances. A municipality may apply to the Department of Marine Resources to close areas with a documented conservation investment by the municipality to foster the health and growth of shellfish when such a closure is necessary to allow shellfish to achieve legally harvestable size.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Melaragno of Auburn**

LR: 2177

Title: An Act To Allow One Spouse To Adopt a Child without Requiring Agreement by the Other Spouse

Comment: This bill would allow one spouse to petition the court to adopt a child without requiring the other spouse to join in the petition.

##### **Sponsor: Senator Millett of Cumberland**

LR: 2320

Title: An Act To Promote Postsecondary Education Attainment and Degree Completion

Comment: This bill would establish postsecondary education attainment goals for the State's adult population and would establish the Commission on Higher Education and Workforce Needs.

LR: 2329

Title: An Act To Facilitate the Use of State Education Subsidies

Comment: This bill would authorize a regional school unit or other school administrative unit to include an article in the warrant for its annual budget meeting providing that, in the event that the school unit receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its budget, the school board is authorized to increase expenditures for school purposes in cost center categories approved by the board, without a special budget meeting and budget validation referendum.



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**Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox**

LR: 2150

Title: An Act To Allow Wineries To Provide Sample Tasting

Comment: This bill would allow wineries to provide tasting samples of products offered for sale at taste-testing events. Samples must be 4 ounces or less and may be provided only to persons 21 years of age or older.

LR: 2151

Title: An Act To Allow Distilleries To Retain Product for Retail Sales

Comment: This bill would provide that a distillery that has retail locations is not required to transport alcohol that is destined for retail sale in those locations to the facility designated by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverage and Lottery Operations for inspection. The distillery would be required to maintain records of all alcohol sold at retail and submit documentation for these sales to the bureau or a designated contractor on a monthly basis.

Potential JR 217: LD986

LR: 2152

Title: An Act To Establish Visitation Rights for Grandparents

Comment: This bill would establish visitation rights for grandparents.

LR: 2153

Title: An Act To Clarify the Contracts Used for Automobile Sales

Comment: This bill would provide that when the terms of an agreement are established during the negotiations for purchase of an automobile, a summary must be presented in plain language for the buyer to review, and the signature acknowledging the terms must be immediately below the summary.

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**Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox**

LR: 2154

Title: An Act To Protect Worker Benefits

Comment: This bill would provide that if an employee earns vacation time as part of the benefits offered by an employer, the employee must be paid for unused vacation time earned at the pay rate of the employee if the employee leaves that employee's job, voluntarily or involuntarily.

LR: 2155

Title: An Act To Prevent the Use of Surplus Military Equipment for Routine Law Enforcement

Comment: This bill would require law enforcement agencies to post a notice on the internet any time they make a request to acquire military equipment. Agencies would be required to establish policies for the use of such equipment and receive the approval of elected officials to take possession of that equipment. They would be required to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public safety matters about use of the equipment within 2 weeks of any deployment.

LR: 2156

Title: An Act To Reduce Fuel Costs to State, County and Local Government

Comment: This bill would require that fuel economy be the first consideration for purchasing a vehicle for use by state, local or county government or a government agency.

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**Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox**

LR: 2158

Title: An Act To Increase Firearm Safety

Comment: This bill would require a person purchasing any type of firearm to present proof of completion of an approved firearm safety course. A firearm safety course used for a permit to carry a concealed handgun would be considered an approved course.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2166 Representative Devin, M

LR: 2160

Title: An Act To Improve Access to Women's Health Care

Comment: This bill would provide that, after obtaining an initial prescription for an oral contraceptive and a 3-month period of using that contraceptive to check for contraindication, a woman may obtain up to a 12-month supply of that contraceptive. In order to continue to refill the supply, a woman requesting the refill would be required to complete an annual risk self-assessment, which the pharmacy would review and keep on file. If a health insurance company pays for the prescriptions for a participant of a health insurance plan, it would continue to do so under the provisions of this bill.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2125 Senator Brakey, E

LR: 2364

Title: An Act To Improve the Safety of Ferries in the State

Comment: This bill would improve the safety of ferries in the State by implementing recommendations of a safety management systems report issued in 2008 addressing standard operating procedure matters and amending the membership of the Maine State Ferry Advisory Board within the Department of Transportation.

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**Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox**

LR: 2372

Title: An Act To Allow Nonprofit Organizations To Auction, Raffle or Sell Donated Bottles of Wine

Comment: This bill would allow a nonprofit organization to occasionally auction, raffle or sell donated bottles of wine without a license from the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations.

LR: 2499

Title: An Act To Provide Incentives to Homeowners To Increase the Use of Clean Energy

Comment: This bill would strengthen the residential solar panel rebate program.

**Sponsor: Representative Monaghan of Cape Elizabeth**

LR: 2418

Title: An Act To Expedite Foreclosure Actions

Comment: This bill would permit the Foreclosure Mediation Fund to be used to support other expenses incurred by the court in support of resolving foreclosure cases.

LR: 2545

Title: An Act To Protect Elephants

Comment: This bill would prohibit the use of a bull hook or other similar device on elephants.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Monaghan of Cape Elizabeth**

LR: 2549

Title: An Act To Protect Dogs from Extreme Weather

Comment: This bill would prohibit owners from leaving dogs outside during weather warnings related to temperature, severe weather and precipitation.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Moonen of Portland**

LR: 2529

Title: An Act To Improve Transparency and Strengthen Consumer Protection in Rental Housing

Comment: This bill would require local code enforcement officers to keep a publicly accessible online database of complaints and violations related to rental housing.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Nadeau of Winslow**

LR: 2202

Title: An Act To Allow the Kennebec Sanitary Treatment District To Establish and Maintain a Capital Reserve Fund

Comment: This bill would allow the Kennebec Sanitary Treatment District to establish a capital reserve fund to help in paying for the maintaining, upgrading and replacing of its aging infrastructure.

LR: 2286

Title: An Act To Provide Supplemental Funding to the County Jail Operations Fund

Comment: This bill would appropriate \$1,800,000 to the County Jail Operations Fund.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2253 Representative Long, R

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Nadeau of Winslow**

LR: 2495

Title: An Act To Include Law Enforcement Officers within the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in the 1998 Special Plan for Retirement

Comment: This bill would allow law enforcement officers within the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles to participate in the 1998 Special Plan of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

Closely Related CO: LD 654 Representative Nadeau, C

##### **Sponsor: Representative O'Connor of Berwick**

LR: 2303

Title: An Act To Expand the Early Processing of Absentee Ballots

Comment: This bill would allow a municipality to opt to process absentee ballots as early as the 4th day before the election and would allow the Secretary of State to make available high-speed tabulators.

Potential JR 217: LD585 and LD1335

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2302 Representative Chipman, B

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2346 Senator Cyrway, S

##### **Sponsor: Representative Parry of Arundel**

LR: 2261

Title: An Act To Allow Municipalities To Adjust Times of Operation for Establishments That Serve Alcohol

Comment: This bill would allow municipalities to extend the time that establishments serve alcohol by one hour outside current State statutes for opening and closing times.

Potential JR 217: LD1436

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Parry of Arundel**

LR: 2304

Title: An Act To Adjust the Timing for Recounts in Certain Municipal and Local School Elections

Comment: This bill would increase the time to collect signatures for a recount in a municipal, local school or local referendum election. Current law allows 5 business days after the election to collect the signatures for a recount and requires the voter list to be sealed for 5 business days after the election. This bill would increase the time to collect signatures from 5 business days to 10 business days. An automatic recount would be triggered if any of the municipalities hand count ballots for the election in question and the total vote difference is 10 votes or less.

##### **Sponsor: Senator Patrick of Oxford**

LR: 2264

Title: An Act To Make Changes to the Rumford Water District Charter

Comment: This bill would amend the language of the charter of the Rumford Water District to delete obsolete language and to clarify the purposes and powers of the district, consistent with the Standard Water District Enabling Act.

LR: 2295

Title: An Act To Clarify the Definition of "Sales Representative"

Comment: This bill would exempt from licensing by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations a sales representative who is employed by a distributor and who does not participate in product sampling or tasting with the public.

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**Sponsor: Senator Patrick of Oxford**

LR: 2402

Title: An Act To Improve Working Conditions for Public Sector Employees by Removing the Prohibition against Striking

Comment: This bill would remove the prohibition against striking for public sector employees under all sections of public sector labor law in Maine.

LR: 2460

Title: An Act To Create a Maine State Rural Investment Tax Credits Program

Comment: This bill would establish a program to replace the Maine New Markets Capital Investment Program.

LR: 2461

Title: An Act To Include Energy from Combined Heat and Power Facilities as Part of the Maine Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard

Comment: This bill would allow energy generated by combined heat and power facilities to be eligible energy under Maine's renewable energy portfolio standard.

**Sponsor: Representative Peterson of Rumford**

LR: 2426

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Oversight over and Responsibility for the Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program

Comment: This bill would transfer authority over the Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program Fund to a program administrator, eliminate the Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program Fund Board, authorize the establishment of an advisory board and transfer authority for administration of the fund from the Finance Authority of Maine to the Office of the Treasurer of State.



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##### **Sponsor: Representative Picchiotti of Fairfield**

LR: 2355

Title: An Act To Ensure Children in the Care of Their Grandparents Can Access Fundamental Services

Comment: This bill would create state educational and health care consent laws for children in the care of their grandparents.

LR: 2411

Title: An Act To Enhance the Family Reunification Process

Comment: This bill would add de facto parents to the types of parents recognized by the Department of Health and Human Services for purposes of the reunification and placement process. It would not change procedures in the reunification and placement process.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Pierce of Dresden**

LR: 2244

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Sentencing of Persons Convicted of Trafficking Heroin or Opiates

Comment: This bill would require that a person convicted of trafficking heroin or opiates receive a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years imprisonment, without the possibility of a reduction in the sentence for good behavior.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2284 Senator Cyrway, S

LR: 2245

Title: An Act To Ensure Consumer Protection in the Laws Governing Foreclosure

Comment: This bill, which is modeled on Nevada law, would establish a process of mandatory mediation for parties to a foreclosure.

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**Sponsor: Representative Pouliot of Augusta**

LR: 2132

Title: Resolve, To Reauthorize the Issuance of Certain Bonds

Comment: This resolve would reauthorize the issuance of bonds for certain land conservation projects.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2212 Representative Timmons, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2373 Representative Guerin, S

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2130 Senator Katz, R

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2131 Representative McCabe, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2133 Representative Vachon, K

LR: 2475

Title: An Act To Implement a Maine Solar Policy To Maximize Ratepayer Benefits

Comment: This bill would implement solar policy proposals that maximize benefits to ratepayers developed as part of the Public Utilities Commission stakeholder process.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2546 Representative Babbidge, C

LR: 2518

Title: An Act To Improve Access to Higher Education, Encourage Homeownership, Manage Medical Expenses and Strengthen Charitable Institutions by Eliminating Limitations on Claiming Itemized Deductions From Maine Adjusted Gross Income

Comment: This bill would amend the law to allow taxpayers to claim all itemized charitable, mortgage interest and medical deductions. In addition, the bill would remove the \$27,500 cap on itemized deductions.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Powers of Naples**

LR: 2318

Title: An Act To Require Houseboats To Have a Marine Sanitation Device

Comment: This bill would require houseboats to have a marine sanitation device to prevent the overboard discharge of treated or untreated sewage or any waste derived from sewage. The bill would also define "houseboat" as any watercraft that is moored, docked or anchored and is used for a dwelling on the inland waters of the State.

LR: 2319

Title: An Act Regarding Lake Moorings

Comment: This bill would amend the laws governing lake moorings.

Potential JR 217: LD22

##### **Sponsor: Senator Rosen of Hancock**

LR: 2271

Title: An Act To Clarify Financial Responsibility in Gestational Carrier Agreements

Comment: This bill would amend the Maine Parentage Act to clarify financial responsibility for the costs of delivering a child when the child is the subject of a gestational carrier agreement.

LR: 2287

Title: An Act To Amend the Law Reversing Jail Consolidation

Comment: This bill would amend the law reversing jail consolidation to provide consistency in the administration of the finances for the jails by the Department of Corrections and to correct minor errors in the use of the terms "prisoner" and "inmate" and in the wording on deductions from days of sentence of a prisoner transferred from one jail to another.

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**Sponsor: Senator Rosen of Hancock**

LR: 2315

Title: An Act Regarding the Application Fees and Inspection Fees Associated with the Provision of Amusement Rides

Comment: This bill would amend the application fees and inspection fees charged by the Department of Public Safety for amusement rides set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 8, section 472.

**Sponsor: Representative Rotundo of Lewiston**

LR: 2338

Title: An Act To Clarify Expenditures Regarding Androscoggin County

Comment: This bill would clarify that an appropriation in the current biennial budget is for the College for ME in Androscoggin County.

LR: 2399

Title: An Act To Fund and Implement Wage Adjustments for All State Correctional Employees Who Perform Direct Care or Supervision of Prisoners

Comment: This bill would allocate funding necessary to meet the legislative intent to provide wage adjustment to all correctional employees who perform direct care or supervision of prisoners.

**Sponsor: Representative Rykerson of Kittery**

LR: 2231

Title: An Act Regarding Clinical Practice Requirements for Licensure as an Independent Practice Dental Hygienist

Comment: This bill would require applicants for licensure as independent practice dental hygienists to provide proof of having at least 5 years of clinical practice experience, including part-time practice or employment, to meet the clinical practice requirement for licensure.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Sanborn of Gorham**

LR: 2237

Title: An Act Regarding Public Access to Certain Records of the State Board of Nursing

Comment: This bill would enhance the safety of nurses working at family planning clinics by prohibiting the disclosure of State Board of Nursing licensing records.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Sanderson of Chelsea**

LR: 2481

Title: An Act To Make Consistent Certain Laws Governing the Medical Use of Marijuana by Qualifying Minors and Adults

Comment: Under current law, an adult qualifying patient who is visiting Maine from another jurisdiction that authorizes the medical use of marijuana and who possesses valid written certification may engage in conduct authorized for a qualifying patient under Maine law without prior consultation with a physician in Maine. This bill would amend the law governing qualifying patients who are minors so that it is consistent with the laws governing adult qualifying patients.

##### **Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin**

LR: 2203

Title: An Act To Protect the Scenic Character of Maine's Special Places

Comment: This bill would extend from 8 miles to 15 miles the requirement for a visual impact assessment for a grid-scale wind energy development for a specified list of scenic resources determined to be of particularly high scenic value or significance.

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##### Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin

LR: 2204

Title: An Act To Clarify Limited Liability for Recreational and Harvesting Activities

Comment: This bill would limit the liability of a tenant or subtenant or the holder of an easement from a landowner who, in return for consideration, grants permission for recreational or harvesting activities to be conducted on land in control of the tenant, subtenant or easement holder.

LR: 2205

Title: An Act To Create a Battery Stewardship Program

Comment: This bill would create a battery stewardship program to require labeling of batteries, indicating the chemistry used to store energy, and to require the provider of a battery to develop and maintain a program to manage discarded batteries.

LR: 2206

Title: An Act To Oversee Organic Dairy Farm Audits

Comment: This bill would establish a public process to allow organic dairy farms to appeal audits conducted by private firms.

LR: 2207

Title: An Act To Give Preference to Maine Vendors and American Products When Issuing State Funding

Comment: This bill would give preference in the awarding of state contracts and purchases to in-state vendors whose bids are within 5% of the lowest bid by an out-of-state vendor and whose qualifications are equal to those of that out-of-state vendor.

Potential JR 217: LD407

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin**

LR: 2208

Title: An Act To Transfer Approximately .75 Acres of Land from the Town of Madrid to the Madrid Historical Society

Comment: This bill would transfer approximately .75 acres of land from the Town of Madrid to the Madrid Historical Society.

LR: 2353

Title: An Act To Provide Full Funding of Per-pupil Costs of Students Transferred Pursuant to Superintendent's Agreements

Comment: Currently, when a student transfers to another school under a superintendent's agreement, the receiving district receives a state subsidy that may not cover the actual per-pupil costs associated with the student. This bill would require that, for students transferring under a superintendent's agreement, the receiving district receive the full amount of per-pupil costs associated with the transferred student.

LR: 2395

Title: An Act To Allow All Beer Manufacturers To Provide Samples of Products to Retail Licensees

Comment: This bill would allow all beer manufacturers, regardless of size, to provide samples of products to retail licensees.

LR: 2396

Title: An Act To Permit Tasting Rooms and Pubs Operated by a Manufacturer under an On-premises Retail License To Sell Their Products for On-premises or Off-premises Consumption without Physical Separation or Separate Inventory

Comment: This bill would remove the requirement that a manufacturer that holds an on-premises liquor license and that also sells food maintain separate entrances and physical separation of on-premises and off-premises retail areas.

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**Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin**

LR: 2528

Title: An Act To Clarify the Authority of a Plantation To Regulate Land Use

Comment: This bill would clarify that plantations have the same amount of authority to regulate land use as that granted to the Maine Land Use Planning Commission.

**Sponsor: Representative Sherman of Hodgdon**

LR: 2198

Title: Resolve, To Require the State Police To Study Automobile Inspection and the Reliability of Automobiles Bought from Used Automobile Dealers

Comment: This resolve would require the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police to study the uniformity of automobile inspections across the State and the number of used automobiles sold by used car dealers that do not pass their first inspection after purchase.

LR: 2199

Title: Resolve, Requiring the Department of Transportation To Expedite Planning and Upgrading of Route 1 between Houlton and Topsfield

Comment: This resolve would require the Department of Transportation to expedite planning for the upgrading of United States Route 1 between Houlton and Topsfield.

**Sponsor: Representative Short of Pittsfield**

LR: 2336

Title: An Act Regarding Wholesale Sales of Cigarettes

Comment: This bill would require distributors of cigarettes to sell cigarettes to stores at the same price.



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##### **Sponsor: Representative Sirocki of Scarborough**

LR: 2187

Title: An Act To Require Lobbyists To Be Sworn in When Registering as Lobbyists

Comment: This bill would require a person, when registering as a lobbyist with the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices, to be administered and swear to an oath to tell the truth when working as a lobbyist.

LR: 2414

Title: An Act To Conform Maine Law to the Requirements of the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation

Comment: The bill would conform Maine law to the requirements of the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation.

LR: 2420

Title: An Act To Repeal the Laws Establishing the Board of Trustees of Dirigo Health

Comment: This bill would repeal the laws establishing the Board of Trustees of Dirigo Health.

LR: 2421

Title: An Act To Amend the Membership of the Maine Vaccine Board To Remove the Treasurer of State

Comment: This bill would remove the Treasurer of State as a member of the Maine Vaccine Board.

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**Sponsor: Representative Stanley of Medway**

LR: 2289

Title: An Act To Promote Snowmobile and All-terrain Vehicle Trails

Comment: This bill would allow for a 10% reduction in the value of a parcel of land when determining property tax for that parcel if the parcel's owner has allowed a club such as an all-terrain vehicle or snowmobile club to make a trail through that parcel.

LR: 2290

Title: An Act To Allow Persons 16 Years of Age and Older To Operate Personal Watercraft

Comment: This bill would reduce from 18 to 16 the age at which a person may operate a personal watercraft.

LR: 2312

Title: An Act To Limit Consent Regarding Land Transfers to the Federal Government

Comment: This bill would limit the application of the law providing the automatic consent of the Legislature to acquisitions of land by the United States to areas of land of 5 square miles or less.

**Sponsor: Representative Stearns of Guilford**

LR: 2361

Title: An Act To Improve the Superintendent Transfer Process

Comment: This bill would make binding the decision of 2 school superintendents not to approve the transfer of a student from one school administrative unit to the other.

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**Sponsor: Representative Tepler of Topsham**

LR: 2195

Title: An Act to Provide MaineCare Coverage for Dental Services To Intellectually Disabled Adults

Comment: This bill would provide MaineCare coverage to intellectually disabled adults receiving so-called Section 21 or Section 29 services for the same level of dental services that are provided to children under MaineCare.

**Sponsor: President Thibodeau of Waldo**

LR: 2382

Title: Resolve, To Establish a Program To Support Maine Agriculture and Improve Nutrition in the State

Comment: This resolve would direct the Finance Authority of Maine to establish a program by contracting with an appropriate statewide organization to purchase and distribute Maine agricultural and seafood commodities.

LR: 2383

Title: An Act To Enact The Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act

Comment: This bill would enact the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders, which establishes uniform procedures that enable courts to recognize and enforce valid domestic protection orders issued in other jurisdictions.

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##### **Sponsor: President Thibodeau of Waldo**

LR: 2417

Title: An Act To Ensure Accountability in Maine's Welfare System

Comment: This bill would amend certain of the State's laws governing benefits provided under the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program, or TANF, the Additional Support for People in Retraining and Education program, or ASPIRE, and the food supplement program. This bill would: require work searches by certain recipients of TANF benefits; prohibit the use of electronic benefits cards to access TANF outside the State; limit certain cash withdrawals of TANF benefits; prohibit the use of TANF benefits and electronic benefits cards for certain specified products; amend the laws governing the imposition of sanctions under the ASPIRE and TANF programs; remove the limit on education, training and treatment for participants in the ASPIRE program; amend the laws governing the receipt of alternative aid; and eliminate eligibility for convicted drug traffickers under TANF and the food supplement program.

Potential JR 217: LD452, 1144, 1375

Closely Related CO: LD 1097 Senator Libby, N

LR: 2442

Title: An Act To Improve Hospital Governance by Removing the Requirement for a Certificate of Need for Intracorporation Transfers

Comment: This bill would remove the requirement for a certificate of need when there is a change in ownership or acquisition of control in which the entities or health facilities involved are already in the same corporate family, such as when the entities or health facilities involved are subsidiaries of the same parent corporation or the transaction involves a parent and its subsidiary.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Timberlake of Turner**

LR: 2493

Title: An Act To Create Stability in the Control of Pesticides

Comment: This bill would require the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt statewide standards for the use of pesticides and prohibit a municipality from adopting a different standard. A municipality that adopted a different standard prior to the department's establishment of standards could enforce that standard only if it creates an entity similar to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Timmons of Cumberland**

LR: 2212

Title: An Act Regarding Affordable Heating and the Issuance of Land Conservation Bonds

Comment: This bill would use revenues from the sale of timber and other things of value from Maine's public reserved lands for reducing residential heating costs and extending the period for issuance of certain land conservation bonds.

Potential JR 217: LR1397

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2373 Representative Guerin, S

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2130 Senator Katz, R

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2131 Representative McCabe, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2132 Representative Pouliot, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2133 Representative Vachon, K

##### **Sponsor: Representative Tipping-Spitz of Orono**

LR: 2526

Title: An Act To Improve Transparency in Education Funding

Comment: This bill would require education budget initiatives currently combined under "miscellaneous costs" and "student opportunity fund" to be listed as separate line items in budgets.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Tuell of East Machias**

LR: 2183

Title: An Act To Extend the Length of Maine's Elver Fishing Season in Certain Circumstances

Comment: This bill would allow the Commissioner of Marine Resources to extend the State's elver harvesting season by an additional 2 weeks if the State's annual harvest quota has not been reached.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2144 Representative Beebe-Center, P

LR: 2257

Title: An Act To Expand the Role of Voters in the Governmental Facilities Bonding Process

Comment: This bill would reclassify governmental facilities bonds as "general obligation bonds" and require that any governmental facilities bond approved by the Legislature also be approved by a majority of those qualified to vote in the next general or primary election.

LR: 2258

Title: RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Require Certain Elected Officials To Be Elected by a Majority of Voters Qualified To Vote

Comment: This resolution would propose to amend the Constitution of Maine to require the Governor, United States Senators and Representatives, members of the Legislature and other statewide office holders to be elected by a majority of eligible voters. If a majority was not obtained, a run-off election would be held.

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##### **Sponsor: Representative Tuell of East Machias**

LR: 2259

Title: An Act To Establish September 11th as First Responders Day and Provide an Exemption from the Tax on Prepared Foods for First Responders on September 11th

Comment: This bill would designate September 11th of each calendar year as First Responders Day. This bill would also exempt any first responder or active or honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces from paying meals tax on September 11th.

LR: 2352

Title: An Act To Facilitate Homegrown Education in Maine

Comment: This bill would remove the Common Core standards from the system of learning results by June 30, 2017 and transition the State back to locally developed standards.

LR: 2389

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Amend Its Rules Regarding Teacher In-service Days

Comment: This resolve would direct the Department of Education to change its rules from allowing up to 5 days of the 180 school days for teacher in-service days to allowing up to 5 days or 40 hours per school year.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Turner of Burlington**

LR: 2128

Title: An Act To Allow Parent-teacher Associations To Be Exempt from the Sales Tax

Comment: This bill would exempt parent-teacher associations from the sales tax.

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**Sponsor: Representative Turner of Burlington**

LR: 2188

Title: An Act To Provide Sensible Options for Tax Increment Financing Proceeds in Small Towns

Comment: This bill would clarify the procedure for municipalities to jointly participate in a tax increment financing district and permit municipalities with a population of fewer than 1,500 persons singly or jointly to include certain regional and municipal improvements in project costs.

LR: 2190

Title: An Act To Insure Individual Drivers Instead of Motor Vehicles

Comment: This bill would require an individual licensed to operate a motor vehicle to obtain insurance instead of requiring motor vehicles to be insured.

LR: 2350

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Withdrawal of a Single Municipality from a Regional School Unit

Comment: This bill would make the following changes to the laws governing the withdrawal of a single municipality from a regional school unit. It would limit the time between proposals and counterproposals of the municipality and the regional school unit to 30 days; require the parties to bargain in good faith; and require the Commissioner of Education or the department to help facilitate a compromise if the parties are unable to reach an agreement.



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##### **Sponsor: Representative Vachon of Scarborough**

LR: 2133

Title: An Act To Reauthorize Certain Bonds for the Land for Maine's Future Fund

Comment: This bill would reauthorize the bonds for the Land for Maine's Future Fund that expire in November 2015.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2212 Representative Timmons, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2373 Representative Guerin, S

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2130 Senator Katz, R

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2131 Representative McCabe, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2132 Representative Pouliot, M

LR: 2134

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Issuance of Bonds

Comment: This bill would require the Governor to issue a general obligation bond that has been ratified by the legal voters of the State unless one of 5 specific conditions exists, and it would require the Governor to provide certain information upon delaying or forgoing issuance of a bond.

Potential JR 217: LD 1378

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2322 Representative McCabe, J

LR: 2307

Title: An Act To Encourage Living Kidney Donation

Comment: This bill would allow individual grants of up to \$5,000 for living kidney donors to cover lost wages, unreimbursed travel and lodging costs and medical expenses associated with the donation. The bill also would include a grant provision for a specialized transplant educator.

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**Sponsor: Representative Vachon of Scarborough**

LR: 2308

Title: An Act To Prohibit Telecommunications Companies from Charging Consumers a Fee To Have an Unlisted Telephone Number

Comment: This bill would prevent telecommunications companies from charging an additional fee to customers who choose to have an unlisted telephone number.

LR: 2309

Title: An Act To Require Health Insurance Carriers To Provide Notification to Medicare-eligible Customers

Comment: This bill would require an individual health insurance carrier to notify policyholders 3 months before they turn 65 years of age that upon turning 65 years of age they may not stay on the carrier's plan, they must enroll in Medicare and they must cancel their premium tax credit.

LR: 2454

Title: An Act To Clarify Medicaid Managed Care Ombudsman Services

Comment: This bill would amend the laws regarding the Medicaid managed care ombudsman to make them consistent with federal law and guidance. It also clarifies the services the ombudsman provides.

**Sponsor: Senator Valentino of York**

LR: 2316

Title: An Act To Modernize and Consolidate Court Facilities

Comment: This bill would increase the maximum amount of securities that may be issued by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority for specific allocation to the judicial branch. The increase would be used to fund projects for court facilities in Waldo, Oxford and York counties.

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Valentino of York**

LR: 2534

Title: An Act To Exempt Members of the Maine National Guard from the Vehicle Excise Tax

Comment: This bill would provide to full-time members of the Maine National Guard the same exemption from the excise tax imposed on motor vehicles as is currently provided to active military stationed in Maine.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Verow of Brewer**

LR: 2178

Title: An Act To Require Disclosure of Settlement Amounts between Persons and Local Governments

Comment: This bill would require disclosure of monetary settlement amounts between persons and local governments.

##### **Sponsor: Senator Volk of Cumberland**

LR: 2219

Title: An Act To Protect Low-wage Workers

Comment: This bill would increase the minimum wage, clarify the authority of municipalities and counties to enact ordinances governing employment and make changes to the laws governing the employment of minors.

Potential JR 217: LD 36,52,72,77,92,487,843,1393

LR: 2220

Title: An Act To Protect Victims of Human Trafficking

Comment: This bill would strengthen the criteria for protection orders to better protect trafficking victims.

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**Sponsor: Senator Volk of Cumberland**

LR: 2419

Title: An Act To Provide Immunity from Liability for a Person Operating a Motor Vehicle While Acting on Behalf of a Charitable Organization

Comment: This bill would exempt from liability a director, officer or volunteer of a charitable organization while that person is operating a motor vehicle for the benefit of the charitable organization.

LR: 2449

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Appeal of Unemployment Tax Cases To Conform with Federal Law

Comment: This bill would amend the laws governing the appeal of unemployment tax cases to conform with federal law. This bill would establish a first level of appeal in unemployment contribution cases to the Division of Administrative Hearings within the Department of Labor.

**Sponsor: Representative Wadsworth of Hiram**

LR: 2393

Title: An Act To Reduce the Property Taxes of Volunteer Firefighters

Comment: This bill would reduce the property taxes of volunteer firefighters.

LR: 2489

Title: An Act To Ensure a Timely Reduction in Energy Costs for Maine Consumers

Comment: This bill would direct the 2 investor-owned electricity utilities in the State to purchase their respective New England power pool load ratio share of natural gas pipeline capacity at the lowest price available as determined by each utility's competitive solicitation process.

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**Sponsor: Representative Wadsworth of Hiram**

LR: 2494

Title: An Act To Suspend a Driver's License after a Fatal Accident Resulting from Criminal Speeding

Comment: This bill would require the suspension of a driver's license if the driver is involved in a fatal accident resulting from the driver's criminal speeding.

**Sponsor: Representative Ward of Dedham**

LR: 2412

Title: An Act To Update the Laws Governing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System as They Relate to War-time Veterans

Comment: Current law allows members of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to purchase military time to add those years to their years of creditable service for purposes of calculating their retirement benefits. The cost of purchasing military time depends on whether a member served during a federally recognized period of conflict. This bill would update the definition of "federally recognized period of conflict" to include Lebanon, 1982-1983; Grenada, 1983; the Persian Gulf War, August 2, 1990 to April 6, 1991; and Afghanistan and Iraq, September 11, 2001 to present.

LR: 2538

Title: An Act To Eliminate Conflict of Interest in Publicly Funded Projects

Comment: This bill would require that bidding on a publicly funded project be limited to persons without an ownership stake in the project.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening**  
**Sorted By Sponsor**

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**Sponsor: Representative Warren of Hallowell**

LR: 2369

Title: An Act To Give Proper Oversight to the So-called Fusion Center Advisory Board

Comment: This bill would ensure that the so-called Fusion Center Advisory Board has sufficient security clearance to receive classified information and would require that the board treat as confidential information it receives.

LR: 2370

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Truancy

Comment: Currently, the laws governing truancy do not apply to children who are less than 7 years of age. This bill would provide that, if a child is enrolled in school, the laws governing truancy would apply.

**Sponsor: Representative Welsh of Rockport**

LR: 2510

Title: An Act To Provide Incentives for Child Care and Elder Care

Comment: This bill would provide incentives for child care and elder care by reforming the tax laws to allow family members to make tax-deductible contributions to a caregiver's retirement plan.

**Sponsor: Senator Whittemore of Somerset**

LR: 2371

Title: An Act To Amend the Maine Guaranteed Access Reinsurance Association Act

Comment: This bill would amend the Maine Guaranteed Access Reinsurance Association Act to reflect changes in the individual health insurance market following passage of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening

#### Sorted By Sponsor

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##### **Sponsor: Senator Whittemore of Somerset**

LR: 2478

Title: An Act To Promote Drug Awareness Education in Maine's Schools

Comment: This bill would transfer \$2,000,000 from the Fund for a Healthy Maine into a grant program administered by the Department of Education. A school district would be able to apply for a grant to fund drug abuse education programs.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2378 Senator Johnson, C

##### **Sponsor: Senator Willette of Aroostook**

LR: 2512

Title: An Act To Require Veterinarians To Report Suspected Animal Abuse

Comment: This bill would require a veterinarian who suspects that an animal may have been abused to report that to the animal welfare program in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

LR: 2555

Title: An Act To Amend the Law Regarding the Diversion Alert Program

Comment: This bill would provide additional funding for the diversion alert program and move the program from the Office of the Attorney General to the Department of Public Safety.

##### **Sponsor: Representative Wood of Greene**

LR: 2344

Title: An Act To Establish a Fall Fish Stocking Program for Lakes and Ponds That Do Not Meet the Equitable Access Requirements

Comment: This bill would establish a fall fish stocking program for lakes and ponds that do not meet the equitable access requirements that provide the public with the same level of access to a body of water as an owner of property on that body of water.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

**Bill Requests For Screening**

**Sorted By Sponsor**

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**Sponsor: Senator Woodsome of York**

LR: 2407

Title: An Act To Increase Access to Opiate Addiction Treatment in Maine

Comment: This bill would increase access to opiate addiction treatment by setting the MaineCare reimbursement rate for outpatient methadone treatment at a level equal to the rates in effect prior to the 2010 and 2012 rate cuts.

**Total number of bills screened: 397**



## **PART 5**

**BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND INTERIM STUDY GROUPS ESTABLISHED BY THE 1ST REGULAR SESSION OF THE 127TH  
LEGISLATURE (2015)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Authorized/Revised By</b>	<b>Report Due Date</b>
<b><u>Approved Committee Studies</u></b>		
Jt. Standing Committee on HHS to Study the Allocations of the Fund for a Healthy Maine	Resolve 2015, c. 47	Dec. 2, 2015
<b><u>New Legislative Studies and Commissions</u></b>		
*Clean-up and Response Fund Review Board (formerly the Oil Spill Advisory Committee)	PL 2015, c. 319, §568-B	April 15, 2015 then biennially to ENR
*Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Advisory Council	PL 2015, c. 203	Jan. 1st Annually to HHS and IFS
Commission to End Student Hunger	PL 2015, c. 267, Part CCC	Jan. 10th Annually to EDU
Commission to Strengthen and Align the services Provided to Maine Veterans	Resolve 2015, c. 48	Jan. 15, 2016 to VLA
Commission to Study Difficult-to-Place Patients	Resolve 2015, c. 44	Dec. 2, 2015 HHS
Commission to Study the Public Reserved Lands Management Fund	PL 2015, c. 267, Part GGGG	Dec. 5, 2015 to ACF
Maine Health Exchange Advisory Committee	SP 533, House Amendment "A" (H-501)	Dec. 4, 2015 Preliminary Report to IFS Nov. 5, 2016 Final Report to IFS
Task Force on School Leadership	Resolve 2015, c. 46	Dec. 2, 2015 to EDU
Working Group to Develop Solutions to Meet the Needs for Municipal Volunteer Personnel	Resolve 2015, c. 49	Dec. 2, 2015 to CJPS
<i>*Non-Legislative Boards and Studies Requiring Legislative Appointments</i>		
<b><u>Ongoing Studies, Boards and Commissions</u></b>		
Citizen Trade Policy Commission	10 MRSA §11	Annually to Legislature
Judicial Compensation Commission	4 MRSA §1701	Dec. 15th of even numbered years to JUD
Legislative Youth Advisory Council	3 MRSA §168-B	2nd Friday in February of even numbered years to the Legislative Council

Right to Know Advisory Committee	1 MRSA §411 / Public Law 250	Jan. 15th Annually
State Education and Employment Outcomes Task Force	20-A MRSA §12901	Nov. 1st Annually to EDU, LCED, MWEF Committees

**New Boards or Commissions Requiring Confirmation of Gubernatorial Appointment**

Finance Authority of Maine, Board of Directors ( <i>revised</i> )	PL 2015, c. 170	
Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering, Board of Trustees	PL 2015, c. 363	

**Revised Gubernatorial Appointments**

The Governor, subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters and to confirmation by the Legislature, shall appoint to the District Court <del>36</del> <u>38</u> judges.	PL 2015, c. 377 amends Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §157, sub-§1	
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**Directs a Department, Office or Committee to Conduct a Study, Review or Report**

Department/Office/Committee	Description	Authorized By	Report Date
Bureau of Forestry	Spruce budworm management program activities - Report	PL 2015, c. 314	Annually to ACF
Bureau of General Services	Waivers from the established competitive bidding provisions - Report	PL 2015, c. 179	Jan. 15 annually to SLG
Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services	Recommendations to ensure equity in the benefits provided to military service members	Resolve 2015, c. 19	First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature
Bureau of Motor Vehicles	Update on the voluntary restricted license decal program - Report	PL 2015, c. 113	Feb. 1, 2017 to TRA
ConnectME Authority	Grants distributed from the fund and an analysis of the fund's activities that have addressed the need for expansion of ultra high-speed broadband access in the state. - Report	PL 2015, c.323	Dec. 15, 2016 then annually to EUT
Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry	Task force to ensure integrity in the use of service animals - Report	Resolve 2015, c. 36	Dec. 2, 2015 to ACF
Department of Corrections	Positions Transfers Report	PL 2015, c. 267, Sec. JJ	Quarterly to CJPS
Department of Corrections	Report on the mandatory standards, policies and procedures for jails adopted pursuant to section 1208-B and the status of funding for the jails from the County Jail Operations Fund.	PL 2015, c. 335	Jan. 15, 2016 then annually to CJPS
Department of Education	Advisory Group to Design the Digital Content Library established under MRS 20-A, c. 805 - Recommendations	PL 2015, c.372	Jan. 15, 2016 to EDU
Department of Education	Maine Proficiency Education Council Report	Resolve 2015, c. 41	Jan. 1, 2016 to EDU
Department of Education	Measures to ensure support for students' financial literacy - Annual report	PL 2015, c. 64	Jan. 13, 2016 to EDU
Department of Education	Implementation of Proficiency-based Diplomas and Standards-based Student Learning - Report	PL 2015, c. 367	Jan. 15, 2017 then annually to EDU
Department of Environmental Protection	Surface water ambient toxic monitoring program <i>(revised)</i> - Report	PL 2015, c. 124	April 30th of the First Regular Session to MAR and ENR
Department of Environmental Protection	Thermostat Collection, Recycling and Disposal - Report	PL 2015, c. 83	Feb. 15, 2016 to ENR
Department of Health & Human Services	Seclusion and restraint at Mental Health institutions in the state - Report	PL 2015, c. 266	Jan. 1st annually to HHS

Department of Health & Human Services	Efforts to reach in rural areas persons who are elderly, disabled or mentally ill - Report	Resolve 2015, c. 18	Jan. 1, 2016 to HHS
Department of Health & Human Services	Rate Study - Report	PL 2015, c. 267, Part AA	Jan. 1, 2016 to HHS
Department of Health & Human Services	Reimbursement levels at residential care facilities and demonstration project in Washington County - Report	Resolve 2015, c. 31	Jan. 15, 2016 to HHS
Department of Health & Human Services	Stakeholder Group re: methadone treatment criteria, prior approval, and treatment services - report	PL 2015, c. 267, Part SS	Dec. 1, 2015 to HHS
Department of Health & Human Services	Strategy to ensure that MaineCare-eligible children have equal access to providers of dental, hearing and vision services.	Resolve 2015, c. 30	Jan. 15, 2016 to HHS
Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	Stakeholder group to develop recommendations for a 5-year public outreach campaign - Report	PL 2015, c. 245	Feb. 1, 2016 to IFW
Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife	Stocking of inland waters in the state - Progress report	Resolve 2015, c. 53	Feb. 1, 2016 to IFW
Department of Labor	Report assessing the status of the inclusion of public secondary schoolstudents enrolled in a career and technical education program at a career and technical education center or a career and technical education region in the Competetive Skills Scholarship Program	PL 2015, c. 257	Jan. 1st, 2019 to LCED
Department of Transportation	Public Transit Advisory Council - Recommendations and report	PL 2015, c. 182	March 1st of odd numbered years to TRA and HHS
Department of Transportation	Road conditions due to overlimit allowances ( <i>revised</i> ) - Report	PL 2015, c.119	2nd Regular Session of 127th Legislature initial report to TRA. First Regular Session of 128th Legislature final report to TRA
Education Research Institute	Study of the use of social impact bonds as a funding mechanism for public education programs in Maine - Report	Resolve 2015, c. 52	Dec. 2, 2015 to EDU

Efficiency Maine Trust	Stakeholder group report on alternatives for promoting and securing cost-effective gas conservation and efficiency improvements for large volume consumers of gas utilities	Resolve 2015, c. 39	Dec. 31, 2015 to EUT
Efficiency Maine Trust	Study of options for a state demand response program - Report	Resolve 2015, c. 14	Feb. 1, 2016 to EUT
Emergency Medical Services' Board	Report summarizing the work and progress during the previous calendar year of each pilot project.	PL 2015, c. 92	Jan. 30th annually to CJPS and LCED
Finance Authority of Maine, Board of Directors ( <i>revised</i> )	Annual Activities and Operations Report	PL 2015, c. 170	Annually to EDU
Judicial Branch	Study of court facility needs	PL 2015, c. 267, Part G	Jan. 1, 2017 to JUD
Maine Arts Commission, Maine Historic Preservation Commission & Maine State Museum Commission	Study to replace statues in the national statuary hall collection - Report	Resolve 2015, c. 51	Jan. 15, 2016 to EDU
Maine Commission on Domestic and Sexual Abuse	Review on pretrial and post-conviction use of batterer's intervention programs	Resolve 2015, c. 15	Jan. 1, 2016 to CJPS
Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering, Board of Trustees	Quarterly Financial Statements & Annual Board Reports	PL 2015, c. 363	Quarterly to EDU and AFA. Annual to EDU and AFA
Maine State Housing Authority	Affordable Housing Working Group	PL 2015, c. 267, Part QQQQ	Dec. 1, 2015 to AFA and LCED
Public Higher Education Systems Coordinating Committee	Promote efficiency, cooperative effort and strategic planning between the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System - Recommendations and report	PL 2015, c. 261	Feb. 15th annually to EDU
Public Safety	Report containing the number of instances in which an unmanned aerial vehicle has been deployed by any law enforcement agency in the State.	PL 2015, c.307	July 1, 2016 then annually to the Legislature
Public Utilities Commission	Adoption and implementation of standardized dispatch protocols for answering 9-1-1 calls - Report	PL 2015, c. 230	Jan. 15, 2019 to EUT
Public Utilities Commission	Stakeholder report on developing an alternative to net energy billing	Resolve 2015, c. 37	Jan. 30, 2016 to EUT
Riverview Psychiatric Center	Report various data points	PL 2015, c.16, Sec. G-1	April 15, May 15, and June 15 2015 to AFA and HHS
State Fire Marshall and Chief of Maine State Police	Recommendations on the safety of motorized farm rides provided for a fee to the public - Report	Resolve 2015, c. 32	Feb. 1, 2016 to TRA and CJPS

## **PART 6**

127th Legislature, Second Regular Session  
Agency And Department Bills By Subject

**Broad Subject**   **Major / Minor Subjects**

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**APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

**STATE FINANCES**

**BONDED DEBT**

2386 An Act To Provide for the 2016 and 2017 Allocations of the State Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds (Submitted by the Finance Authority of Maine)

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**CRIMES**

**DRUG OFFENSES**

2468 An Act To Resolve Inconsistencies in the Drug Laws (Submitted by the Department of the Attorney General)

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

**ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

2375 An Act To Align the Child and Family Services and Child Protection Act with the Federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services)

**MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

**PLANNING**

2374 An Act To Establish the Forensic Treatment Fund in order To Create a Behavioral Assessment and Safety Evaluation Unit (Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services)

**JUDICIARY**

**ATTORNEY GENERAL DEPT**

**ADMINISTRATION**

2470 An Act Regarding Assistant Attorneys General (Submitted by the Department of the Attorney General)

**MEDICAL EXAMINER**

2467 An Act To Attract and Retain Medical Examiners by Increasing the Fees for Services Provided by Medical Examiners (Submitted by the Department of the Attorney General)

**POWERS**

2469 An Act To Provide Access to Affordable Naloxone for First Responders (Submitted by the Department of the Attorney General)

**DOMESTIC RELATIONS**

**CHILD SUPPORT**

2465 An Act To Make Technical Corrections to the Maine Parentage Act (Submitted by the Department of the Attorney General)

2466 An Act To Make Technical Changes to the Laws Governing Child Support (Submitted by the Department of the Attorney General)



127th Legislature, Second Regular Session  
Agency And Department Bills By Subject

**Broad Subject**   **Major / Minor Subjects**

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**LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**EMPLOYMENT SECURITY**

**DISQUALIFICATION**

2376 An Act To Clarify Disqualification of Unemployment Benefits Regarding Stoppage of Work (Submitted by the Department of Labor)

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**STATE BOARDS**

**MEMBERSHIP**

2509 An Act To Promote Efficiencies in the Operations of Boards and Commissions (Submitted by the Department of the Attorney General)

**TAXATION**

**INCOME TAX**

**FEDERAL CONFORMITY**

2444 An Act To Update References to the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986 Contained in the Maine Revised Statutes (Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services)

**REVENUE SERVICES BUREAU**

**ADMINISTRATION**

2446 An Act To Make Additional Technical Changes to Recently Enacted Tax Legislation (Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services)

**CONVEYANCES**

2445 Resolve, Authorizing the State Tax Assessor To Convey the Interest of the State in Certain Real Estate in the Unorganized Territory (Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services)

**TRANSPORTATION**

**MOTOR VEHICLES**

**OMNIBUS**

2332 An Act To Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws (Submitted by the Secretary of State)

**VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

**LIQUOR SALES**

2447 An Act Regarding Maine Spirits (Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services)

**DEFENSE AND VETERANS SERVICES DEPT**

**NATIONAL GUARD**

2403 An Act To Amend the Military Bureau Laws (Submitted by the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management)

127th Legislature, Second Regular Session  
Agency And Department Bills By Subject

Broad Subject	Major / Minor Subjects
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**VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**ELECTIONS**

**CAMPAIGN FINANCE**

- 2490 An Act To Improve the Disclosure of Financial Activities by Political Action Committees and Ballot Question Committees (Submitted by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices)
- 2491 An Act To Simplify the Filing of Independent Expenditure and 24-hour Reports (Submitted by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices)

**STATE**

- 2333 An Act Regarding the Election Laws (Submitted by the Secretary of State)

## **PART 7**

**127<sup>th</sup> Legislature  
Second Regular Session**

**Appeal Letters and Voting Records of  
Legislative Council Meeting of  
October 22, 2015**

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LR 2252

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland

An Act To Transfer the Maine Coworking Development Fund from the Department of Economic and Community Development to the Finance Authority of Maine

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

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Comment

The bill would transfer the Maine Coworking Development Fund from the Department of Economic and Community Development to the Finance Authority of Maine.

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*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 27*

*Senator Justin L. Alfond*  
*Senate Democratic Leader*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Legislative Council Chair  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Chair Thibodeau and Members of the Legislative Council,

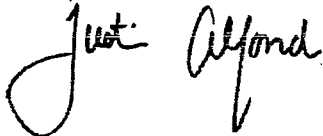
I am writing today to appeal the Legislative Council's denial of my legislative request, LR 2252, "An Act To Transfer the Maine Coworking Development Fund from the Department of Economic and Community Development to the Finance Authority of Maine."

Earlier this year, we established the Maine Coworking Development Fund, a grant program designed to foster the creation of co-working spaces across the state.

Due to human error on the final days of session, an amendment that would have put the program under the operation of FAME was not taken up, leaving the program within DECD. This is a simple bill that would correct this mistake. The sooner we pass this legislation, the sooner we can put this program to work, supporting job creation all across Maine.

I strongly urge you to join me in voting to allow LR 2252 to be heard in the Second Regular Session.

Best,



Justin Alfond  
Senate Democratic Leader

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2409

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland

An Act To Increase Collaboration between the Department of Education and School Food Service Directors

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would increase collaboration between the Department of Education and school food service directors.

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*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 27*

*Senator Justin L. Alfond*  
*Senate Democratic Leader*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Legislative Council Chair  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Chair Thibodeau and Member of the Legislative Council,

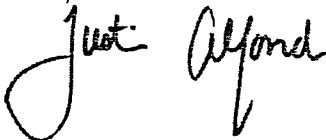
I am writing today to appeal the Legislative Council's denial of my legislative request, LR 2409, "An Act To Increase Collaboration between the Department of Education and School Food Service Directors."

As you know, childhood hunger is a silent epidemic that affects all corners of Maine. With nearly half of all school age children suffering from food insecurity, it is imperative that we act as quickly as possible to ensure children do not go hungry.

This bill would ensure that superintendents and food service directors have a comprehensive list of eligible school-age children. Right now, eligible children are being left off this list, which means they have no access to nutritious meals. This bill will change that.

Not allowing this bill through would mean an entire class of students will struggle with hunger for one more school year. I strongly urge you to join me in voting to allow LR 2409 to be heard in the Second Regular Session.

Best,



Justin Alfond  
Senate Democratic Leader



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2410

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

DAY CARE

Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland

An Act To Feed Young Children by Strengthening the Child and Adult Care Food Program

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would provide for feeding young children by strengthening the child and adult care food program.

---

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 27*

*Senator Justin L. Alfond*  
*Senate Democratic Leader*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Legislative Council Chair  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Chair Thibodeau and Member of the Legislative Council,

I am writing today to appeal the Legislative Council's denial of my legislative request, LR 2410, "An Act To Feed Young Children by Strengthening the Child and Adult Care Food Program."

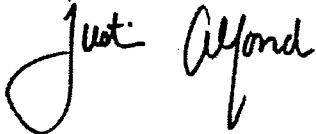
As you know, childhood hunger is a silent epidemic that affects all corners of Maine. With nearly half of all school age children suffering from food insecurity, it is imperative that we act as quickly as possible to ensure children don't go hungry.

The Child and Adult Care Food Program is a federally funded nutrition program through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), that works to ensure nutritious meals and snacks are served to eligible children and adults in qualifying care facilities. Here in Maine, the program is administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, but many facilities that would otherwise be eligible for the program find the application convoluted and confusing.

This bill would be the vehicle to streamline the application, make the application available online, and would create consistent guidelines. Not allowing this bill through would mean one more year of lost opportunities to feed more children in and outside of school settings at YMCA's, Boy's Clubs, etc.

I strongly urge you to join me in voting to allow LR 2410 to be heard in the Second Regular Session.

Best,



Justin Alfond  
Senate Democratic Leader

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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TAXATION

LR 2415

INCOME TAX

CREDITS

Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland

An Act To Attract Talent to Maine by Promoting the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would provide funding to promote the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit.

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*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 27*

*Senator Justin L. Alfond*  
*Senate Democratic Leader*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Legislative Council Chair  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

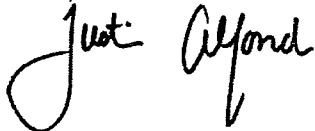
Chair Thibodeau and Member of the Legislative Council,

I am writing today to appeal the Legislative Council's denial of my legislative request, LR 2415, "An Act To Attract Talent to Maine by Promoting the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit."

As you know, Maine is the oldest state in the country. We have a skills gap and need to do everything we can do to assist in talent attraction. Last session, we expanded the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit (EOTC). Recently, the Bangor Daily News reported that in a survey of 755 businesses, nearly half of all jobs considered "tough-to-fill" are because the businesses do not receive enough qualified applicants. This program is a tool to help these businesses attract the workers they need. This bill will implement the expansion of the EOTC by marketing the program to skilled workers in Maine and across the country.

Not allowing this bill through will mean an additional year in which this critical program goes under-utilized, and one more year of our workforce falling behind. I strongly urge you to join me in voting to allow LR 2415 to be heard in the Second Regular Session.

Best,



Justin Alfond  
Senate Democratic Leader

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2416

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland

An Act To Feed Children from Low-income Families

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would provide funding to subsidize students' copayments for reduced price lunch.

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*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 27*

*Senator Justin L. Alfond*  
*Senate Democratic Leader*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Legislative Council Chair  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Chair Thibodeau and Members of the Legislative Council,

I am writing today to appeal the Legislative Council's denial of my legislative request, LR 2416, "An Act To Feed Children from Low-income Families,"

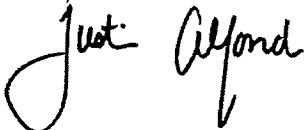
As you know, childhood hunger is a silent epidemic that affects all corners of Maine. With nearly half of all school age children suffering from food insecurity, it is imperative that we act as quickly as possible to ensure children don't go hungry.

Right now, there are 12,770 students in Maine that qualify for reduced lunch. This means that while their families are considered low-income, they are not low enough to qualify for free lunch, and these students must make a partial payment with each meal they receive. For many families, this co-pay is still unaffordable, and children either don't eat because they can't pay, or accumulate a debt with the school, putting food service directors in the position of being a debt collector.

Money should never be an obstacle to children eating. This bill would eliminate the co-pay for students who qualify for reduced lunch. Not allowing this bill to go forward will mean that these children and families will have a harder time accessing food in and out of school for one more school year.

I strongly urge you to join me in voting to allow LR 2416 to be heard in the Second Regular Session.

Best,



Justin Alfond  
Senate Democratic Leader

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LR 2546

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

POWERS

Sponsor: Representative Babbidge of Kennebunk

An Act To Establish Policy Regarding Distributed Solar Power

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would establish policy concerning continued use and expansion of solar energy through information gathered and studied by the Public Utilities Commission.

---

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2475 Representative Pouliot, M



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Christopher W. Babbidge

84 Stratford Place

Kennebunk, ME 04043

Residence: (207) 985-3332

Chris.Babbidge@legislature.maine.gov

October 29, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

### **LR 2546, An Act to Establish Policy Regarding Distributed Solar Power.**

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

*Christopher W. Babbidge*

Christopher Babbidge  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LR 2137

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

CELLULAR PHONES

Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc

An Act To Increase Access to Call Location Information by Law Enforcement Agencies

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

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Comment

This bill would require wireless service providers to provide call location information when requested by a law enforcement agency for the purpose of responding to emergency situations.

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*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 23*

*Senator Linda L. Baker*  
*Chair, Marine Resources*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*

November 2, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair of the Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau and Council Members,

I am submitting a request for appeal for LR 2137, "An Act To Increase Access to Call Location Information by Law Enforcement Agencies." The difference between the Kelsey Smith Foundation laws and current Maine law is as follows: The Kelsey Smith laws require a telecommunications provider to immediately turn over cell phone location information in response to a request from law enforcement, without a search warrant and without imposing any internal review criteria, when law enforcement is responding to a situation that involves the threat of serious physical danger. Maine law generally requires a search warrant for access to cell phone location and content information but provides an exception to the search warrant if law enforcement is responding to a situation that involves the threat of serious physical danger. Maine law does not affirmatively state that the telecommunications provider must immediately turn over cell phone location information without imposing internal review criteria. The Kelsey Smith Act will ensure law enforcement can receive critical information when needed and without hesitation.

Maine law granting law enforcement access to cell phone location and content information in the event of a threat of a situation of serious physical injury should be strengthened to provide law enforcement with the full set of tools that it needs to carry out their duties. Telecommunication providers should have a clearly stated legal obligation to turn over the information. This proposal would strengthen Maine law and eliminate any vagueness that could lead to delays that increase the danger to victims of crime. Maine law should be strengthened by enactment of a proposal that would state that if law enforcement makes a request to a telecommunications provider for cell phone location or content information in response to an emergency situation that involves the threat of serious physical danger, the telecommunications provider shall release to law enforcement the requested information without delay and without imposing any internal review criteria.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Senator Linda Baker

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

LR 2141

PUBLIC LANDS

STATE PARKS

Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc

An Act To Allow Maine Residents To Access the Online Reservation Site for State Parks 24 Hours before Nonresidents

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	2	8	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow Maine residents to access the online reservation site for state parks 24 hours before nonresidents.

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*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 23*

*Senator Linda L. Baker*  
*Chair, Marine Resources*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*

November 2, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair of the Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau and Council Members,

I am submitting a request for appeal for LR 2141, "An Act To Allow Maine Residents To Access the Online Reservation Site for State Parks 24 Hours before Nonresidents."

I had a constituent reach out to me with concern that her elderly father missed out on reserving a campsite because of how quickly they are filled. He missed the very small window of opportunity to reserve before they were taken up by what is primarily out-of-state guests.

Maine has a resident-only deer hunting day to start off the regular season and nonresidents make up only 10% of the moose permit recipients. I feel strongly that the early access online reservation for Mainers should be added to the list of "resident perks."

Maine has a booming tourism industry, which is of extreme value to our state; but we must ensure that Mainers are getting ample opportunity to utilize our state's resources.

I am adamant that this come before Council Members for consideration because it would be two years before this could be utilized if it is not considered now. That is two summers of Maine families losing out on what could be their only opportunity for a family vacation; let's ensure we do not keep that out of their reach.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Senator Linda Baker

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

LR 2351

TOXIC SUBSTANCES

TOXIC CHEMICALS

Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc

An Act To Protect Firefighters by Prohibiting the Use of Certain Flame-retardant Chemicals in New Upholstered Furniture

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would prohibit the use of certain flame-retardant chemicals in new upholstered furniture.

---

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 23*

*Senator Linda L. Baker*  
*Chair, Marine Resources*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*

November 2, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair of the Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau and Council Members,

I am submitting a request for appeal for LR 2351, "An Act To Protect Firefighters by Prohibiting the Use of Certain Flame-retardant Chemicals in New Upholstered Furniture." The Chemical Safety Improvement Act is bipartisan legislation introduced in the United States Congress to reform and modernize the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), which regulates the introduction of new or already existing chemicals. The bill has passed in the House and will likely pass in the Senate before the end of the year. Over 84,000 chemicals are registered for use in the United States. Of those, only 200 have been tested and five have been banned as "dangerous." Because of this inaction, individual states have started to ban particular chemicals.

Although flame retardants will be reviewed by the EPA, the process can take upwards of 15 years. It is almost certain that any version of the Chemical Safety Improvement Act will pre-empt, prospectively, the ability of states to enact their own standards. Maine must act now to prohibit the sale of residential upholstered furnishings. Furthermore, advocates for this legislation agree that any chemicals deemed 'safe' in the EPA process will be exempt from the prohibitions prescribed in the final legislation. Several Maine manufacturers have already developed chemical-free solutions to making furniture more fire safe. More than 50 furniture companies are already selling flame-retardant free products.

Lastly, supporting documentation will be presented on November 19, 2015 showing rates of specific cancers in firefighters that is disproportionate to rates suffered by the general public. Strong scientific evidence shows that chemical flame retardants are hazardous to human health. For this reason, LR 2351 meets the threshold of 'Emergency Legislation' and should be considered in the second session of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Senator Linda Baker

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2390

TEACHERS

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc

An Act To Improve Teaching Assignments in Maine's Public Schools

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would expressly permit teachers to collectively bargain over involuntary transfers of teachers and require any transfer to be done with only the best interest of the students in mind.

---

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 23*

*Senator Linda L. Baker*  
*Chair, Marine Resources*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*

November 2, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair of the Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0115

Dear President Thibodeau and members of the Legislative Council:

I am writing to request an appeal of the Legislative Council's decision on the following bill: LR 2390, "An Act To Improve Teaching Assignments in Maine's Public Schools."

Currently, teachers have little to no input on the teaching assignments in our public schools. Having taught for decades in the public school system, I have experienced this issue and have seen the detrimental effect it can have on Maine students.

It is an unfortunate fact that under Maine's current system, teachers may be certified to teach a certain subject, but they may not have the necessary background or ability to provide quality instruction in those subjects. Students benefit from expert instruction and from having educators who are confident and passionate about the subject matter they teach. There have been many changes in both content and methods of instruction over the years and mere certification to teach given subjects is not necessarily adequate for providing the best education. Simply put, certification is not the same as qualification.

Though drastic reshufflings of teachers may be a relatively rare occurrence, we must do what we can to prevent this and ensure that students are not suffering for it. This is emergency legislation because even one detrimental experience for Maine's students is too many. We must take action to ensure a quality education for every student, and this reform is a step in the right direction.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Senator Linda Baker



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

LR 2161

GAME

MOOSE

Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians

An Act To Reduce Diabetes and Obesity among Members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians by Recognizing and Providing for the Right of Tribal Members To Hunt Moose for Sustenance throughout Aroostook County

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	2	8	0	0	<b>Out</b>

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Comment

This bill would allow the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians to issue up to 75 tribal moose permits per year to resident tribal members to hunt in Aroostook County to improve health conditions with preferred protein sustenance and traditional, physical activity.

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Potential JR 217: LD888

2 November 2015

To: Senate President Michael Thibodeau, Chair and all Members of Maine Legislative Council  
From: Maliseet Tribal Representative, Henry John Bear

**LR 2161 - An Act To Reduce Diabetes and Obesity among Members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians by Recognizing and Providing for the Right of Tribal Members To Hunt Moose for Sustenance throughout Aroostook County**

This proposal speaks for itself and it's rejection by your Council should be reversed. This bill would benefit every Maliseet Tribal family which exists in a perpetual state of emergency due to critical but treatable, health issues and conditions. I am urging the State of Maine, through it's Legislature, to join with the Tribe and the United States of America in recognizing and providing for traditional hunting of moose for sustenance by Maliseet Tribal Members in the Aroostook region... our traditional homeland and where most of the Moose continue to be located to this day. The physical activity connected with moose hunting would also benefit Tribal participants by reducing existing and decreasing the probability of Diabetes and obesity /or compliment the disease and these conditions with therapeutic activity. Traditional activity such as hunting moose is widely known and, if accommodated by Maine authorities, will continue to be an important element of the northern Maliseet Tribe's traditional practice for many years. Sensitivity to the animal population has always been and will continue to be of the utmost importance to the Tribe just as it has been in the past. Tribal Members will only harvest what is offered to us and only as much as each household requires to sustain an important part of their nutrition and to, as a consequence to hunting moose as a preferred, low-fat protein, restore their health. Supporting Tribal hunting of moose within our Tribal homeland is the right thing to do especially given our shared, positive, Treaty-based history.

Respectfully submitted.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

LR 2162

GAMBLING

CASINO GAMBLING

Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians

An Act To Alleviate Unemployment in Aroostook and Washington Counties by Authorizing a Tribal Casino To Be Operated by the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians on Tribal Lands in Aroostook County

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	2	8	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would authorize a tribal casino operated by the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians in Houlton. The purpose of this bill is to reduce unemployment within all 4 federally recognized Indian tribes and in Aroostook and Washington counties, promote economic development for all 4 tribes and in Aroostook and Washington counties and fund critical tribal government programs including elder care, housing, health and education.

Potential JR 217: LD1066, LD1446

2 November 2015

**To: Senate President Michael Thibodeau, Chair and all Members of the Legislative Council**

**From: Maliseet Tribal Representative, Henry John Bear**

**Reconsideration of LR 2162 - An Act To Alleviate Unemployment in Aroostook and Washington Counties by Authorizing a Tribal Casino To Be Operated by the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians on Tribal Lands in Aroostook County**

The decision of Maine's Legislative Council to reject this critical Tribal legislative effort must be reconsidered and reversed in the circumstances. Instead, Tribal Gaming must be given equal consideration or, even preferred consideration, to existing State authorized gaming activity if only, and for no other reason, than to stand with federally recognized Tribes that are attempting to establish their own gaming businesses that can begin to alleviate a well reported health, safety, unemployment and funding crisis that has gone on unnecessarily and for far too long. As Senator Garrett Mason can confirm, it has been concluded by WhiteSand Gaming, who are qualified and objective industry experts, that gaming in Maine has been a booming business for the current gaming industry, the State and local governments in two of Maine's regions; Oxford and Bangor and there is a basis for expansion now. More importantly, there exists no known or acceptable reason to delay gaming expansion in Maine, generally, or to oppose, delay or resist Tribal gaming efforts, specifically.

I have previously submitted supporting documentary, historical evidence in support of the six "Maliseet" bills or resolves our Tribal Council has directed that I propose to Maine to support during the upcoming emergency session of the 127th Maine Legislature. All of these address, in our view, emergency situations currently faced by our Tribal Members and which require immediate attention and remedial action.

Specifically, please review page 19 of the previously submitted and attached 2012 Houlton Band of Maliseet Indian's Community Economic Development Study and the entire, also previously submitted and attached MITSC Report of 2013 regarding extremely high Maliseet unemployment and poor living conditions resulting in an average life expectancy of 54 years of age. Page 19 states:

According to the Maine Department of Labor, the unemployment rate for 2007 was 6.2% compared to rates of 55.3% for the Maliseet Indians. We have the shared opportunity to correct this emergency situation now. I ask that you please help us do this. Respectfully submitted.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

LR 2164

GAMBLING

CASINO GAMBLING

Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians

An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment, Fund Economic Development for the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and Provide Funding for Essential Tribal Government Health and Housing Programs in Aroostook County by Annually Apportioning a Percentage of Slot Machine Income from the Casino in Bangor to Federally Recognized Tribes in Aroostook County

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	2	8	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would distribute 2% of the net slot machine income from slot machines at the casino in Bangor to the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and 2% to the Aroostook Band of Micmacs. Current law provides that 4% of net slot machine income from the casino in Oxford be distributed to the Penobscot Nation and the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

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2 November 2015

To: Senate President Michael Thibodeau, Chair and all Members of Maine Legislative Council

From: Maliseet Tribal Representative, Henry John Bear

**Reconsideration of Rejection of LR 2164 - An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment, Fund Economic Development for the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and Provide Funding for Essential Tribal Government Health and Housing Programs in Aroostook County by Annually Apportioning a Percentage of Slot Machine Income from the Casino in Bangor to Federally Recognized Tribes in Aroostook County**

This submission urges this Council to reverse it's rejection of the Aroostook Tribe's request for Maine's support for an equitable distribution of significant gaming profits from an existing casino in Bangor that would be equal to the distribution the law currently provides from the Oxford Casino to the Passamaquoddy and Penobscot Tribes. The Maliseet and Mi'kmaq have been, without good reason and without equal consideration, omitted in any effort by the Bangor casino or the state legislature to provide equitable funds from slot machine profits to help the extreme economic conditions and joblessness of these Tribes. Since Maine law already recognizes two existing tribes to receive this benefit in southern and central Maine, then so should the tribes of northern Maine be eligible to receive the same consideration and much needed assistance. To date, the Bangor casino makes no such contribution to any tribe in the state. Therefore it is only fair and reasonable that Maine law be amended to require Penn Gaming's Hollywood Casino duplicates what the law currently requires of the Oxford Casino.

I have previously submitted supporting documentary, historical evidence in support of the six "Maliseet" bills or resolves our Tribal Council has directed that I propose to Maine to support during the upcoming emergency session of the 127th Maine Legislature. All of these address, in our view, emergency situations currently faced by our Tribal Members and which require immediate attention and remedial action.

Specifically, please review page 19 of the previously submitted and attached 2012 Houlton Band of Maliseet Indian's Community Economic Development Study and the entire, also previously submitted and attached MITSC Report of 2013 regarding extremely high Maliseet unemployment and poor living conditions resulting in an average life expectancy of 54 years of age. Page 19 states:

According to the Maine Department of Labor, the unemployment rate for 2007 was 6.2% compared to rates of 55.3% for the Maliseet Indians. The high unemployment rate re-enforces the known fact that unemployment rates are much higher in Native American communities, including our own Maliseet Tribal community of approximately 1,500 deserving souls. Respectfully submitted.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

LR 2345

GAMBLING

GAMES OF CHANCE

Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians

An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment and Fund Critical Tribal Government Programs for Federally Recognized Tribes in the State by Exempting the Tribes from State Gaming Laws for Gaming Conducted on Tribal Lands Using 350 or Fewer Slot Machines and Located More Than 80 Miles from an Existing Casino

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would exempt federally recognized Indian tribes located in this State from state gaming laws for gaming conducted on tribal lands in order to provide these tribes the same opportunities for alleviating tribal unemployment, raising tribal government revenues and providing funding for vital tribal programs as have been available to federally recognized tribes in other states beginning with the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in *California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians*, 480 U.S. 202 (1987).

2 November 2015

To: Senate President Michael Thibodeau, Chair and all Members of Maine Legislative Council  
From: Maliseet Tribal Representative, Henry John Bear

**Reconsideration of Council's Rejection of the Maliseet Tribe's Proposed Bill - LR 2345 - An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment and Fund Critical Tribal Government Programs for Federally Recognized Tribes in the State by Exempting the Tribes from State Gaming Laws for Gaming Conducted on Tribal Lands Using 350 or Fewer Slot Machines and Located More Than 80 Miles from an Existing Casino**

LR2345 is clearly, equally justified as an emergency legislative proposal. Notwithstanding LR's 2162 and 2164, this bill to exempt all four Federally recognized Indian tribes located in the State of Maine from state gaming laws would provide clear and appropriate recognition in Maine of the United States Supreme Court ruling in *California v. Cabazon Mission Indians* (1987), which clearly recognizes our Tribal right to own and operate a Tribal casino, and a more secure maintenance structure for the operation of such a Tribal casino, especially one having 350 or less slot machines and located on Tribal lands more than 80 miles from any existing Maine casino.

The operation of four, modest Tribal casinos would create much needed jobs and raise critically needed revenue for Tribal and Municipal Government programs. If the locations of such Tribal casinos are on Indian lands then, as permitted in all other 49 United States, the tribes in this State would have equal benefit of the 1987, United States Supreme Court ruling mentioned above and have total control and responsibility for their gaming operations with the usual shares being provided to both State and local governments and communities, especially those situated around the Tribes, which are all presently situated in the poorest regions of the State. All operational decisions in developing and operating such modest casinos would be the sole responsibility of respective Tribal owners provided they remain in compliance with this proposed, emergency legislation.

I have mentioned previously submitted supporting documentary, and historical evidence in support of these proposed bills. Specifically, please review page 19 of the previously submitted and attached 2012 Houlton Band of Maliseet Indian's Community Economic Development Study and the entire, also previously submitted and attached MITSC Report of 2013 regarding extremely high Maliseet unemployment and poor living conditions resulting in an average life expectancy of 54 years of age. Page 19 states that the Maine Department of Labor reported that the unemployment rate for 2007 was 6.2% compared to rates of 55.3% for the Maliseet Indians. The high unemployment rate reinforces the known fact that unemployment rates are much higher in Native American communities, including all four Federally Recognized Tribal communities. Respectfully submitted.



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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MARINE RESOURCES

LR 2391

COMMERCIAL FISHING  
LICENSES

Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians

An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment by Removing Barriers to the Granting of Commercial Lobster and Crab Fishing Licenses to Members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

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Comment

This bill would waive for 3 years the requirement that a member of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians have 1,000 hours of experience and have completed a 2-year apprenticeship in lobster fishing in order to be granted a commercial lobster and crab fishing license.

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2 November 2015

To: Senate President Michael Thibodeau, Chair of Maine Legislative Council

From: Maliseet Tribal Representative, Henry John Bear

**Reconsideration of Rejection of Maliseet Tribal Proposed Emergency Legislation - LR 2391 - An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment by Removing Barriers to the Granting of Commercial Lobster and Crab Fishing Licenses to Members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians**

Whereas current Maine Law, as a result of the passage of LD 953 during the 126<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature - for issuing a Maliseet Tribal commercial lobster and crab fishing license requires 1000 hours of experience, it has been relatively impossible, since the enactment of that law, for Members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians to practice this important and traditional economic activity, which has both provided sustenance to Tribal Members for thousands of years in the Maine coastal region and provided fish for Tribal trade since, at least, the birth of the Nation. Current State law has proven itself to be an insurmountable barrier to Tribal Members who are otherwise willing and capable of accessing marine organisms along the Maine coast. Current law does not recognize current Maliseet Tribal needs or Tribal fishing capacity and thereby prevents Members from qualifying for lobster and crab licenses that are clearly more readily available to non-Tribal citizens within the State who often benefit from such apprenticeship opportunities being more readily available to them from Non-tribal family or existing, non-Tribal license holders thus unfairly benefitting from State law and effectively controlling for themselves the allocation of such lobster licenses, and thereby unfairly benefitting from current State laws relating to apprenticeships.

The proposed three-year waiver of this 1000 hour, practically unattainable, lobster fishing apprenticeship requirement for Maliseet prospective lobster fishermen would remedy this historically evolved and currently unfair situation. Tribal Members are currently poised to organize, invest in and otherwise establish and operate Maliseet lobster fishing businesses, create much needed Tribal jobs and enterprises immediately and over the next three years. This temporary waiver of such "limited entry" requirements will recognize historical and contemporary Tribal fishing capacity that, especially with a further three years of lobster fishing, can thereafter be itself ready to provide such apprenticeship training to future Tribal Members and immediately create much needed Tribal fishing jobs; fishing jobs that will not otherwise be created despite diligent efforts by prospective Maliseet lobster fishing apprentices these past two years to secure such training opportunities in the non-Tribal community. This is, relative to other proposed bills, a true emergency. The goal here is to feed Maliseets and alleviate the highest rates of unemployment in the State...a necessary focus in these difficult economic times by our Maliseet Tribal Government on behalf of our Maliseet People. Respectfully submitted.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

LR 2296

WEAPONS

SALES

Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick

An Act To Require Background Checks for Private Sales or Transfers of Firearms

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

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Comment

This bill would require a person who wishes to obtain a firearm in a private sale or transfer to first obtain a background check from a licensed firearm dealer.

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## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

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**Roberta B. Beavers**

72 Woodland Hills

South Berwick, ME 03908

Residence: (207) 748-3432

Cell Phone: (603) 781-9529

Bobbi.Beavers@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Senator Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the council's rejection of the following bill request:

**LR 2296 An Act To Require Background Checks for Private Sales or Transfers of Firearms**

For public safety this bill amends current law by requiring background checks for private sales/transfers of handguns. The bill does prohibit a person from selling or giving a handgun to another person unless the person receiving the handgun undergoes a background check. If a person sells or gives a handgun to another without a background check, it is a civil violation for which a minimum of \$100 must be adjudged. This bill applies ONLY to private transactions since gun dealers are already required to perform background checks. The fines will help offset any cost of enforcement. Supported by most, if not all, county Sheriffs and local Police Chiefs. This is a common sense urgent public safety bill that helps to insure that people with criminal backgrounds and certain mental illnesses do not obtain handguns. A super majority of Mainers support background checks in view of the nearly 50 shootings at schools across the nation so far this year alone.

I look forward to addressing the council on November 19, 2015, to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roberta B. Beavers".

Roberta B Beavers

State Representative

House District 2, Eliot and parts of South Berwick and Kittery

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

LR 2297

PRISONERS

MEDICAL CARE

Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick

Resolve, To Provide the Legislature with Information on the Need for Mental Health Services in County Jails

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	1	9	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This resolve would direct the Consumer Council System of Maine to convene a working group to collect data to determine the unmet needs for mental health services in the county jails.

---

Potential JR 217: LD657



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

**Roberta B. Beavers**72 Woodland Hills  
South Berwick, ME 03908  
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Cell Phone: (603) 781-9529  
Bobbi.Beavers@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Senator Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the council's rejection of the following bill request:

**LR 2297 Resolve, To Provide the Legislature with Information on the Need for Mental Health Services in County Jails**

With significantly more than half of the county jail inmates having mental health issues, addiction(s) or dual diagnosis, according to the three county Sheriffs I have spoken to so far, it is the state's responsibility to provide treatment. Although treatment outside of jail would be less expensive, jail is where they are. This bill will help stem the revolving door of inmate returns to jail and thus help to reduce jail costs. Finally, only going after dealers will not stem the drug crisis if we do not first, or simultaneously, stem the demand.

LR 2297 does the following:

- (1) Provides actionable information to help remedy the drug crisis in Maine.
- (2) Identifies sources of funding.
- (3) Requires no fiscal note.
- (4) Is supported by most, if not all county Sheriffs and local police chiefs.

I look forward to addressing the council on November 19, 2015, to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roberta B. Beavers".

Roberta B Beavers  
State Representative  
House District 2, Eliot and parts of South Berwick and Kittery

District 2 Eliot, Kittery (part) and South Berwick (part)

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LR 2380

GAS UTILITIES

NATURAL GAS

Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick

An Act To Establish a Single Government Entity To Coordinate and Ensure Pipeline Safety in Maine

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	1	9	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would require a single government entity to have pipeline facility inspection authority, require first responders to have 24-hour access to pipeline facilities, ensure these responders are equipped and trained to deal safely with pipeline incidents and require pipeline owners to educate citizens fully about the dangers of hazardous material transportation.

---



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Bobbi.Beavers@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Senator Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the council's rejection of the following bill request:

**LR 2380 An Act To Establish a Single Government Entity To Coordinate and Ensure Pipeline Safety in Maine**

A leak at a LNG facility in Eliot last spring, across the street from our district Middle School and abutted by several residential areas, led to lengthy independent research by a private citizen who uncovered serious dangers that exist because of (1) a total reliance on industry pipeline owners to respond when leaks occur and (2) the lack of a single government agency having jurisdictional inspection authority (3) the lack of communication regarding the incident to residents and businesses. This bill corrects this needed safety situation. This position does not need to be a new position - it may be added to an existing entity already involved in pipeline safety. Art Cleaves, Director of Emergency Management, York County, has provided you with further explanation and details, including the various entities in Maine involved in pipeline safety.

I look forward to addressing the council on November 19, 2015, to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

Roberta B Beavers

State Representative

House District 2, Eliot and parts of South Berwick and Kittery

District 2

Eliot, Kittery (part) and South Berwick (part)



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2404

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

FOSTER CARE

Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick

An Act To Establish the Maine Foster Children's Bill of Rights

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would establish the Maine Foster Children's Bill of Rights.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Bobbi.Beavers@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Senator Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the council's rejection of the following bill request:

**LR 2404 An Act To Establish the Maine Foster Child's Bill of Rights**

There has been a 36% increase in children in Maine DHHS custody between 10/2011 and 8/2015 (1,454 to 1,979 per OCFS Monthly Indicators, 8/2015). The children in DHHS custody need to be informed of their rights as the state continues to be responsible for an increasing number of children. This will also establish a base for foster parents and parents of origin. Many other states have done this.

I look forward to addressing the council on November 19, 2015, to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roberta B. Beavers".

Roberta B Beavers  
State Representative  
House District 2, Eliot and parts of South Berwick and Kittery

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LR 2459

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

RELAY SERVICES

Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick

An Act To Revise Qualifications for Certain Members of the Telecommunications Relay Services  
Advisory Council

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	1	9	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would revise the qualifications of 4 members of the Telecommunications Relay Services  
Advisory Council.

---



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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November 2, 2015

Senator Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the council's rejection of the following bill request:

**LR 2459 An Act To Revise Qualifications for Certain Members of the Telecommunications Relay Services Advisory Council (TRSAC)**

Current members of the TRS Advisory Council, Ben Sanborn (TAM) and Bill Black (OPA) requested this bill. The Advisory Board oversees programs for deploying telecommunications services to the **Deaf and Hard of Hearing** community in Maine. This bill aims to improve the makeup of the Advisory Board to meet the current urgent situation in Maine:

1. The Maine Center on Deafness has gone out of business and its function is now performed by Disability Rights Maine (DRM), thus necessitating the representation of DRM on the Advisory Council to help make contractual and other decisions that cannot wait as deaf Mainers will be left without needed telecommunication services.
2. Given the rapid technological changes that have taken place in telecommunications for the deaf, the Advisory Council has not been able to find people who fit the two other descriptions in the proposed amendment. By making the changes proposed in the bill, the Legislature will make it possible to fill four now-unfilled positions on the council.

I look forward to addressing the council on November 19, 2015, to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

Roberta B Beavers

State Representative

House District 2, Eliot and parts of South Berwick and Kittery

District 2 Eliot, Kittery (part) and South Berwick (part)

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

JUDICIARY

LR 2513

ADOPTION

PROCEDURES

Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick

Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Consider the Rights of Siblings in Situations of Adoption

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would require that the Department of Health and Human Services, when working with minors in the custody of the State who may be adopted, consider facilitating regular visitation between siblings.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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November 2, 2015

Senator Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the council's rejection of the following bill request:

**LR 2513 Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Consider the Rights of Siblings in Situations of Adoption**

Kids adopted through the state have already experienced the most unspeakable traumas, abuse, neglect and abandonment ending with separation from their biological parents. Often these kids end up also separated from the only other family they have, their siblings. Ensuring that children can maintain those precious bonds is an unconscionable situation to place them. We must change this.

I look forward to addressing the council on November 19, 2015, to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roberta B. Beavers".

Roberta B Beavers  
State Representative  
House District 2, Eliot and parts of South Berwick and Kittery

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

TAXATION

LR 2542

INCOME TAX

CREDITS

Sponsor: Representative Beck of Waterville

An Act To Encourage Maine Employers To Offer and Employees To Enroll in Disability Income Protection Plans in the Workplace

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would encourage employers to offer and employees to enroll in group disability income protection plans in the workplace by clarifying the ability of employers to offer appropriate opt-out enrollment to provide lower premium rates. This bill would provide employers an incentive to offer these plans by providing a limited tax credit to offset employer costs of administering a group disability income protection plan for employees.



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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**Henry E. M. Beck**

P. O. Box 1723

Waterville, ME 04903

Residence: (207) 837-4343

Henry.Beck@legislature.maine.gov

October 30, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2542, An Act to Encourage Maine Employers to Offer and Employees to Enroll in Disability Income Protection Plans in the Workplace.**

I am submitting this appeal on behalf of Unum for the rationale set out below. I hope you will agree that the subject matter of this proposed bill should be considered during this upcoming session.

During this time of rising costs, especially for healthcare, this bill seeks to protect working Maine families' most important asset – their income stream – should they lose the ability to work due to accident or illness. Available data demonstrates that 70 percent of all working Mainers do not have access to private disability income protection. Many of those families would fall into the state's welfare system as federal Social Security Disability Income benefits are typically delayed (if available at all) for a period of 12-24 months. Also, state mandated worker's compensation insurance is inadequate protection since it only covers on-job injuries which comprise less than 10 percent of all disabilities. This legislation will raise awareness of the value of private disability income protection, provide incentives for employers to offer the coverage and facilitate the use of opt-out enrollment which results in lower premium rates for consumers and which will also increase the number of working Maine citizens whose income is protected should they be unable to work due to disability.

This bill is designed to address a critical need for Maine workers, their employers and the State. It is legislation that should be heard during this upcoming legislative session due to the critical nature of the problem it seeks to address.

Respectfully,

Henry Beck  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2547

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

DELIVERY

Sponsor: Representative Beck of Waterville

Resolve, To Clarify Inspections of Caregivers under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This resolve would require the Department of Health and Human Services to establish clear standards for the inspection of caregivers under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**Henry E. M. Beck**

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Waterville, ME 04903

Residence: (207) 837-4343

Henry.Beck@legislature.maine.gov

Nov. 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **L.R. 2547, "Resolve, To Clarify Inspections of Caregivers under the Medical Use of Marijuana Act."**

In summary, confusion derives from the presence of two legal regimes that deal with marijuana: one civil (the Act), one criminal. It is critically important that the Legislature provide clarity on the topic of complaint inspections under the Act. Caregivers, Patients, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, DHHS, town officials alike are swimming in a sea of legal uncertainty.

Rationales for Appeal, Any or All of Which May Provide Specific Basis for Acceptance

- I. There exists a critical substantive omission from the Act: the definition of "Incidental Amount of Marijuana" omits "Harvested, Unprepared Marijuana" from its definition. There is an entire month (or more) of the cultivation process for which the Act does not account.
- II. Failure to act now costs Maine patients, caregivers, law enforcement agencies, and taxpayers every day. Law enforcement and others need certainty with regard to a permissible standard for taking actions and inspections.
- III. There exists widespread, costly confusion among all parties.
- IV. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, failure to act now will generate costly litigation.

Respectfully,

Henry Beck  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

MARINE RESOURCES

LR 2144

FISH

EELS

Sponsor: Representative Beebe-Center of Rockland

An Act To Improve the Elver Season

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow the Commissioner of Marine Resources to set the starting date for the elver season based on weather conditions.

---

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2183 Representative Tuell, W



**Pinny Beebe-Center**

14 Edwards Street

Rockland, ME 04841

Phone: (207) 596-3937

[pinny.beebe-center@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:pinny.beebe-center@legislature.maine.gov)

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

2 STATE HOUSE STATION

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

October 30, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2144 - An Act To Improve the Elver Season.**

The legislation would give the Commissioner of the Department of Marine Resources the authority to change the starting and ending dates, but not the length, of the state's elver season. This is an emergency because the dates are currently fixed in legislation, yet weather conditions can vary widely. The late spring last year meant that much of the elver season was lost. This change needs to be made as soon as possible to prevent a repeat of that situation.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pinny Beebe-Center".

Pinny Beebe-Center  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

LR 2443

PROTECTED NATURAL RESOURCES

SAND DUNES

Sponsor: Representative Blume of York

An Act To Improve the Management of "Beach-cast" Seaweed for Purposes of Health, Ecology and Tourism

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would amend the law regarding the management of "beach-cast" seaweed in coastal sand dune systems in order to help towns be more responsive to increasing accumulations of seaweed on our beaches.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

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**Lydia Blume**

P. O. Box 1738

York Beach, ME 03910

Cell: (207) 363-9235

Lydia.Blume@legislature.maine.gov

October 28, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request, **LR 2443 - An Act To Improve the Management of "Beach-cast" Seaweed for Purposes of Health, Ecology and Tourism.**

The legislation would require the Department of Environmental Protection to create new policies governing the removal of cast seaweed from beaches. An emergency situation exists because the amount of cast seaweed on certain beaches has increased dramatically in recent years, leading at best to an odor problem that can impact tourism and at worst to a health hazard as bacteria in the seaweed multiply. These changes need to be made as soon as possible.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lydia C. Blume".

Lydia Blume  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

MARINE RESOURCES

LR 2500

COMMERCIAL FISHING  
LICENSES

Sponsor: Representative Blume of York

An Act To Implement an Owner-operator Requirement in the Scallop and Sea Urchin Fisheries

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would require scallop and sea urchin dragging license holders to own and operate their vessels in order to participate in the relevant fishery.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**Lydia Blume**

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Lydia.Blume@legislature.maine.gov

October 30, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2500, An Act To Implement an Owner-operator Requirement in the Scallop and Sea Urchin Fisheries**

The legislation would require scallop and urchin drag license holders to own and operate their own vessels in order to participate in the fishery, as is currently required in the lobster fishery. Owner-operator provisions help to increase stewardship in a fishery, prevent consolidation of effort in the fishery, and help to ensure that the fishery's revenues stay in local communities.

This bill is an emergency now because resource rebuilding, increasing dockside prices, and enforcement actions on repeat offenders of existing laws has added pressure to create opportunities for new entrants. Implementing owner-operator requirements for the drag components of these two fisheries is a necessary precursor to creating entry systems for these fisheries, which are currently closed to new entrants.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lydia C. Blume".

Lydia Blume  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

LR 2223

WEAPONS

CONCEALED WEAPONS

Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin

An Act To Eliminate the Disclosure Requirement for a Person Carrying a Concealed Handgun without a Permit

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would eliminate the requirement that a person lawfully carrying a concealed handgun without a permit immediately disclose that fact to a law enforcement officer during the course of any arrest, detainment or routine traffic stop.

---

*127th Legislature  
Senate of  
Maine  
Senate District 20*

*Senator Eric L. Brakey  
Chair, Health and Human Services  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0003  
(207) 406-0897  
sen.eric.brakey@gmail.com*

October 30, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, Me 04333

Dear President Thibodeau,

I write this letter to request an appeal on the Legislative Council's decision to reject LR 2223, *"An Act To Eliminate the Disclosure Requirement for a Person Carrying a Concealed Handgun without a Permit."*

This bill would eliminate the requirement that a person lawfully caring a concealed handgun without a permit must immediately disclose that fact to a law enforcement officer during the course of any arrest, detainment or routine traffic stop.

This legislative item is of a time sensitive nature because it seeks to address a new policy, which has very recently gone into effect across Maine without ever receiving a public hearing or committee review to examine potential unintended effects. This policy was attached as an amendment to LD 652 on the floor of the House of Representatives, but had never been previously discussed or examined by the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

There are constitutional concerns about this policy, including how it may violate an individual's 5th Amendment right to remain silent. Most fundamentally, however, beyond constitutional concerns, there are basic questions about vague and imprecise language, which leaves many questions about how this policy will be practically implemented. Even if the general policy were to remain in place, I believe it is important to clean up and clarify the language in statute before we get too far along in the implementation of this policy.

Simply put, this new policy never received a public hearing or a proper committee process. I hope we can have that process now and tackle any avoidable negative consequences from this new policy.

Sincerely,



Eric Brakey  
State Senator

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2262

SCHOOL FACILITIES

CONSTRUCTION

Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin

An Act Regarding New School Construction

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	1	9	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would freeze the positions of the top 20 projects currently in place for state funding for school construction in the event that a new application process is begun.

---

*127th Legislature  
Senate of  
Maine  
Senate District 20*

*Senator Eric L. Brakey  
Chair, Health and Human Services  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0003  
(207) 406-0897  
sen.eric.brakey@gmail.com*

October 30, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, Me 04333

Dear President Thibodeau,

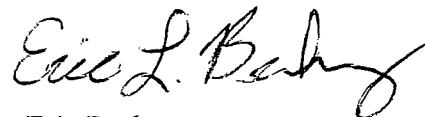
I write this letter to request an appeal on the Legislative Council's decision to reject LR 2262, "An Act Regarding New School Construction."

This bill would freeze in place a certain number of the highest priority new school construction projects, currently waiting for state funding on the Final Priority List. In the event that the Board of Education decides to conduct a new assessment process for school construction needs and develop a new Final Priority List, these currently top priority school projects would maintain their rankings on any new list until they are approved for funding.

This legislative item is of a time sensitive nature because the Board of Education can make the decision at any time to begin a new assessment process for school construction needs. If we wait until 2017 to consider this proposed policy, the decision to begin a new assessment process may have already been made, and we will have missed this opportunity.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Eric Brakey  
State Senator

# 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

## Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2325

MEDICAID

MAINECARE

Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin

An Act To Impose Penalties for Certain Transfers of Assets at Less Than Fair Market Value by  
Individuals

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

### Comment

This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to impose an asset transfer penalty, with a lookback period of 60 months, on a person seeking to qualify for MaineCare funding and support of any long-term care services, and who has made a transfer or other disposal of assets at less than fair market value.

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 20*

**Senator Eric L. Brakey**  
*Chair, Health and Human Services*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 406-0897*  
*sen.eric.brakey@gmail.com*

October 30, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, Me 04333

Dear President Thibodeau,

I write this letter to request an appeal on the Legislative Council's decision to reject LR 2325, "*An Act To Impose Penalties for Certain Transfers of Assets at Less Than Fair Market Value by Individuals.*"

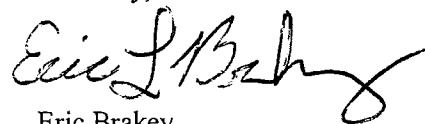
This bill was brought to me by Richard Erb of the Maine Health Care Association. Currently, there is a five-year asset test in place for individuals seeking nursing home care through Medicaid. This asset test is intended to prevent individuals, capable of paying privately for nursing home care, from hiding their assets with family in order to receive Medicaid benefits they would not otherwise qualify for. This legislation seeks to apply that same five-year asset test to Medicaid qualifications for Private Non-Medical Institutions (PNMIs) and home-based care.

This legislative item is of a time sensitive nature for two reasons. First, many of Maine's PNMIs and home-based care centers are struggling to keep their doors open. This policy will help keep our PNMIs and home-based care centers solvent by identifying individuals who should be paying privately (based on their means) instead of relying on taxpayer-subsidies that compensates providers at lower reimbursement rates. Second, this legislative item could help achieve immediate savings in the current budget, which can help us fund other legislative priorities.

As the Senate Chairman for the Health and Human Services Committee, I hope my committee has an opportunity to consider this policy this session.

Thank you for your consideration today.

Sincerely,



Eric Brakey  
State Senator

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2269

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

BUDGETS

Sponsor: Senator Breen of Cumberland

An Act To Promote Private Fund-raising for the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would enable the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf to engage in private fundraising to support its mission. It will use an existing 501(c)(3) organization as its fiscal agent.

---

Senator Cathy Breen  
Maine State Senate  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
November 2, 2015

President Michael Thibodeau  
Maine State Senate  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau,

I write to appeal the Maine Legislative Council's recent 5-5 vote regarding ***LR 2269, An Act To Promote Private Fundraising for the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf***. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the proposed bill on November 19, 2015. Below is a summary of LR2269 and explanation of why this bill is necessary at this time. If you have any questions before November 19th, please contact me at 207-329-6142.

### **Background**

The Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (MECDHH) began in a one-room schoolhouse in October of 1877 in Portland, Maine. Along with the construction of a new school in 1957 on Mackworth Island in Falmouth, the school became Governor Baxter School for the Deaf (GBSD) named after our benefactor, Governor Percival Baxter. Over the years, the services provided for deaf and hard of hearing children throughout the state of Maine expanded. To better reflect this growth, we became The Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in 2005.

Like many educational programs, MECDHH has ambitions, goals, and obligations that sometimes exceed our annual budget. We maintain a substantial, aging physical plant that requires ongoing maintenance and repairs. Our programs have expanded and evolved in accordance with best practices in deaf education. In recent months, the school's board and administration have considered raising private dollars to supplement the annual state appropriation that has provided 100% of its funding since its inception. We already have a non-profit foundation partner that is willing and able to act as MECDHH's fiscal agent, which will maximize the use of any potential private donations to support our mission and keep administrative costs to a minimum.

### **Why this Bill is Necessary and Urgent**

While planning our efforts to solicit and accept private funds, MECDHH's board members and administration learned from the Maine Attorney General's Office that such efforts are not currently allowed under Maine statute. This bill will make the statutory changes necessary to allow for private fundraising.

The need is urgent because the MECDHH on Macworth Island had been subletting part of its property to a local private elementary school, but that school recently relocated and terminated its lease. This leaves the center with a significant revenue hole to fill in the immediate future. With a good deal of planning already underway, our board and staff are poised to tap into our network of alumni, friends and supporters, but we must first comply with state law.

Kind regards,

*Cathy Breen*

Senator Cathy Breen



# 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

## Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2484

SCHOOL POLICIES

COMPUTERS

Sponsor: Representative Brooks of Lewiston

An Act To Improve Internet Safety for Children

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

### Comment

This bill would require Internet safety training for children receiving laptops in school, which would include warnings against communicating with strangers.

---



STATE OF MAINE

*House of Representatives  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333*

October 27, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

**LR 2484, An Act to Improve Internet Safety for Children.**

This bill is an emergency because our children are at risk of becoming victims of childhood predators via the internet. Basic education around safe practices could reduce this risk.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

*Heidi Brooks*

Heidi Brooks  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

LR 2485

INSURANCE

HEALTH

Sponsor: Representative Brooks of Lewiston

An Act To Improve Insurance Coverage for Breast Cancer Screening and To Inform Patients If They Have Increased Breast Density

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would require insurance companies to cover additional breast cancer screening tests recommended by a patient's physician. It would also require that, if it is determined by a medical provider that a patient undergoing mammography has increased breast density, the patient be informed of that fact.

---



STATE OF MAINE

*House of Representatives  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333*

October 27, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

**LR 2485, An Act to Improve Insurance Coverage for Breast Cancer Screening and To Inform Patients If They Have Increased Breast Density.**

This bill is an emergency because it addresses increased breast density diagnostic challenges. Delays in diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer can lead to increased suffering and death.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

*Heidi Brooks*

Heidi Brooks  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

TRANSPORTATION

LR 2330

TRANSPORTATION DEPT

PLANNING

Sponsor: Representative Campbell of Orrington

An Act To Encourage the Development of Commercial Transportation Opportunities in Bucksport

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	Yes
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would encourage the development of a transportation facility, including upgrading roads, rail and water access, at the former site of the mill in Bucksport.

---



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002  
(207) 287-1440  
TTY: (207) 287-4469

**Rep. Richard H. Campbell**

321 River Road  
Orrington, ME 04474  
(207) 745-7748  
[dickcampbelllllc@gmail.com](mailto:dickcampbelllllc@gmail.com)

November 2, 2015

President Michael D. Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0115

RE: LR 2330, ***"An Act To Encourage the Development of Commercial Transportation Opportunities in Bucksport"***

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my desire to appeal the Legislative Council's decision whereby LR 2330 was not accepted for consideration during the Legislature's Second Regular Session.

If admitted for deliberation over the coming months and ultimately passed by lawmakers, LR 2330 will bolster economic development in Bucksport, Orrington, and Brewer explicitly, and the overall lower Penobscot River Basin in general. There are companies with the desire to invest in this region, preferring to not be publicly known at this moment. Nonetheless, they will offer commentary and testify on specifics should this initiative be deemed worthwhile.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to addressing Council members' related questions and/or concerns on November 19. In the meantime, if you wish to discuss this legislative request with me personally, I can be reached on my mobile phone at 745-7748.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dick".

Richard H. Campbell  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LR 2331

ENERGY

PLANNING

Sponsor: Representative Campbell of Orrington

An Act To Encourage the Development of Electrical and Natural Gas Infrastructure in Bucksport

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would encourage the development of electrical and natural gas infrastructure at the former site of the mill in Bucksport.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002  
(207) 287-1440  
TTY: (207) 287-4469

**Rep. Richard H. Campbell**

321 River Road  
Orrington, ME 04474  
(207) 745-7748  
[dickcampbelllllc@gmail.com](mailto:dickcampbelllllc@gmail.com)

November 2, 2015

President Michael D. Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0115

**RE: LR 2331, "*An Act To Encourage the Development of Electrical and Natural Gas Infrastructure in Bucksport*"**

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my desire to appeal the Legislative Council's decision whereby LR 2331 was not accepted for consideration during the Legislature's Second Regular Session.

If admitted for deliberation over the coming months and ultimately passed by lawmakers, LR 2331 will bolster economic development in Bucksport, Orrington, and Brewer explicitly, and the overall lower Penobscot River Basin in general. There are companies with the desire to invest in this region, preferring to not be publicly known at this moment. Nonetheless, they will offer commentary and testify on specifics should this initiative be deemed worthwhile.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to addressing Council members' related questions and/or concerns on November 19. In the meantime, if you wish to discuss this legislative request with me personally, I can be reached on my mobile phone at 745-7748.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dick".

Richard H. Campbell  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

LR 2239

GAMBLING

BINGO

Sponsor: Senator Collins of York

An Act To Allow Minors at Licensed Campgrounds To Participate in Certain Seasonal Activities

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	No
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would allow minors under 16 years of age, without being accompanied by an adult, to participate in a bingo or beano game operated at a licensed campground as long as the prize is a nonmonetary prize, which may include a credit for food served on the premises of the campground, valued at no more than \$10.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2227 Senator Brakey, E

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 34*

*Senator Ron Collins*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-4884*

November 2, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair of the Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau and Council Members,

I am writing to appeal the Council's decision of LR 2239, An Act to Allow Minors at Licensed Campgrounds to Participate in Certain Seasonal Activities.

I agreed to sponsor this bill on behalf of the Maine Campground Owners Association, and while I appreciate the Council's strict interpretation of "emergency" bills, the campground owners believe this impacts the services and activities they provide to their campers. The Maine Campground Owners Association believes this has created an emergency and would like to have the law changed prior to the 2016 camping season in order to maintain the business they depend on for their livelihood.

The bill really is simple. Campgrounds have been recently notified that they can no longer offer BEANO as an activity for children. This bill would allow campgrounds to offer BEANO to minors like they might offer horseshoes, tennis, Monopoly, Twister or any game or activity. The non monetary prize might be a candy bar, ice cream or t-shirt.

When we all talk about reducing unnecessary regulations, it seems to me that this is one that can be easily eliminated.

Should Council Members decide to allow this bill in for second session, you will be pleased to know it is fully drafted.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Senator Ron Collins

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

LR 2256

PUBLIC LANDS

LAND FOR MAINES FUTURE BOARD

Sponsor: Representative Cooper of Yarmouth

An Act To Amend the Appointment Process for Members of the Land for Maine's Future Board and the Responsibilities of the Board

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would place the Land for Maine's Future Program under the direction and control of the Land for Maine's Future Board and require that board members be appointed by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House and the Governor.

---

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2360 Representative McCabe, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2458 Senator Hill, D



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Janice E. Cooper

53 West Elm Street

Yarmouth, ME 04096

Residence: (207) 847-3193

Cell Phone: (207) 233-9811

Janice.Cooper@legislature.maine.gov

October 27, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

**LR 2256: An Act to Amend the Appointment Process and Responsibilities of the Board Members for the Land for Maine's Future.**

This bill is an emergency because important projects already identified for purchase by LMF will soon become unavailable for public purchase, thus forever denying the people of Maine with the right to use and enjoy these priceless properties.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janice E. Cooper".

Janice Cooper  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2436

HEALTH CARE SERVICES.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Sponsor: Representative Cooper of Yarmouth

An Act To Limit the Increase in the Price of Prescription Drugs

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would prohibit the sale of a prescription drug in Maine if its price has more than doubled in the previous 12 months or is proposed to be increased by more than twice its current price unless the manufacturer is able to demonstrate that the cost of manufacturing the drug justifies the price increase.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Janice E. Cooper

53 West Elm Street

Yarmouth, ME 04096

Residence: (207) 847-3193

Cell Phone: (207) 233-9811

Janice.Cooper@legislature.maine.gov

October 27, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

### **LR 2436: An Act to Limit the Increase in the Price of Prescription Drugs**

Patients, particularly those suffering from rare diseases or conditions responsive to only one drug, are now at the mercy of the drug manufacturers who have begun to charge many thousands of times the original price without any explanation.

Prescription drugs are not ordinary commodities, since they can make the difference between life and death, between suffering and well-being. For these reasons, and because of the pattern of massive, unexplained increases in drug prices (including generics) in the past few years, this is an emergency situation.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janice E. Cooper".

Janice Cooper  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

TAXATION

LR 2496

MISCELLANEOUS TAXES

SERVICE PROVIDER TAX

Sponsor: Senator Cushing of Penobscot

An Act To Repeal the Service Provider Tax on So-called Appendix C Private Nonmedical Institutions

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	No
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	Yes
Hill	No	Espling	Yes

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would repeal the service provider tax for private nonmedical institution services provided by MaineCare Appendix C private nonmedical institutions. The service provider tax would be maintained at a level of 6% for private nonmedical institution services that are provided by MaineCare Appendix B, D, E or F private nonmedical institutions and for personal home care services.

Potential JR 217: LD502

*127th Legislature*

*Senate of  
Maine*

*Senate District 10*

*Senator Andre E. Cushing, III*

*Assistant Majority Leader*

*3 State House Station*

*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*

*(207) 287-1505*

*Joint Standing Committee:*

*Labor, Commerce, Research & Economic Development*

*Select Committees:*

*Joint Rules*

*Senate Rules*

*Senatorial Vote*

October 30, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

I respectfully request an appeal for a second session submission that was rejected at the Legislative Council meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The proposed legislation is LR 2496, "*An Act To Repeal the Service Provider Tax on So-called Appendix C Private Nonmedical Institutions.*"

Since the Private Nonmedical Institutions (PNMI) tax was instituted in 2006, the amount of taxes collected has increased by \$1.5 million. When the tax rate increase takes effect in January 2016, this tax will increase taxes by another \$2.2 million per year. Because there have not been MaineCare rate increases to offset these increased costs, the additional tax is paid by the PNMI facilities and by their private pay residents.

The Appendix C PNMI tax only applies to elderly assisted living facilities that accept MaineCare. If a facility is completely private pay, they are not included in the tax. However, if private pay residents happen to live in a facility accepting MaineCare, they will be subject to the tax. Many elderly private pay residents are stunned to find out that Maine taxes them on the dollars they are spending to fund their own long term care. This causes them to spend down to MaineCare eligibility faster.

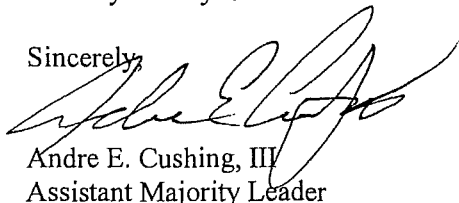
Unlike the nursing home tax, this PNMI tax does not automatically generate matching federal dollars through the Medicaid program. For that reason, it does not work as effectively as a nursing home tax. Although 40 states use some form of the nursing home tax, Maine is the only state that tries to accomplish the same thing in assisted living. The reason is that under federal regulations, it doesn't work very well.

**Why an emergency?**

There is sometimes the perception that health care taxes aren't "real taxes", but this PNMI tax actually does come out of the pockets of underpaid assisted living facilities and the private pay residents they serve. The PNMI tax has been bad policy that punishes facilities that accept MaineCare and penalizes people who saved their money to pay for their own care instead of relying on MaineCare.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Andre E. Cushing, III  
Assistant Majority Leader



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

JUDICIARY

LR 2539

HUMAN RIGHTS

HOUSING

Sponsor: Senator Cushing of Penobscot

An Act To Ensure Nondiscrimination against Gun Owners in Housing

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	Yes

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would prohibit a landlord who receives public funds for rent from prohibiting a tenant from possessing a firearm while on the premises being rented.

*127th Legislature  
Senate of  
Maine  
Senate District 10*

*Senator Andre E. Cushing, III  
Assistant Majority Leader  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0003  
(207) 287-1505*

*Joint Standing Committee:  
Labor, Commerce, Research & Economic Development*

*Select Committees:  
Joint Rules  
Senate Rules  
Senatorial Vote*

November 2, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

I respectfully request an appeal for a second session bill submission that was rejected at the Legislative Council meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The proposed legislation is LR 2539, "*An Act To Ensure Nondiscrimination against Gun Owners in Housing.*"

As the bill title states, LR 2539 would address an issue that affects gun owners who currently rent, particularly from landlords who accept low income or subsidized tenants. These individuals have limited housing options from which to choose.

The emergency nature of this issue is demonstrated by the vulnerability of these tenants. For example, consider the recent case of a disabled Mainer who was forced to defend his home and is now being advised that he cannot live in this apartment and still possess the means to defend his life and property.

This is a fundamental constitutional matter that needs to have a public hearing and a thoughtful policy discussion.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Andre E. Cushing, III  
Assistant Majority Leader

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

LR 2284

SENTENCES

DRUG OFFENSES

Sponsor: Senator Cyrway of Kennebec

An Act To Increase Sentences Imposed for Interstate Trafficking of Illegal Drugs

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	No
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	Yes
Hill	No	Espling	Yes

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would increase the sentences that are imposed for interstate trafficking of illegal drugs.

---

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2244 Representative Pierce, J

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 16*

*Senator Scott W. Cyrway*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*

November 2, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, Me 04333

Dear President Thibodeau,

I write this letter to request an appeal on the Legislative Council's decision to reject LR 2284,  
*"An Act to Increase Sentences Imposed for Interstate Trafficking of Illegal Drugs."*

This bill seeks to curb the influx of illegal drugs into our state. As we are all aware, Maine has an absolutely tragic situation on our hands when it comes to drug use. Though heroin has recently been in the spotlight, all illegal drugs pose a danger to the lives of Mainers.

Before writing this letter, I read yet another account of a drug trafficker from out-of-state being arrested, this time a New York man arrested in Hermon. This bill would put people on notice that Maine truly is serious about cracking down on those who provide this poison to our citizens.

Additionally, it may interest you to know that I have been in contact with judges who are not only supportive of this measure but are also interested in assisting with the development of new sentencing guidelines should this bill pass.

Thank you for your consideration of this appeal. I am hopeful that all members of Legislative Council will follow the lead of your initial vote in favor of allowing LR 2284 to proceed for consideration in the Second Session.

Sincerely,



Scott Cyrway  
State Senator

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2279

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

CURRICULUM

Sponsor: Representative Daughtry of Brunswick

An Act To Require That High School Curricula Include Instruction Regarding Affirmative Consent, Communication and Decision-making Skills

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would require that high school curricula include instruction regarding affirmative consent, communication and decision-making skills.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

**Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry**

11B Everett Street

Brunswick, ME 04011

Residence: (207) 522-0913

Business: (207) 370-9871

RepMattie.Daughtry@legislature.maine.gov

October 28, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

**LR 2279, An Act to To Require That High School Curricula Include Instruction Regarding Affirmative Consent, Communication and Decision-making Skills.**

One in five women are sexually assaulted while in college. More than 90 percent of sexual assault victims on college campuses do not report the assault. An effective way of reversing this ugly trend would be to educate as many high school students as possible about affirmative consent before they begin their college careers.

America's colleges are in crisis, and the Education Committee should not delay in having a conversation about this problem. The answer doesn't necessarily have to be a new mandate, but if the Legislature ignores this problem entirely, we risk allowing rape culture to fester on college campuses. We owe it to Maine's daughters and its sons to address this issue in some form.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

Matthea Daughtry  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

TAXATION

LR 2311

INCOME TAX

CHECKOFFS

Sponsor: Representative Davitt of Hampden

An Act To Establish the Veterans Count Maine Donation Fund

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	2	8	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would establish the Veterans Count Maine Donation Fund funded by a \$2 voluntary checkoff on personal income tax forms. The fund would provide funding to nonprofit agencies that provide assistance to Maine veterans.

---

Potential JR 217: LD544



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

**James E. Davitt**

25 Summer Street

Hampden, ME 04444

Residence: (207) 862-8113

James.Davitt@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Legislative Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2311, An Act To Establish the Veterans Count Maine Donation Fund.**

This bill will create an individual income tax check-off box with donations dedicated to funding nonprofit veterans' services initiatives through grants to be administered by the Maine Bureau of Veterans Services. With more than 8,000 Maine veterans living below poverty level, it is clear that too many veterans are struggling.

No veteran should go hungry or without housing. That's something we can all agree on. This bill will help existing programs better serve veterans, maximizing the impact of these funds. We simply cannot wait until the 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature to address this issue.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James E. Davitt", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jim Davitt

State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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MARINE RESOURCES

LR 2474

COMMERCIAL FISHING

PRACTICES

Sponsor: Representative Devin of Newcastle

Resolve, To Ensure the Sustainability of the Periwinkle Fishery

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This resolve would require the Department of Marine Resources to adopt major substantive rules regarding the harvest of periwinkles including limits on the size and volume of periwinkles harvested and the time and location of the harvest.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

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## Michael G. Devin

1 Hillcrest Road  
Newcastle, ME 04553  
Cell Phone: (207) 975-3132  
Business: (207) 563-8350  
Mick.Devin@legislature.maine.gov

October 29, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

### **LR 2474, An Act to Ensure the Sustainability of the Periwinkle Fishery.**

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mick Devin".

Mick Devin  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2511

SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Sponsor: Representative Devin of Newcastle

An Act To Address the Costs for Certain Special Education Students

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would provide school administrative units with additional state funding for certain special education students under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in time for the 2016-2017 school year.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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## Michael G. Devin

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Mick.Devin@legislature.maine.gov

October 29, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

### **LR 2511, An Act to Address the Costs for Certain Special Education Students.**

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mick Devin".

Mick Devin  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LR 2506

ENERGY

ELECTRICITY GENERATION

Sponsor: Representative Dion of Portland

An Act To Clarify Laws Relating to Affiliate Ownership of Electric Generation

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	Yes
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would address ambiguities in statute regarding affiliates of electric transmission and distribution companies seeking to interconnect with the electric transmission and distribution system.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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**Mark N. Dion**

45 Allison Avenue

Portland, ME 04103

Residence: (207) 797-6341

Mark.Dion@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2506, An Act To Clarify Laws Relating to Affiliate Ownership of Electric Generation.**

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Dion".

Mark Dion  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

LR 2146

STATE GOVERNMENT

STATE COMMEMORATIONS

Sponsor: Representative Duchesne of Hudson

An Act To Establish November 1st as Veterans in the Arts and Humanities Day

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would establish November 1st as Veterans in the Arts and Humanities Day.



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002  
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## Robert S. Duchesne

478 Beechwood Avenue  
Old Town, ME 04468  
Residence: (207) 827-3782  
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Robert.Duchesne@legislature.maine.gov

October 27, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2146, An Act to Establish November 1<sup>st</sup> as Veterans in the Arts and Humanities Day.**

The United States is experiencing an epidemic of suicides among service men and women. Most of these deaths occur after deployment, when veterans are trying to return to a normal home life after the stresses and traumas of their active duty. While there are many tools and benefits that are being explored today to aid soldiers with these difficult transitions, the encouragement of art within veteran's groups has been recognized particularly for its therapeutic value.

Accordingly, a national organization named the United States Veterans' Artists Alliance is promoting November 1<sup>st</sup> as a day of recognition. The group is based in Culver City, California, and it has succeeded in having the date recognized by several major cities in that state over the last three years. They have now turned their attention to getting the day recognized by the states. California is poised to act next year, but Maine is in a position to be the first in the nation.

Furthermore, Maine has a nascent veteran artists group which has been struggling to gain traction. They are on the verge of success, and I believe their artwork is being shown in the State House at this moment, now through November. See [www.veteransartsandcrafts.com](http://www.veteransartsandcrafts.com).

Given that there is a national emergency with regard to soldier suicides, that the bill is consistent with a national effort to recognize veteran artists, and that Maine is poised to be the first in the nation to designate this special day, I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

Rep. Bob Duchesne



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

LR 2184

MUNICIPALITIES

SECESSION

Sponsor: Senator Edgecomb of Aroostook

An Act To Allow a Part of the Town of Caribou To Secede and Form the Town of Lyndon

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	2	8	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would begin the process of permitting a portion of the Town of Caribou to secede and form the new town called Lyndon.

---

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 1*

*Senator Peter Edgecomb*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505 Office*  
*(207) 496-3188 Home*

November 2, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair of the Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau and Council Members,

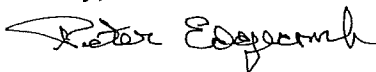
I am submitting a request for appeal for LR 2184 "An Act to Allow a Part of the Town of Caribou to Secede and Form the Town of Lyndon," on behalf of the Caribou Succession Committee. The rationale for this appeal relies on the secession statute and its legislative history. In 2013, the 126<sup>th</sup> Legislature amended M.R.S.A. Title 30-A, Part 2, Subpart 2, Chapter 113 CONSOLIDATION, SECESSION AND ANNEXATION, Sections 2171 & 2172. The reason for the amendment, as stated in Emergency Legislation **LD 1561, An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Secession from a Municipality**, was because "*the law regarding the municipal secession process is unclear as it pertains to residents attempting to secede from a municipality.*" In an effort to make the secession process clear, Section 2171-C-1 was added to the law. It now reads in the part pertaining:

**Legislative authorization to proceed:** *Within one year following the public hearing held pursuant to section 2171-C, a representative from the secession territory shall cause legislation to be submitted to the Legislature to obtain the authorization of the Legislature to proceed with the secession process. Unless authorization to proceed is received from the Legislature, the question of secession may not proceed to the advisory referendum held pursuant to section 2171-D.*

The new law **does not specify** to which session of the legislature that the legislation must be submitted, nor does it say that a citizen's initiative undertaken in accordance with this statute must be synchronous with the first session of any legislature. Some question whether this omission was intentional and the lack of specificity can only be construed by citizens to mean that the Legislature is expected and obligated to consider a bill request for the authorization to proceed in either session of the legislature. Given that the public hearing was held in Caribou on June 11, 2015, the one year deadline **forces** this issue to be addressed during **the Second Session of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature**. A 20 month delay over a technicality is unreasonable and will cause an extreme hardship for many residents of the secession territory.

Thank you for your consideration of this appeal request.

Sincerely,



Senator Peter Edgecomb

*Peter.Edgecomb@legislature.maine.gov*

*Fax: (207) 287-1527 \* TTY (207) 287-1583 \* Message Service 1-800-423-6900 \* Web Site: legislature.maine.gov/senate*

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

LR 2176

BOND ISSUES

EDUCATION

Sponsor: Representative Fecteau of Biddeford

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Vocational High Schools

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would authorize a general fund bond issue in the amount of \$10,000,000 for vocational high schools.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Ryan M. Fecteau

30 Herring Avenue Ext.

Biddeford, ME 04005

Residence: (207) 289-4478

Ryan.Fecteau@legislature.maine.gov

October 29, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

### **LR 2176, An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Vocational High Schools.**

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Fecteau".

Ryan Fecteau  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LR 2453

FINANCE AUTHORITY

PROGRAMS

Sponsor: Representative Fecteau of Biddeford

An Act To Protect Taxpayer Dollars and Ensure the Integrity of State Economic Development Programs

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would reform the Maine New Markets Capital Investment Program by directing the Governor and State Tax Assessor to recapture tax credits associated with any fraudulent transactions that have occurred under this program; designate the Finance Authority of Maine, instead of a qualified community development entity, as the owner of tax credits under this program; and increase accountability for future projects in the program by establishing job creation and job quality standards.



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Ryan M. Fecteau

30 Herring Avenue Ext.

Biddeford, ME 04005

Residence: (207) 289-4478

Ryan.Fecteau@legislature.maine.gov

October 29, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

**LR 2453, An Act to Protect Taxpayer Dollars and Ensure the Integrity of State Economic Development.**

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Fecteau", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ryan Fecteau  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

JUDICIARY

LR 2210

ABUSE

PROTECTION ACTIONS

Sponsor: Representative Fowle of Vassalboro

An Act To Amend the Laws on Protection from Abuse and Unauthorized Dissemination of Certain Private Images

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

Recent legislation prohibiting unauthorized dissemination of private images included amendments to the protection from abuse laws to coordinate the laws. This bill would further amend the protection of abuse laws with respect to the definition of "abuse" and remedies.

---

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2211 Representative Fredette, K



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

**Lori A. Fowle**

305 Taber Hill Road

Vassalboro, ME 04989

Residence: (207) 872-7268

Cell Phone: (207) 649-4863

Lori.Fowle@legislature.maine.gov

October 26, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair

Legislative Council

115 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Legislative Council's rejection of the following bill request:

**LR 2210, An Act to Amend the Laws on Protection from Abuse and Unauthorized Dissemination of Certain Private Images.**

As House Chair of the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee, I think it's important to make sure statutes regarding criminal acts are airtight and accurate. If it's clear we need to be making improvements to Maine's new law banning so-called "revenge porn," then we shouldn't wait a year to fix it. I'm sure the other members of our committee would be more than willing to sit down and do the work, especially given the importance of this law in protecting women from all manner of online predators.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Fowle".

Lori Fowle

State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

JUDICIARY

LR 2211

ABUSE

PROTECTION ACTIONS

Sponsor: Representative Fredette of Newport

An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Protection from Abuse Orders in Order To Implement the Laws Regarding the Unauthorized Dissemination of Certain Private Images

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	No
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	Yes
Hill	No	Espling	Yes

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would amend the laws regarding protection from abuse orders to make changes necessary to implement Public Law 2015, chapter 339, An Act To Prohibit the Unauthorized Dissemination of Certain Private Images.

---

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2210 Representative Fowle, L



STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

KENNETH WADE FREDETTE  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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President Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chairman, Maine Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0115

November 2, 2015

**Re: L.R. 2211, "An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Protection from Abuse Orders in Order to Implement the Laws Regarding the Unauthorized Dissemination of Certain Private Images"**

Sponsor: Representative Kenneth Fredette

**Appeal Summary:**

This very important bill, L.D. 679, passed during the First Session of the 127<sup>th</sup>, is in need of some amendments to correct it. These amendments were suggested by Maine's judicial staff.

**Why this bill demands legislative attention:**

This legislation will offer protections for Maine citizens who become victims to the ever growing threat of people sending images electronically to harm others.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity for you to reconsider this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth Fredette".

Kenneth Fredette  
State Legislature

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

TAXATION

LR 2434

INCOME TAX

DEDUCTIONS

Sponsor: Representative Fredette of Newport

An Act To Make Additional Technical Changes to Recently Enacted Tax Legislation Concerning Pension Income

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	No
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	No
Alford	No	Fredette	Yes
Hill	No	Espling	Yes

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would make additional technical changes to recently enacted tax legislation concerning pension income.

---



STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

KENNETH WADE FREDETTE  
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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E-Mail: [Kenneth.Fredette@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Kenneth.Fredette@legislature.maine.gov)

President Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chairman, Maine Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0115

November 2, 2015

**Re: L.R. 2434 "An Act to Make Additional Technical Changes to Recently Enacted Tax Legislation Concerning Pension Income"**  
Sponsor: Representative Kenneth Fredette

Dear President Thibodeau,  
Thank you for the opportunity to expound upon the need for this bill.

**Appeal Summary:**

Our Military members deserve an opportunity to stay in a state they love.

**Why this bill demands urgent Legislative attention**

This bill will make important changes to this recently enacted tax legislation during the First Regular Session of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature. I would welcome the opportunity to speak briefly on this request.

Thank you for your time and reconsideration of this bill,

Sincerely,

Kenneth Fredette  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

JUDICIARY

LR 2427

COURTS

DRUG COURT

Sponsor: Representative Frey of Bangor

An Act To Strengthen Programs To Help Individuals Overcome Addiction

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would provide the necessary funds to conduct an evaluation of the State's drug courts to ensure that the best and most effective practices are identified and implemented in drug courts across the State and fund a pilot project for new case management services for people in jail who are struggling with addiction.



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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**Aaron M. Frey**

P.O. Box 74

Bangor, ME 04402

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Aaron.Frey@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2427, An Act to Strengthen Programs to Help Individuals Overcome Addiction.**

Maine's growing drug epidemic has reached the level of crisis. This legislation proposes to take two important steps to strengthen programs for people struggling with addiction who find themselves in the judicial and/or criminal justice systems.

First, it would provide funding to conduct an evaluation of Maine's drug courts to ensure that the best and most effective practices are identified and implemented in drug courts across the state. Drug courts are vital to helping individuals recover from drug addiction, take back their lives and prevent future drug abuse. Second, the legislation would fund a pilot project for new case management services for people in jail who are struggling with addiction. Case managers would collaborate with criminal justice staff to evaluate each individual's treatment plan and ensure that the individual is being linked to other vital services to achieve a lasting recovery.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron M. Frey".

Aaron Frey  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2514

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPT

ADMINISTRATION

Sponsor: Representative Frey of Bangor

An Act To Support State Psychiatric and Forensic Workers

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would provide funding for a wage adjustment stipend for state employees in the state psychiatric and forensic facilities to assist in recruitment and retention. This bill also would include monthly reporting requirements for the Department of Health and Human Services on worker injury rates, the use of mandated overtime and other worker safety issues.



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

**Aaron M. Frey**

P.O. Box 74

Bangor, ME 04402

Cell Phone: (207) 249-9969

Aaron.Frey@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2514, An Act to Support State Psychiatric and Forensic Workers.**

This bill would appropriate and allocate a wage adjustment stipend for state employees in the state's psychiatric and forensic facilities to assist in recruitment and retention.

The persistent staffing shortages at Riverview Psychiatric Center and Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center have had a significant impact on safety and morale for both staff and patients. It is therefore critical that the Legislature take steps to attract and retain qualified employees to do the challenging and important work of caring for Maine's mentally ill.

The bill would include monthly report back requirements for the Department on worker injury rates, use of mandated overtime, and other worker safety categories.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aaron M. Frey".

Aaron Frey  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

TAXATION

LR 2431

SALES AND USE TAX

EXEMPT PURCHASERS

Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook

An Act To Create Equity among Essential Nonprofit Health Care Providers in Relation to the Sales Tax

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would add community health centers serving all individuals regardless of insurance status and ability to pay to the list of nonprofits exempted from paying sales tax.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Drew Gattine

529 Stroudwater Street

Westbrook, ME 04092

Cell Phone: (207) 409-3477

Andrew.Gattine@legislature.maine.gov

October 30, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request, **LR 2431  
An Act To Create Equity among Essential Nonprofit Health Care Providers in  
Relation to the Sales Tax.**

This bill would add community health centers to the list of nonprofits exempted from paying sales tax.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Drew Gattine".

Drew Gattine  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2450

MEDICAID

MAINECARE

Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook

An Act To Eliminate the Waiting List for Community-based Services Provided under MaineCare for Individuals with a Brain Injury, an Intellectual Disability or Autism

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would use excess proceeds from the state liquor contract to provide funding to eliminate the waiting list for community-based services provided under MaineCare for individuals with a brain injury, an intellectual disability or autism.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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Andrew.Gattine@legislature.maine.gov

October 30, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request, **LR 2450 An Act To Eliminate the Waiting List for Community-based Services Provided under MaineCare for Individuals with a Brain Injury, an Intellectual Disability or Autism.**

This bill would use the excess revenue from the state liquor contract to fund the waiting list for community-based services provided under MaineCare for individuals with a brain injury, an intellectual disability or autism.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Drew Gattine".

Drew Gattine  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2456

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

PLANNING

Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook

Resolve, To Improve Access to and the Quality of Services for Persons with Mental Illness

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This resolve would require the Department of Health and Human Services, by November 1, 2016, to develop an extensive and comprehensive plan to improve access to and the quality of care for patients who need inpatient and residential mental health services, whether forensic or civil. The plan would include an evaluation of the need for such services in Maine, the number of patients who need the services, a 10-year projection of the number of patients who will need to be served and multiple options for meeting any unmet needs that are determined to exist or improvements to care that need to be made.



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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## Drew Gattine

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Cell Phone: (207) 409-3477  
Andrew.Gattine@legislature.maine.gov

October 30, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request, **LR 2456 Resolve, To Improve Access to and the Quality of Services for Persons with Mental Illness.**

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Drew Gattine".

Drew Gattine  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2471

MEDICAID

REIMBURSEMENT

Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook

An Act To Expand Resources for Independent Living Services for People with Disabilities

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would redirect current federal reimbursement under the federal Social Security Act to better meet the needs of people with disabilities to maximize their ability to live independently.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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Andrew.Gattine@legislature.maine.gov

October 30, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request, **LR 2471**  
**An Act To Expand Resources for Independent Living Services for People with**  
**Disabilities.**

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Drew Gattine".

Drew Gattine  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

MARINE RESOURCES

LR 2381

COMMERCIAL FISHING

LICENSES

Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland

An Act To Ensure Fairness in Shellfish and Marine Worm Digger Licensing

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would require municipal licensing for the taking of marine worms.

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*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 24*

*Senator Stan Gerzofsky*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

**RE: LR 2381, An Act to Ensure Fairness in Shellfish and Marine Worm Digger Licensing**

Dear Members of the Legislative Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to appeal your previous decision on LR 2381, An Act to Ensure Fairness in Shellfish and Marine Worm Digger Licensing, and to explain my reasoning for why I feel this meets the emergency requirement for the upcoming legislative session.

Maine's shellfish industry is at a crossroads. Clammers and other fishermen are facing a serious threat to their livelihood and ability to succeed in this staple industry for our state. The battle against the invasive green crab and other disturbances of flats is jeopardizing the growth and harvest of Maine clams. For those of you who represent coastal communities, you understand that this is a huge industry for our state and for many hard-working Maine people.

Clamming directly employs more than 1,500 people in the Maine, and research shows that the total economic impact of the shellfish industry is approximately \$56 million, with \$29.9 million going to Maine residents as employment income. Over the past three years, mud flats have seen a tremendous loss of clams, mussels, and other shellfish because of the green crab and other threats. Many flats, that used to thrive for clam harvesting, are now empty of clams.

Unfortunately, the playing field is not equal for clammers in Maine. Clammers are regulated at the local level of government to ensure the local management plans are supporting the growth and harvest of clams. However, wormers, who may disturb the flats, are regulated at the state level. This bill would correct that unfairness. It does not seek to limit the ability of wormers to do their job, rather, it seeks to level the field to create a fair licensing process to ensure all sides are working together.

We have a responsibility to ensure sustainability for this key Maine industry by investing in and protecting it for future generations. If we do not take this threat seriously, we may damage Maine's clamming industry, and a significant part of our state's economy. I encourage your support Maine's clam industry and help continue our efforts to protect our clams for the future. Please consider voting in favor of LR 2381. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stan Gerzofsky  
State Senator

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

MARINE RESOURCES

LR 2387

AQUACULTURE

SHELLFISH

Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland

An Act To Protect Shellfish Conservation Areas

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would amend the permit criteria related to unreasonably interfering with fishing that a municipal shellfish aquaculture proposed project must meet.

---

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 24*

*Senator Stan Gerzofsky*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

**RE: LR 2387, An Act to Protect Shellfish Conservation Areas**

Dear Members of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislative Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to appeal your previous decision on LR 2387, An Act to Protect Shellfish Conservation Areas, and to explain my reasoning for why I feel this meets the emergency requirement for the upcoming legislative session.

Maine's shellfish industry is at a crossroads. Clammers and other fishermen are facing a serious threat to their livelihood and ability to succeed in this staple industry for our state. The battle against the invasive green crab and other disturbances of flats is jeopardizing the growth and harvest of Maine clams. Over the past three years, mud flats have seen a tremendous loss of clams, mussels, and other shellfish because of the green crab and other threats. Many flats, that used to thrive for clam harvesting, are now empty of clams.

For those of you who represent coastal communities, you understand that this is a huge industry for our state and for many hard-working Maine people. Clamming directly employs more than 1,500 people in the Maine, and research shows that the total economic impact of the shellfish industry is approximately \$56 million, with \$29.9 million going to Maine residents as employment income.

LR 2387 would protect designated conservation areas from disturbances. By doing so, juvenile shellfish would be allowed to sit undisturbed until they reach a harvestable size or are moved to another growing area. This practice helps protect against green crabs predation that is causing immediate damage to Maine's clams and industry. Many municipalities are already investing significant time and money into creating sustainable shellfish harvesting management plans every year. However, they are not able to protect these locations.

To put all of this in the context of another valuable industry in Maine, it would be foolish for farms to plant seeds for fruits and vegetables, and then turn around and tear up the crops before they grow. So, why do we allow this to happen to Maine clams?

We have a responsibility to ensure sustainability for this key Maine industry by investing in and protecting it for future generations. If we do not take this threat seriously, we may damage Maine's clamming industry, and a significant part of our state's economy. I encourage your support Maine's clam industry and help continue our efforts to protect our clams for the future. Please consider voting in favor of LR 2387. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Stan Gerzofsky  
State Senator

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

MARINE RESOURCES

LR 2543

SHELLFISH

CLAMS

Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland

An Act To Change the Size Restriction on Soft-shell Clams

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would change the size restriction on soft-shell clams from the current minimum shell length of 2 inches to a prohibition on possession of soft-shell clams with shell lengths that are less than 1.5 inches or greater than 3.5 inches.

---

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 24*

*Senator Stan Gerzofsky*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

**LR 2543, An Act to Change the Size Restriction on Soft-shell Clams**

Dear Members of the 127th Legislative Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to appeal your previous decision on LR 2543, An Act to Change the Size Restriction on Soft-shell Clams, and to explain my reasoning for why I feel this meets the emergency requirement for the upcoming legislative session.

This is a jobs bill. Clamming is the second most valuable commercial marine fishery in Maine behind only lobsters. The bill would change the size restriction on soft-shell clams from the current minimum shell length of 2 inches to a prohibition on possession of soft-shell clams with shell lengths that are less than 1.5 inches or greater than 3.5 inches.

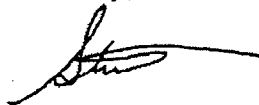
Since 1984 when a 2-inch law was established for economic, not biological, reasons, clamming coastwide has not rebounded to levels observed prior to that time, especially during the 1970's. With increasing seawater temperatures trending higher each year, clam landings continue to decline to levels that will not sustain the current numbers of clammers along the coast.

Lowering the current law from 2-inches to 1.5-inches will create new jobs in the clamming industry and sustain those that exist. This law will put more money in the pockets of clammers, clam buyers, and others that process, sell, and ship clams to market. This is an economic development bill.

This is also a conservation bill because an upper size limit, similar to that which exists for lobsters and green sea urchins, protects a large spawning stock ensuring enough spawned to continue strong populations into the future.

This bill is both a conservation and economic development bill wrapped into one, and is necessary now to help a failing industry become strong and vibrant once more before it is gone.

Sincerely,



Stan Gerzofsky  
State Senator

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LR 2479

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

SOLAR ENERGY

Sponsor: Representative Gideon of Freeport

An Act To Make Maine Energy-independent

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would facilitate grid-scale solar projects that are community-owned and located on properties that cannot be used for other development.

---



STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HOUSE DEMOCRATIC OFFICE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

SARA GIDEON  
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

---

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Legislative Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2479, An Act To Make Maine Energy-independent.**

We all recognize the crucial role that reliable, lower cost energy play in our economic future. By pursuing energy independence and the security that comes with it, we can have a more prosperous future and a more vibrant economy. To that end, this bill will facilitate grid-scale solar projects that are community-owned and utilize existing infrastructure from past developments that is often dormant to connect to the grid with minimal cost or build out.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sara Gideon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sara Gideon  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LR 2487

HOUSING

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Sponsor: Representative Gideon of Freeport

An Act To Facilitate Affordable Green Housing

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would create new financing mechanisms to make older housing stock more heat-efficient and electricity-efficient.

---



STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HOUSE DEMOCRATIC OFFICE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

SARA GIDEON  
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

---

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Legislative Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2487, An Act To Facilitate Affordable Green Housing.**

This bill will create new financing mechanisms to weatherize and improve older housing stock to save energy on heating and electricity. Improved energy efficiency is a crucial tool to reduce energy costs because it reduces the amount of energy used. It's a smart investment that will save Mainers energy and heating costs in the long-term.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sara Gideon", followed by a horizontal line.

Sara Gideon  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

LR 2488

SPENDING

TRANSPORTATION

Sponsor: Representative Gideon of Freeport

An Act To Revitalize Infrastructure Investment To Create Jobs

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would appropriate proceeds from Maine's liquor contract to address emergency needs of the State's public infrastructure, including roads and bridges.

---



STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HOUSE DEMOCRATIC OFFICE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

SARA GIDEON  
ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER

---

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Legislative Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2488, An Act To Revitalize Infrastructure Investment to Create Jobs.**

This measure would appropriate proceeds from the state liquor contract to address emergency transportation infrastructure funding needs, including maintenance and improvements to Maine's road and bridge network. With a recent report finding 15 percent of Maine's bridges structurally deficient and a \$119 million annual shortfall in funding for basic maintenance of our highways and bridges, the need for innovative transportation funding solutions is pressing.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Sara Gideon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sara Gideon  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2397

SCHOOL POLICIES

TESTING

Sponsor: Representative Golden of Lewiston

An Act To Increase Information for Parents and Teachers Regarding Standardized Tests

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would require school boards to convene a stakeholder group of parents, teachers, school board members and administrators to develop a common policy and protocols concerning standardized testing and its usage. The group would be composed of a majority of parents and teachers. Each school board would be required to adopt a policy that clearly articulates the number of standardized assessments each student will be expected to take and provides a summary of the time students will spend on testing, and the board would be required to adopt a plan to communicate clearly with parents the testing schedule and the usefulness of the standardized tests.



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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## Jared F. Golden

47 Nichols Street, Apt. 5

Lewiston, ME 04240

Residence: (207) 402-4410

Jared.Golden@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2397, An Act To Increase Information for Parents and Teachers Regarding Standardized Tests.**

The legislation would require every school board in the state to convene a group of parents, teachers, school board members and administrators to develop a common policy concerning standardized testing and its usage. That policy would clearly articulate the number of standardized assessments each student will be expected to take, provide a summary of the time students will spend on testing, and create a plan to communicate clearly with parents the testing schedule and the usefulness of each test.

The increase in both the number of tests and their complexity make it critical that parents, teachers and administrators have a good understanding of the rationale and nature of these tests as soon as possible.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jared F. Golden".

Jared Golden  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LR 2398

JOB TRAINING

PROGRAMS

Sponsor: Representative Golden of Lewiston

An Act To Ensure Central Maine Companies Have Access to Skilled Labor

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would provide funding of \$75,000 in each year of the biennium to the Department of Education for the New Mainers Program in Lewiston adult education.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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## Jared F. Golden

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Lewiston, ME 04240

Residence: (207) 402-4410

Jared.Golden@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2398, An Act To Ensure Central Maine Companies Have Access to Skilled Labor.**

This legislation would provide funding to Lewiston Adult Education to increase the ability of new immigrants to gain employment as soon as they receive the necessary permits from the Federal government. With the ever-increasing numbers of immigrants to the greater Lewiston area it is imperative that they have the tools they need to find jobs, allowing them to be self-sufficient as soon as possible. This will also help address the shortage of trained workers in the area.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jared F. Golden".

Jared Golden  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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JUDICIARY

LR 2422

FREEDOM OF ACCESS

RECORD CONFIDENTIALITY

Sponsor: Representative Goode of Bangor

An Act To Increase the Safety of Social Workers

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would prohibit the publication of the home addresses of social workers.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

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**Adam A. Goode**

P. O. Box 2681

Bangor, ME 04402

Cell Phone: (207) 991-7000

State House E-Mail:

RepAdam.Goode@legislature.maine.gov

October 27, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request, **LR 2422, An Act to Increase the Safety of Social Workers.**

The bill would prohibit the publication of the home addresses of social workers and is a matter of personal safety. It is in response to recent events where a social worker in Vermont was killed by a disgruntled parent. An incidence also occurred in Maine in 1988 when a disgruntled administrator of a home for people with mental illness obtained the names and addresses of state licensing officials. After he was fired, the individual shot and critically injured then-DHHS licensing administrator Louis Dorogi in the kitchen of his Topsham home.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Adam Goode".

Adam Goode  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LR 2435

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

POWERS

Sponsor: Representative Grohman of Biddeford

An Act To Make Efficient Heat Pumps Available to Low-income Customers

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow transmission and distribution utilities to implement a program to make efficient heat pumps available for use by low-income customers and others who face significant barriers to purchasing a heat pump directly. The program, whose design is subject to review by the Public Utilities Commission, may include special rates for participating customers to cover program costs, which costs may be paid only by participating customers, and the program must offer customer choice of qualified 3rd-party installers and distributors.

---

Potential JR 217: LD1257



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002  
(207) 287-1400  
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## Martin J. Grohman

9 Lisa Lane  
Biddeford, ME 04005  
Residence: (207) 283-1476  
Martin.Grohman@legislature.maine.gov  
www.growmaine.me

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

### **LR 2435, An Act to Make Efficient Heat Pumps Available to Low-income Customers.**

If we don't act this session, we will need to wait until 2017 to address this important issue. And every month we wait means a Mainer in need will not have access to this affordable and efficient heat source.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martin J. Grohman".

Martin J. Grohman  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

LR 2438

LAW ENFORCEMENT

LOCAL POLICE

Sponsor: Representative Grohman of Biddeford

An Act To Allow School Resource Officers To Have Jurisdiction at Off-site Events

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow school resource officers to have jurisdiction at events that are school-related but are held outside the school district, such as proms.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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## Martin J. Grohman

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Residence: (207) 283-1476

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October 28, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

### **LR 2438, An Act to Allow School Resource Officers to Have Jurisdiction at Off-site Events.**

This bill is an emergency because I hope to have it in place for the 2016 prom season.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martin J. Grohman".

Martin J. Grohman  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2520

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Sponsor: Representative Hamann of South Portland

An Act To Prevent Fatal Opioid Overdoses among Youth and Seniors

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow school nurses and people caring for senior citizens to have access to naloxone hydrochloride.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Scott M. Hamann

60 Thornton Avenue  
South Portland, ME 04106  
Residence: (207) 233-2951  
Business: (207) 233-2951  
Cell Phone: (207) 233-2951  
Scott.Hamann@legislature.maine.gov

October 30, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

### **LR 2520, An Act to Prevent Fatal Opioid Overdoses among Youth and Seniors**

This legislation would increase access to the life-saving overdose antidote, naloxone, by allowing school nurses and people caring for senior citizens to have and administer the drug. At a time when deaths from opioid overdoses are at an all-time high in Maine, it is critical that we take this step to make naloxone available to more people who are in a position to help save a life.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Hamann".

Scott Hamann  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2525

ELDERLY

NUTRITION SERVICES

Sponsor: Representative Hamann of South Portland

An Act To Provide Meals to Homebound Individuals

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would fully fund the waitlist for Meals on Wheels.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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## Scott M. Hamann

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Scott.Hamann@legislature.maine.gov

October 30, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

### **LR 2525 An Act To Provide Meals to Homebound Individuals**

There are currently thousands of homebound Mainers on a waitlist for Meals on Wheels. This bill would fully fund the waitlist. It would also create a workgroup to research food access barriers for homebound individuals and make recommendations about how to ensure regular, adequate nutrition for Maine people.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Scott Hamann".

Scott Hamann  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

MARINE RESOURCES

LR 2185

MARINE RESOURCES DEPT

RULES

Sponsor: Representative Hanley of Pittston

Resolve, To Postpone Implementation of Department of Marine Resources Rules Regarding Smelt

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This resolve would postpone for 2 years implementation of the most recently adopted rules of the Department of Marine Resources regarding smelt.



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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## Jeffery P. Hanley

52 Turner Dr.  
Pittston, ME 04345  
Residence: (207) 582-1524  
Jeff.Hanley@legislature.maine.gov

October 29, 2015

Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

President Thibodeau:

I would like to formally request that ***LR 2185, Resolve, To Postpone Implementation of Department of Marine Resources Rules Regarding Smelt***, be part of the appeal process scheduled for the next meeting of the Legislative Council on Thursday, November 19th.

This request is based on the timeliness of this issue as an emergency measure due to the impending nature of the rules change being implemented. These rule changes include smelting limits which doesn't take into consideration the improved smelt populations numbers from last season. I also believe that due to the lack of any endangered species designation these rule changes should simply be delayed to allow for more information to be obtained for consideration.

It is in my opinion that the department rule changes are being made too extensive, too expeditiously. I request that this bill be considered for this timely issue in an effort to simply delay this rule change.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeffery P. Hanley  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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TRANSPORTATION

LR 2298

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

COMPANIES

Sponsor: Senator Haskell of Cumberland

An Act To Allow Municipalities To Regulate Transportation Network Companies

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow a municipality to regulate the operations of a transportation network company, including the driver and motor vehicle, at a municipal airport.

---

*127th Legislature*  
***Senate of Maine***  
*Senate District 28*

***Senator Anne M. Haskell***  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

Dear President Thibodeau,

I would like to formally request that the Legislative Council reconsider its decision on LR 2298, "An Act To Allow Municipalities To Regulate Transportation Network Companies," which I have sponsored.


**THE BACKGROUND:** The municipal airports in the State of Maine provide a critically important connection to the national air transportation system. In order to safely and efficiently manage these unique transportation facilities, municipal airports must have the tools to regulate their operations including ground transportation. Under the current law passed last year airports are pre-empted from any regulation of the category of "Transportation Network Companies (TNCs)" such as Uber, Lyft and others. At the Portland International Jetport over 200,000 passengers arrive and depart each month in the summer; all in relatively narrow time slots throughout the day that cause distinct high traffic peaks. The Jetport must actively manage and regulate all commercial ground transportation such as taxis, livery, shuttle, and charter bus to preempt congestion and promote efficiency and safety at the terminal curbside.

**THE PROBLEM:** This has already caused significant congestion and confusion at the Portland International Jetport as TNC driver's attempt to solicit fares through their TNC smart phone applications which are geo-referenced by location. The TNC driver who is physically closest to the passenger requesting service receives the fare, incentivizing drivers to continuously circle airport roadways, attempt to park in loading/unloading only areas, and loiter in the terminal in order to be as close as possible to arriving passengers. All other commercial ground transportation operators at the Portland International Jetport are required through the establishment of its rules and regulations to queue in designated locations and pay fees associated with their operation. The number of TNCs and TNC drivers will continue to grow and the problems being experienced today will only become worse over time in the absence of regulation.

**THE SOLUTION:** Other airports across the country have already established rules and entered into agreements with TNCs in order to alleviate the problems now being experienced at the Portland International Jetport. TNCs have established geo-fences on airport campuses that consider all TNC drivers entering the campus as equidistant to the airport then allocate fare assignments based on a first-in/first out process; as well as designated waiting areas for their drivers outside of the roadway system to avoid congestion. All of these options for the prudent management of TNCs at airports in Maine have been pre-empted by the recent change and this proposed bill would seek to allow this narrow area of regulation.

**THE TIMING:** This bill is correctly under consideration for the second session as the law's impact on airports was precipitated by an action of the first regular session and it is appropriate to correct that oversight in a timely manner. Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,



Anne Haskell, State Senator –District 28

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LR 2497

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

LEAVE POLICIES

Sponsor: Senator Haskell of Cumberland

An Act To Strengthen the Economic Well-being of Maine's Workforce by Ensuring Employees Can Earn Paid Sick Time

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would require employers of 11 or more employees to allow employees to earn 56 hours of paid sick time.

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*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 28*

*Senator Anne M. Haskell*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

President Thibodeau  
Legislative Council Chair

RE: LR 2497 An Act To Strengthen the Economic Well-being of Maine's Workforce by  
Ensuring Employees Can Earn Paid Sick Time

Dear President Thibodeau,

I would like to formally request that the Legislative Council reconsider its decision on LR 2497, "An Act To Strengthen the Economic Well-being of Maine's Workforce by Ensuring Employees Can Earn Paid Sick Time," which I have sponsored.

Maine currently does not require employers to provide paid sick leave, which means that nearly 200,000 Maine workers in the private sector cannot earn paid sick leave. Thousands of Maine workers are unable to earn even one paid sick day to care for themselves or their family and are unfairly forced to choose between their health and their paycheck. The impact on a family when a bread winner must take unpaid leave from work is devastating.

The bill I have submitted seeks to rectify this injustice and ensure that more workers in Maine earn paid sick days. The measure is loosely based on the Massachusetts law and would require that employers of 11 or more employees allow workers to earn 56 hours (7 days) paid sick time.

Paid sick leave laws are beginning to surface in many parts of the country. On Labor Day this year, President Obama issued an executive order requiring federal contractors and subcontractors in 2017 to allow all employees who work on federal contracts to accrue up to seven days of paid sick leave each year.

It is time Maine stepped up to the plate and showed workers how valuable they are to our economy. I thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,



Anne Haskell, State Senator – District 28



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

LR 2505

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

AGENCY STORES

Sponsor: Representative Herbig of Belfast

Resolve, Directing the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations To Amend Its Rules To Allow Retailers To Return Promotional Alcoholic Beverages to Distributors

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This resolve would direct the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to amend its rules to allow retailers to return promotional alcoholic beverages to distributors.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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**Erin D. Herbig**

P.O. Box 1015

Belfast, ME 04915

Cell Phone: (207) 542-7654

Erin.Herbig@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2505, Resolve, Directing the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations To Amend Its Rules To Allow Retailers To Return Promotional Alcoholic Beverages to Distributors.**

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Erin Herbig'.

Erin Herbig  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

LR 2120

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DEPT  
PROCEDURES

Sponsor: Representative Hickman of Winthrop

An Act To Increase Transparency in Cooperative Agreements Entered Into by the Department of  
Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would increase transparency in cooperative agreements entered into by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by requiring the department to solicit public comments regarding each such agreement, respond to questions and comments from the public, respond to inquiries and notify the Legislature regarding such agreements. The bill would also authorize the Legislature to hold a public hearing on any such agreement.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

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## Craig V. Hickman

192 Annabessacook Road

Winthrop, ME 04364

Residence: (207) 377-3276

Fax: (207) 377-3226

Craig.Hickman@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2120, An Act to Increase Transparency in Cooperative Agreements Entered Into by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.**

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Take care of your blessings,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Craig Hickman', followed by a horizontal line.

Craig Hickman  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

LR 2408

STATE GOVERNMENT

PROGRAM REVIEW

Sponsor: Senator Hill of York

An Act To Provide Accountability in State Government Partnerships

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would require each state agency to annually report to the legislative committee of jurisdiction on any federal grant programs in which the agency participates and on grant programs in which the agency chose not to participate.

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 35*

*Senator Dawn Hill*  
*Assistant Democratic Leader*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

**LR 2408, An Act To Provide Accountability in State Government Partnerships**

Dear President Thibodeau and Colleagues on the 127th Legislative Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to appeal the previous decision on LR 2408, An Act To Provide Accountability in State Government Partnerships, and to explain my reasoning for why I feel this meets the emergency requirement for the upcoming legislative session.

This bill would require each state agency to annually report to the legislative committee of jurisdiction on any federal grant programs in which the agency participates and on grant programs in which the agency chose not to participate.

This is about accountability in state government. It is important to know if a state department or agency is taking advantage of a federal program or not. At a time when resources are tight, we should know why our state government is – or is not – participating in a federal program, or funding opportunity.

Please consider voting in favor of LR 2408. Thank you.

Best,



Dawn Hill  
State Senator

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2272

SCHOOL POLICIES

CURRICULUM

Sponsor: Representative Hubbell of Bar Harbor

An Act To Establish a Specific Schedule for the Review of the Content Areas of Learning Standards

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would amend the law requiring the Commissioner of Education to review content standards and performance indicators of learning results to establish a specific schedule for the review of the content areas, such as science and technology and world languages.

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# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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**Brian L. Hubbell**

66 Park Street

Bar Harbor, ME 04609

Residence: (207) 288-3947

Brian.Hubbell@legislature.maine.gov

October 28, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2272, An Act to Establish a Specific Schedule for the Review of the Content Areas of the Learning Standards.**

Beginning in 2015-16, Title 20-A §6209 requires a five-year cycle to review the Maine Learning Results. This request seeks to specify a sequence for the review cycle.

The request proposes the schedule and sequence below but ultimately the order would be subject to the usual legislative process:

- 2015-16): *Science and technology; and personal finance;*
- 2016-17): *Guiding principles; and world languages;*
- 2017-18): *Career and education development; and social studies;*
- 2018-19): *Mathematics; and visual and performing arts;*
- 2019-20): *English language arts; and health, physical education and wellness;*

The urgent need is that schools need to understand predictably, well in advance, when to expect updates and revisions to the state's standards.

This is an emergency because the review cycle is required by statute to begin in the current year.

I look forward to addressing the Council on November 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

Brian Hubbell  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2273

SPECIAL EDUCATION

FUNDING

Sponsor: Representative Hubbell of Bar Harbor

An Act To Clarify the Liability for Special Education Costs under State-directed Student Transfers

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	2	8	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would prohibit transfers effected by the Commissioner of Education or the State Board of Education from resulting in reduction of state liability for the subsidy of special education costs for individual transferred students.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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**Brian L. Hubbell**

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Brian.Hubbell@legislature.maine.gov

October 28, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2273, An Act To Clarify the Liability for Special Education Costs under State-directed Student Transfers.**

Increasingly the Department of Education is reassigning students to schools outside of their resident districts. This risks causing unwarranted increases in uncompensated local cost to districts which are compelled to receive these students. In certain circumstances, this results in the state transferring unusual costs of special education to the taxpayers of receiving districts.

The request proposes to amend 20-A §5205. Other exceptions to the general residency rules to add language to the effect that: *transfers effected by Commissioner of Education or the State Board of Education shall not result in any reduction of state liability for the subsidy of special education costs for individual transferred students.*

This simply removes any potential motivation of state-level cost savings from the decision-making process of the Commissioner of Education when overriding transfer decisions mutually reached by the superintendents of sending and receiving school districts.

The urgent need is that, under the current accelerated policy of state-initiated student transfers, schools, beyond any control of their own, are increasingly and unpredictably subject to significant additional expenses for special education well after their budgets are finalized and publicly validated.

I look forward to addressing the Council on November 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Hubbell", written over a horizontal line.

Brian Hubbell  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2300

SCHOOL PERSONNEL

BENEFITS

Sponsor: Representative Hubbell of Bar Harbor

An Act To Enable Alternative Organizational Structures To Purchase Group Health Insurance for All Employees

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	2	8	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow a school administrative unit that is a member of an alternative organizational structure to obtain health insurance loss information on an aggregate basis and to purchase a single health insurance policy that is offered to all members of the alternative organizational structure.

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# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Brian.Hubbell@legislature.maine.gov

October 28, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2300, An Act To Enable Alternative Organizational Structures To Purchase Group Health Insurance for All Employees.**

An unintended consequence at the intersection of the federal Affordable Care Act and the 2011 statutory changes to Maine's insurance statutes now will prevent schools with fewer than 50 employees operating within Alternative Organizational Structures from purchasing consistent insurance benefits for all their employees.

Because of this, it is now impossible for these schools to continue to negotiate common district-wide employment contracts. This divides larger and smaller schools which otherwise operate coherently under a shared and efficient educational mission.

This request seeks to amend 20-A MRSA §1001, sub-§14 (E) and 24-A MRSA §2803-A, sub-§2 to allow school districts in an Alternative Organizational Structure with common employment contracts to purchase a single group health insurance policy.

The emergency results from the fact that, beginning in July 2017, under the ACA, school districts with fewer than 50 employees will no longer be eligible to purchase insurance benefits through their current policy providers. Without this proposed fix, district contracts which include these benefits will have to be renegotiated and Alternative Organizational Structures will be out of compliance with their governing Interlocal Agreements and underlying state statutes.

I look forward to addressing the Council on November 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Hubbell".

Brian Hubbell  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS  
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
EDUCATORS

LR 2433

Sponsor: Representative Hubbell of Bar Harbor

An Act To Increase Transparency in the Setting of Normal Teacher Retirement Costs Rates for School Districts

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would require that an actuarial report on the estimated costs of normal teacher retirement be presented to a joint meeting of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters in the 2nd year of the biennium to project costs for the next biennium. Based on that actuarial report, a rate would be established in the 2nd year of the biennium for the amount school districts would have to pay in the new biennium and estimates would be published on what increase or decrease is projected in terms of dollar amount by district.



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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TTY: (207) 287-4469

**Brian L. Hubbell**

66 Park Street

Bar Harbor, ME 04609

Residence: (207) 288-3947

Brian.Hubbell@legislature.maine.gov

October 28, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2433, An Act to Increase Transparency in the Setting of Normal Teacher Retirement Costs Rates for School Districts.**

This bill seeks to amend Title 5, §17154 to assure that school districts have accurate estimates on how much they will have to pay each year for the cost of normal teacher retirement, which is money put away now for the retirement of working teachers. Responsibility for these costs was shifted onto districts in 2013, and this year they increased, without warning, by 25 percent to \$38 million statewide. Districts need early estimates for budgeting purposes, and the Legislature should have some understanding about how these costs are calculated. This bill would put transparency in the process and give the Appropriations Committee an oversight role.

It is an emergency because the process should go into effect prior to deliberations on the next biennial budget.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Hubbell".

Brian Hubbell  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

LR 2356

OPERATING UNDER INFLUENCE

PENALTIES

Sponsor: Representative Hymanson of York

An Act To Reduce Drunk Driving

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would establish a "24/7 Sobriety Program" under which repeat offenders of the laws governing operating under the influence do not lose their driver's license but are required to take daily breathalyzer tests.

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# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## Patricia Hymanson

34 High Pine Road  
York, ME 03909  
Residence: (207) 363-8353

October 29, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2356, An Act To Reduce Drunk Driving.**

This legislation would create a pilot program to give people convicted of drunk driving the option of being tested twice daily to prove they are no longer drinking alcohol. The bill is modeled on a very successful program which has been in place in South Dakota for over 15 years. It has saved lives there and we should act now to see if this approach will save lives here as well.

I look forward to working with the Council on this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patty Hymanson".

Patty Hymanson  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LR 2147

WORKERS COMPENSATION

BENEFITS

Sponsor: Senator Johnson of Lincoln

An Act To Ensure the Proportional Offset against Social Security Retirement Benefits of Workers' Compensation Awards

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would ensure the proportional offset against social security retirement benefits of workers' compensation awards.

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*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 13*

*Senator Christopher Johnson*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

**LR 2147 An Act To Ensure the Proportional Offset against Social Security in Retirement Benefits of Workers' Compensation Awards**

Dear President Thibodeau and Members of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislative Council,

This bill is an emergency because it fixes a problem that has already made one retiree destitute this year, and we need to act to ensure that does not happen to more elderly Maine people. This bill request is to require fair and proportional adjustment of awards in Workers Comp lost income awards, preventing a person's own contributions to their retirement being used against them.

Currently when a Workers Comp award is made of an ongoing monthly benefit, the employer is allowed to reduce that by half the worker's Social Security retirement benefit monthly amount, regardless of that employer's percentage contribution overall toward earning that worker's retirement benefit. Multiple employers could apply one-half even though collectively, not individually, they made half of the SS contributions while the employee made the other half in FICA withholding. It is fundamentally unfair to the worker, particularly when they have been self-employed at times and made not only the employee contribution but also the employer contribution which is now being used against them by an employer that caused them harm. The net - an employer should be able to reduce an award by the share of the retirement benefit that is proportional to their actual share of SS contributions, no more or less.

This problem was brought to my attention by a constituent of Sen. Dutremble, a retiree that has to choose between bills and groceries because of her workplace injury and this flawed formula. She couldn't afford her apartment and lost it. We need to fix this before this happens to more Maine people. That is why it is an emergency.

The same formula correction in the previous legislature was reported out Unanimous OTP in LCRED, went under the hammer in both bodies, and became law without the governor's signature - except that bill applied to pension plan contributions instead of Social Security Retirement Benefits. Now that we are aware of the the same flaw in the SS RB formula - it must be corrected for fairness and consistency.

I have discussed this with Paul Sighinolfi, who agrees it is the same issue.

I ask for your support of this bill which should have just as straightforward a path to law as the pension plan correction.

*Christopher N. Johnson*

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2378

HEALTH EDUCATION

DRUG EDUCATION

Sponsor: Senator Johnson of Lincoln

An Act To Establish a Pilot Program To Prevent Student Drug Addiction

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

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Comment

This bill would establish a pilot program funded through the Fund for a Healthy Maine to improve student health by preventing student drug and tobacco addiction, preventing abusive relationships between students and reducing teen pregnancy.

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Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2478 Senator Whittemore, R

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 13*

*Senator Christopher Johnson*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

**LR 2378 An Act To Establish a Pilot Program To Prevent Student Drug Addiction**

President Thibodeau and Members of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislative Council,

This bill is an emergency because Maine has a serious drug problem, and it is essential that we do all we can to prevent our youth from getting involved with drugs.

We owe it to them to pursue access to treatment, support for recovery, prosecution for drug dealing, and most important for keeping our children off of drugs - prevention. Solving Maine's serious drug addiction problem makes all avenues worth the legislature's attention.

This bill would strengthen prevention among our most vulnerable population - school children.

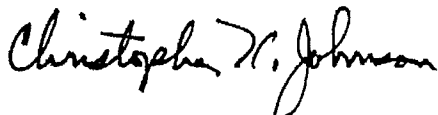
School Health Coordinators, which were defunded in 2012, were effective in changing culture within schools and getting students to reduce risky behavior. That includes lowering levels of addiction. This bill would pilot a more scaleable \$500,000 Coordinated School Health model in the most at-risk school systems. That funding would come from the \$5 million litigation settlement within the Fund for a Healthy Maine, which is currently unallocated.

This model, which I helped community and school health experts develop, would have one well-trained school health coordinator for a school district, not one per school. And it would rely on that person working with a staff member in each school receiving a stipend to implement prevention and positively influence student culture within each school.

We can't solve a drug problem without preventing new youths from taking up drugs and changing youth culture and teaching them to make healthy decisions. We owe it to school children and our communities to tackle the scourge of drug abuse and substance addiction from this angle, as well as all the other angles.

I'm asking you to let this bill move forward so important work on this issue can begin now.

Sincerely,



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

LR 2379

STATE GOVERNMENT

APPOINTMENTS

Sponsor: Senator Johnson of Lincoln

An Act To Ensure the Continued Operation of Boards and Commissions in State Government

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would provide that the President of the Senate may nominate persons to positions subject to nomination by the Governor, except for a nominating process set forth in the Constitution of Maine, if these positions are vacant for 6 months or more because no nomination is made or a nomination is made and withdrawn.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2324 Senator Katz, R

*127th Legislature*  
***Senate of***  
***Maine***  
*Senate District 13*

*Senator Christopher Johnson*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

**LR 2379 An Act To Ensure the Continued Operation of Boards and Commissions in State Government**

President Thibodeau and Members of the 127th Legislative Council,

This bill is an emergency because we now have boards and commissions unable to constitute a quorum and do their statutorily defined job for Maine.

It would provide a solution to the problem of boards such as the Board of Corrections and Land for Maine's Future board, which are hobbled by unfilled vacancies due to the Governor not nominating new members.

It would empower the Senate President to make nominations, in place of the governor, if the governor fails within six months of vacancy to submit a nomination that is not withdrawn. An exception would exist for those nomination processes set forth in the Constitution of Maine, avoiding any constitutional changes.

This solution avoids creating a penalty for the Chief Executive. But by allowing the natural successor to the Chief Executive to then make appointments it ensures the job will be done, and creates an incentive for prompt action by the Chief Executive, should he or she wish to make nominations.

State Government is an institution of and for the people of Maine. It is our duty to make it work as it should. This bill provides a measured means to ensure that duty is upheld.

Sincerely,



Chris Johnson  
State Senator

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2548

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

RESPIRE CARE

Sponsor: Representative Jorgensen of Portland

An Act To Strengthen the Respite Care Fund

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allocate funding to the Respite Care Fund for a second program to provide short-term respite care for people with diseases other than Alzheimer's and dementia who are significantly limited in their ability to care for themselves and dependent upon others to help them with activities of daily living.

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# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## Erik C. Jorgensen

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Cell Phone: (207) 939-7120

Erik.Jorgensen@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2548, An Act To Strengthen the Respite Care Fund.**

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erik Jorgensen".

Erik Jorgensen  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

LR 2130

BOND ISSUES

PUBLIC LANDS

Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec

An Act To Reauthorize Certain Land for Maine's Future Bonds and To Facilitate the Issuance of Those Bonds

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would reauthorize the issuance of the land conservation bonds that were ratified by the voters of the State in statewide elections held in November 2010 and November 2012. This bill would also make necessary changes to the law to ensure that those bonds are issued and funds are transferred in accordance with those ratified bonds.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2212 Representative Timmons, M  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2373 Representative Guerin, S  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2131 Representative McCabe, J  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2132 Representative Pouliot, M  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2133 Representative Vachon, K

**LR 2130**

**Resolve, To Reauthorize Certain Land for Maine's Future Bonds**

The Council is well-familiar with the difficult history of the Land for Maine's Future Bonds.

LR 2130 is a bill which addresses the fact that the will of the Maine people continues to be thwarted by the Governor's inaction.

This bill would reauthorize the issuance of the land conservation bonds that were ratified by the voters of the State in statewide elections held in November 2010 and November 2012. This bill would also make necessary changes to the law to ensure that those bonds are issued and funds are transferred in accordance with those ratified bonds.

This legislation has been developed with the assistance of the State Treasurer as well as other stakeholders in order to ensure that these goals are met.

I understand that a similar bill, sponsored by Representative Pouliot, has already been approved. I would request that LR 2130 be approved, as well, so that the appropriate committee of jurisdiction as well as the full Legislature would have a full range of options available.

Thank you for your consideration.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

LR 2260

VETERANS

VETERANS HOMES

Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec

An Act To Update the Laws Governing the Maine Veterans' Home

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

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Comment

This bill would update the laws governing the Maine Veterans' Home.

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**LR 2260****An Act to Update the Laws Governing the Maine Veterans' Home**

A critical piece of this legislation needed NOW is to increase the borrowing authority of the Maine Veterans Homes. Through VA construction grants, MVH can leverage 65% of the costs of modernizing and rebuilding aging MVH facilities, which over the next decade could reach \$200 million. These projects are needed to modernize MVH facilities and meet the industry trend and growing competition toward small-house, person-centered care delivery, which is the VA mandate for SVHs. In addition, MVH's three big Homes (Augusta, Bangor, and Scarborough) subsidize its smaller facilities (Caribou, South Paris, and Machias) and make it possible to serve veterans in those areas. MVH is prepared to move ahead with one or two of the major projects (Augusta/Scarborough), but it cannot proceed without more borrowing authority. These would be revenue bonds – no State liability incurred. If MVH cannot keep up with VA mandates for SVHs or its competitors in these urban markets, MVH risks financial viability as a whole.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2365

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec

An Act To Establish the Maine Student Loan Borrower Bill of Rights

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	2	8	0	0	<b>Out</b>

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Comment

This bill, which is modeled on Connecticut's Student Loan Bill of Rights, would establish a Student Loan Ombudsman, regulate entities that service student loans, prohibit certain misleading and fraudulent actions and establish certain practices as unfair and deceptive.

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LR 2365

## **The Maine Student Loan Borrower Bill of Rights**

A recent study by the Institute for College Access and Success found that Maine's college students leave school with some of the highest loan debt in the country. The average Maine student graduates with nearly \$31,000 in student loans – putting Maine in the undesirable position of having the 6<sup>th</sup> highest average college loan debt nationally.

College graduates should be the driver of community economies. Historically, they have been the people most likely to make major purchases and invest in the local economy in ways those who have not graduated college cannot. But high student loan debt eliminates the discretionary income that otherwise helps college graduates achieve financial success and contribute to local economies.

Worse still, when a student is unable to pay their loans back, the federal government has extraordinary powers of collection – they are able to freeze bank accounts, seize tax returns, and even withhold necessary social security payments. Unlike other types of debt, those who are unable to repay their student loans have little means of escaping, as discharging a student loan in bankruptcy is nearly impossible.

Without intervention, the student debt crisis will continue to weigh on Maine's economy, turning a generation of community leaders, homebuyers, and business owners into debtors who cannot afford to achieve their dreams. **The Maine Student Loan Bill of Rights would rein in the worst student loan servicer abuses and help Maine students get a handle on their debt by establishing an Ombudsman to handle complaints, advocate for students, and inform Maine's college graduates of their repayment options.**

Bills introduced in this session must be matters that constitute an emergency. For Maine's students – particularly those veterans attending for-profit colleges – these matters couldn't be more urgent. Delaying these bills or failing to approve them for introduction means that tens of thousands of Maine students and college graduates will continue to be mired in student debt they cannot repay, watching as opportunities to be the kind of citizens that drive the Maine economy slip away for another year.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2366

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec

An Act To Establish the Maine Tuition Integrity Act

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would establish laws governing for-profit colleges, including provisions requiring: evaluation at the program level; spending student tuition dollars on instruction rather than advertising and administrative salaries; meeting benchmarks for outcomes; obtaining correct accreditations; and informing students of the existence of certain barriers to certain types of licensure.

---

LR 2366

**The Maine Tuition Integrity Act**

The Maine Tuition Integrity Act seeks to address the discrepancies between for-profit colleges and their non-profit counterparts. According to a 2012 Senate investigation, for-profit colleges have higher tuitions and worse outcomes than traditional colleges. In Maine, for example, a two-year degree from Kaplan will cost a low-income student over \$15,000. Compare that to the less than \$7,000 spent by low-income students at Eastern Maine Community College.

Perhaps this higher tuition rate could be justified if students at Kaplan were better-trained and more well-equipped to repay their loans. But, according to new data released by the US Department of Education, graduates of the school are actually worse off. **A full 68% of low-income students who attend Kaplan fail to make student loan payments that reduce the principal of their debt**, where only 35% of Eastern Maine's students are struggling to reduce their overall college indebtedness.

Worse still, for-profit colleges are known to target veterans. That's because, while the schools are private, up to 90% of their revenues may come from federal taxpayer dollars. However, due to a quirk in the law, tuition dollars from the Veteran's Administration and Department of Defense are not included in the 90% ratio. **Therefore, veterans are valuable assets to for-profit college recruiters. Indeed, a 2014 analysis of for-profit revenues found that over 100 schools, including Kaplan, actually take more than 90% of their revenues from federal taxpayers when GI Bill dollars are included.**

Two recent actions by the Department of Defense and Consumer Financial Protection Bureau demonstrate the urgency of this legislation. First, in early October, the Department of Defense announced that University of Phoenix will no longer be allowed to recruit active duty military members on US bases, or utilize taxpayer funds meant to pay for active to military members to attend college. The University of Phoenix has a reputation of aggressively recruiting members of our military, despite continued poor outcomes for their graduates.

Then in late October, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau won a half-billion dollar judgment against the former for-profit behemoth Corinthian Colleges - the parent company of Everest College and Wyotech - for defrauding former students of education and aggressive and deceptive recruiting practices. Corinthian was an active and poorly regulated presence in Maine before their bankruptcy in the Spring of 2015.

**It is clear that more needs to be done to protect students and veterans from schools that sell them degrees with little accountability for their outcomes, and the taxpayer dollars that fund these schemes.** Attached to this letter are complaints from students across Maine about the tactics of for-profit schools and their struggles to repay their debt. For too many, for-profit schools are draining the very financial resources that should put students and their families on the path to success - not economic ruin. The Maine Tuition Integrity Act will go a long way to ensure that for-profit colleges are offering degrees that pay off for Maine students.



# 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

## Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal

LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LR 2367

JOB TRAINING

PROGRAMS

Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec

An Act To Enhance Economic Development through the Attraction and Support of Immigrant Populations

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

### Comment

This bill would develop a highly coordinated pathway system that is easily understood and navigated for immigrants to integrate into the workforce and community. As part of this system, this bill would create pilot projects throughout the State that enhance access to services and training for immigrants and have defined, measurable outcomes for individuals.

**LR 2367**

**An Act to Enhance Economic Development through the Attraction and Support of Immigrant Populations**

I urge the Council to give favorable consideration to LR 2367, An Act to Enhance Economic Development through the Attraction and Support of Immigrant Populations.

We are the oldest state in the country and getting older. Let's face it – we won't achieve robust economic growth if this trend continues. Other states already understand the need to attract and support educated immigrants to build their labor force and economy, and appreciate that motivated immigrants can be an essential component of a sound economic development strategy.

Why is this an emergency? We simply do not have time to wait. Based on successful European models and examples in other states, Maine should develop a highly coordinated pathway system that is easily understood and navigated by immigrants to integrate into our workforce and community.

LR 2367 is a concept draft which would set up an "Office of Immigration" located at the Department of Labor to attract and support immigrants to build our labor force and economy.

In addition, we should create pilot projects in several communities that enhance access to services and training for immigrants and have defined, measurable outcomes in place. Among other things, we should:

- Expand funding for Adult Education to provide ongoing, intensive English classes and work with businesses to provide more in depth understanding of the culture of the workplace, the labor market, and the economic landscape.
- Expand resources for the Welcoming Center for asylum seekers at Adult Ed.
- Measure and evaluate outcomes as we go along.

Again, as we look to develop a younger, well-trained and motivated workforce to incent economic investment, attracting motivated immigrants to our state can be part of the solution. None of us goes back very far before our own relatives were immigrants. We should embrace this opportunity.

I respectfully ask that this concept draft be approved.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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TRANSPORTATION

LR 2181

OPERATORS LICENSES

SUSPENSION

Sponsor: Representative Kinney of Knox

An Act To Authorize a Person Whose Driver's License Is Suspended Due To Failure To Pay Child Support To Drive to and from a Place of Employment

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow a person whose driver's license was suspended because of failure to pay child support to hold a driver's license that is restricted to travel to and from that person's place of employment.

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# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**MaryAnne Kinney**

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Knox, ME 04986

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MaryAnne.Kinney@legislature.maine.gov

October 30, 2015

Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

President Thibodeau:

As sponsor of LR 2181 and LR 2182, both of which received strict party line votes in the Legislative Council meeting of October 22, 2015, I am formally requesting these bills be reconsidered as part of the appeal process scheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup>. I believe the Maine Constitution was not properly upheld as both LR's were submitted as emergency bills based on the concerns of my constituents.

**LR 2182: An Act To Prohibit State Funding of Health Care Services Provided by Certain Health Care Providers**, is in response to the concerns many of my constituents have about the videos, which were proven by forensic science to be unaltered, depicting Planned Parenthood's illicit sale of fetal tissue. It is the belief of me, and my constituents, that a consequence should be given to the organization for their behavior.

**LR 2181: An Act To Authorize a Person Whose Driver's License Is Suspended Due To Failure To Pay Child Support To Drive to and from a Place of Employment**, is another bill for which I submitted on behalf of several constituents who lost their licenses after a job loss made them unable to pay child support. Unfortunately, my constituents do not have easy access to public transportation to get to a new job and must rely on neighbors, family and friends (not an easy task in rural Maine). We give a work license to OUI offenders who have committed crimes with a vehicle to get behind the wheel—to possibly commit the same offense again—but we will not allow a parent to drive to a job to earn money to pay child support. The current system ensures that no payments will be made and must be reformed for the good of the children that these restrictions claim to benefit.

I am disappointed in all members of the Legislative Council for failure to recognize the Maine Constitution in regard to these emergency bills and allow the people of Maine the opportunity to a public hearing on these matters.

Best,

MaryAnne Kinney  
State Representative  
District 99 Brooks, Burnham, Freedom, Jackson, Knox, Monroe, Thorndike, Troy and Unity

Printed on recycled paper

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2182

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Sponsor: Representative Kinney of Knox

An Act To Prohibit State Funding of Health Care Services Provided by Certain Health Care Providers

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	No
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	Yes
Hill	No	Espling	Yes

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would prohibit all state funding currently provided to Planned Parenthood and would instead provide those funds to other health care providers established under Maine law that are able to provide those same women's health care services.

---

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2531 Representative Guerin, S



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1440

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**MaryAnne Kinney**

40 Maple Lane

Knox, ME 04986

Residence: (207) 568-7577

MaryAnne.Kinney@legislature.maine.gov

October 30, 2015

Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

President Thibodeau:

As sponsor of LR 2181 and LR 2182, both of which received strict party line votes in the Legislative Council meeting of October 22, 2015, I am formally requesting these bills be reconsidered as part of the appeal process scheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup>. I believe the Maine Constitution was not properly upheld as both LRs were submitted as emergency bills based on the concerns of my constituents.

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Best,

MaryAnne Kinney

State Representative

District 99 Brooks, Burnham, Freedom, Jackson, Knox, Monroe, Thorndike, Troy and Unity

Printed on recycled paper

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

LR 2281

WASTES

SLUDGE

Sponsor: Representative Kruger of Thomaston

An Act To Require an Environmental Impact Statement for a Dredging Project in the Penobscot River Watershed and To Require That the Dredging Activity Be the Least Environmentally and Economically Damaging Alternative Available

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	Out

---

Comment

This bill would require that an environmental impact assessment be completed for a dredging project in the Penobscot River watershed. It also would require that the dredging activity be the least environmentally and economically damaging alternative available.

---

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair of Legislative Council  
Maine State Legislature, Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Augusta, ME 04333 (via e-mail)

Dear Members of Legislative Council:

I wish to appeal the rejection of LR 2281, "An Act to Require an Environmental Impact Statement for a Dredging Project in the Penobscot River Watershed and To Require that the Dredging Activity Be the Least Environmentally and Economically Damaging Alternative Available" for consideration in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular session of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature.

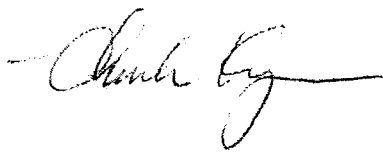
This bill can be considered an emergency because the application for a Water Quality Certification on the proposed dredge project near Mack Point has been withdrawn, and it is likely to be re-filed in the near future. This makes it the ideal time to require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

An EIS is a very reasonable and common component of such applications going back to the earliest days of the Clean Water Act; and it is especially appropriate in this project since the Penobscot River has served as the flushing mechanism for waste chemical contaminants for tanneries, paper mills and other manufacturing operations along the waterway for at least 150 years. It is highly likely that heavy metals in those chemical wastes have accumulated at or near the proposed dredge site at the mouth of the river. Add to that the decade-long dumping of mercury into the river by Holtrachem Corp. of Orrington.

The dredge project, as proposed, will remove almost 1 million cubic yards of sediment from the channel approach area near the shipping port at Mack Point, and then dump it all a few miles away in an established lobster breeding habitat. This could have a devastating impact on the only thriving fishery resource that remains in Penobscot Bay and the Gulf of Maine.

If I have learned anything in my 4 terms representing the Midcoast region, it is the importance of the lobster fishery to the economy of coastal Maine. If a properly conducted EIS reveals no significant contamination in the dredge spoils, then many of us can reconsider our opposition to the project. If it reveals major contamination, then the people of Maine deserve to know that before dredging operations begin.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.



Rep. Chuck Kruger

Thomaston, House District 92

November 2, 2015



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

MARINE RESOURCES

LR 2423

LOBSTERS

MANAGEMENT ZONES

Sponsor: Representative Kumiega, III of Deer Isle

An Act To Improve Maine's Lobster Licensing and Limited-entry System

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would change the lobster licensing and limited-entry system to remove the option for zones to use tags as an entry mechanism, change the time frame to convert a student license to a commercial license, create a new Class II limited lobster and crab fishing license eligible for a maximum of 300 rather than 800 traps, eliminate the current limit on increasing trap tags and eliminate the apprenticeship requirement in the island limited-entry program.



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Walter A. Kumiega III

36 Cedar Lane

Little Deer Isle, ME 04650

Residence: (207) 348-2548

Cell Phone: (207) 479-5459

Walter.Kumiega@legislature.maine.gov

October 27, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

### **LR 2423, An Act to Improve Maine's Lobster Licensing and Limited-entry System.**

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Walter A. Kumiega III".

Walter Kumiega  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

MARINE RESOURCES

LR 2424

FISH

EELS

Sponsor: Representative Kumiega, III of Deer Isle

An Act To Provide Flexibility To Designate the Closed Period for Elver Harvesting

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would require the Commissioner of Marine Resources to set the 48-hour weekly closed period to harvest elvers by rule prior to the start of the season to increase fishing opportunities, based on the timing of the tides. Currently the period in statute is from noon Friday to noon Sunday.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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## Walter A. Kumiega III

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Walter.Kumiega@legislature.maine.gov

October 27, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

### **LR 2424, An Act to Provide Flexibility To Designate the Closed Period for Elver Harvesting.**

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

Walter Kumiega  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2354

MEDICAID

MAINECARE

Sponsor: Representative Lajoie of Lewiston

An Act To Require the State To Adequately Pay for Emergency Medical Services

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would increase the MaineCare reimbursement for ambulance services to the federal Medicare allowable rate.

---

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2291 Representative Malaby, R

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2515 Senator Burns, D



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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## Michel A. Lajoie

279 Old Greene Road

Lewiston, ME 04240

Residence: (207) 783-1927

Cell Phone: (207) 713-7119

RepMichel.Lajoie@legislature.maine.gov

October 29, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request; **LR 2354, An Act To Require the State To Adequately Pay for Emergency Medical Services.**

This legislation would increase the amount the state pays for the services of emergency medical personnel, including paramedics and ambulance personnel. They are underpaid for state services now, and it is creating a hardship. This situation needs to be rectified as soon as possible.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michel A. Lajoie".

Michel Lajoie  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

LR 2249

INSURANCE

HEALTH

Sponsor: Senator Langley of Hancock

An Act To Create Improved Consumer Protection against Long-term Care Insurance Premium Rate Increases

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would amend the laws governing long-term care insurance to implement certain safeguards based on consumer age and limit the amount and number of increases over a defined period of time.

---

*127th Legislature*

*Senate of  
Maine*

*Senate District 7*

October 30, 2015

*Senator Brian D. Langley*

*3 State House Station*

*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*

*(207) 287-1505*

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair of the Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0115

Dear President Thibodeau and members of the Legislative Council:

Please let this letter serve as a request to appeal the Legislative Council's decision on the following bill: LR 2249, "An Act To Create Improved Consumer Protection against Long-term Care Insurance Premium Rate Increases."

As you are aware, this bill would amend the laws governing long-term care insurance to implement certain safeguards based on consumer age and limit the amount and number of increases over a defined period of time.


The mispricing of past long-term care insurance products and the soaring premium increases now being imposed upon Maine's Long Term Care Insurance consumers has become quite problematic, with some premiums facing a 100% increase. These premium notices being sent to thousands of policyholders are forcing Maine Long Term Care Insurance consumers to make tough choices that they never could have planned on, or shouldn't have had to plan on.

The choices are: 1) modify the plan design by reducing benefits, such as reducing or removing inflation protection, reducing the benefit period, increasing the elimination period (thus making the insured responsible for greater out of pocket cost sharing), reducing the benefit amount, reducing the home care benefit, or removing riders with such changes to bring the premium back to its original cost, 2) paying the increased premium and keeping the benefits the same, or 3) dropping the coverage altogether and ultimately passing the potential increased financial burden on the State's MaineCare program.

The end results will be more and more dependency on the already fiscally challenged MaineCare budget. Implementing consumer pricing safeguards on Long Term Care Insurance premiums is a first step in an effort to bring more and more Maine Long Term Care Insurance consumers to embrace this product as a viable retirement planning tool and as a result will ultimately reduce the MaineCare burden.

I appreciate the Council's consideration of this appeal. As always, do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Senator Brian D. Langley



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2334

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS

Sponsor: Senator Langley of Hancock

An Act To Amend Certain Education Statutes

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	Yes

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would authorize the Commissioner of Education to designate a school administrative unit to enroll a student who lives in a school administrative unit without a school or a contract with another school administrative unit. This bill would also amend the laws regarding public charter schools.

---

Potential JR 217: LD1448

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 7*

*Senator Brian D. Langley*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*

November 2, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair of the Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0115

Dear President Thibodeau:

Please let this letter serve as a request to appeal the Legislative Council's decision on the following bill: LR 2334, "An Act to Amend Certain Education Standards."

This bill would authorize the Commissioner of Education to designate a school administrative unit (SAU) to enroll a student who lives in an SAU without a school or a contract with another SAU. It would address the same issues outlined in LD 1448, filed in the waning days of the First Regular Session.

A legal case has been brought forth that caused the AG's office to bring the concerns to the Department of Education and to the Education Committee for remedy. In this case, the parent alleged that the Maine Department of Education, along with two school districts, denied the student a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). Briefly, the case involved a student living in a town that did not operate a high school and the student was tuitioned to a neighboring community high school. When the student started to have severe behavioral incidents, he was removed from the high school but other surrounding schools would not accept him as a student for almost an eight-month time period.

The admonition in the Conclusion from a Drummond and Woodsum Legal update provided at a special educators meeting indicated that there would be more cases like this brought in the future and in fact, the DOE has been sued again in the late summer of 2015. The claim is based on a constitutional right to a FAPE. Cases where constitutional rights are at issue can become quite expensive in both the remedy and the payment of attorney's fees for the plaintiff (which are the responsibility of the State should the plaintiff prevail). The Department must be able to find a remedy for a student who has been disinvented.

LD 1448, which was killed on reference, was the vehicle to grant to the Department the ability to ensure that the student does indeed have access to a FAPE. Putting that bill off to next January leaves the State (through the DOE) exposed to more suits and puts valuable education resources at risk. I think the timing of debating the bill during the Second Regular Session of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature is appropriate.

I appreciate the Council's consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,



Senator Brian D. Langley

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2452

TEACHERS

CERTIFICATION

Sponsor: Representative Maker of Calais

An Act To Amend the Teacher Certification Statutes

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would amend the teacher certification statutes.

---

October 30, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair of the Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0115

Dear President Thibodeau:

Please let this letter serve as a request to appeal the Legislative Council's decision on the following bill: LR 2452. An Act to Amend Education Certification Statutes

Statutes concerning the certification of educators have not been significantly reviewed in approximately 10 years. This review needs to begin in this session in order to allow for the significant amount of research and time necessary to examine the issue and provide materials for the consideration of the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs in the 128<sup>th</sup> Legislature. This vehicle will allow the Education Committee to direct the Department to undertake the review.

I appreciate the Council's consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,

Representative Joyce Maker

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

JUDICIARY

LR 2413

ABUSE

CHILD

Sponsor: Representative Malaby of Hancock

An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding the Right to Standing and Intervenor Status in Child Protection Proceedings

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

The bill would amend the rights of foster parents and grandparents regarding standing and intervenor status in child protection proceedings.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

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## Richard S. Malaby

52 Cross Road

Hancock, ME 04640

Residence: (207) 422-3146

Business: (207) 422-6806

Fax: (207) 422-3105

Cell Phone: (207) 266-3710

RepRichard.Malaby@legislature.maine.gov

President Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chairman, Maine Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0115

November 2, 2015

Re: L.R. 2413 "An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding the Right to Standing and Intervenor Status in Child Protection Proceedings"

Sponsor: State Representative Richard Malaby

### Appeal Summary:

Currently, According to the Office of Child and Family Services (OFCS), Maine DHHS is removing approx. 900 youth per year from their families who are in jeopardy within their current family situation. This bill will be giving equal consideration to both kinship and foster families as Maine DHHS manages this serious situation within Maine families.

Congress amended the state plan under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act to include "Kinship Care". The law requires that the state shall consider giving "preference" to an adult relative over a non-relative caregiver when placing a child in care.

L.R. 2413 seeks to avert harm to children by allowing a provision in law giving a biological grandparent preference over a foster parent by automatically granting grandparents standing in court as an intervenor. L.R. 2413 will allow grandparents to stand before a judge at the PPO (Preliminary Protection Order Hearing) and explain to the judge why it would be in the best interest for the court to allow the child to live with them in compliance with the kinship law instead of the possibility of the child facing emotional harm resulting from being put into foster care with a stranger in a faraway location. LR:2413 will help Maine come into better compliance with federal funding laws under their Title IV-E state plan by granting grandparents intervenor status at the PPO phase of the hearing before the child is harmed by the unnecessary removal.

### Why this bill demands urgent Legislative attention:

This bill will immediately assist in placing the number of our kids that continue to come into state care equal consideration with biological family before placing them care with people the youth may not know.

Should Legislative Council be willing to consider this bill, but are unconvinced about its emergency nature, this bill would be a good candidate to be combined with L.D. 1224, "An Act to Amend Child the Child Protective Services Laws". This is a bill that I sponsored that is being carried over to this upcoming Second Session.

Thank you for your time and reconsideration of this bill.

Richard Malaby  
District 136, Hancock, Mariaville, Osborn, Sorrento, Steuben, Sullivan, Waltham and Winter  
State Representative - Health and Human Services Committee  
Harbor, plus the unorganized territories of East Hancock (part) and Fletchers Landing Township

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**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2554

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

FOSTER CARE

Sponsor: Representative Malaby of Hancock

An Act To Enact the Foster Parents' Bill of Rights

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would enact the foster parents' bill of rights. It would enumerate the rights of foster parents, including the right to training, consultation and assistance in evaluating, identifying and accessing services to meet their needs related to their role as foster parents; the right to all pertinent information known to the Department of Health and Human Services about a foster child; and the right to a written explanation of the plan concerning the placement of a child in the foster parents' home.



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

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## Richard S. Malaby

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RepRichard.Malaby@legislature.maine.gov

President Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chairman, Maine Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0115

November 2, 2015

### **RE: L.R. 2554 "An Act to Enact the Foster Parents Bill of Rights"**

Sponsor: Representative Richard Malaby

#### **Appeal Summary:**

This bill would create a Foster Parents Bill of Rights that would guide the work of Foster Parents but also facilitate and encourage a collaboration with Maine's Department of Health and Human Services as they care for Maine's youth in care.

Foster parents are a precious resource for Maine citizens for the work they do for Maine youth who find themselves in a family crisis. This bill would create a level of respect for foster parents and create an equal partner with Maine DHHS and as they care for Maine's youth.

#### **Why this bill demands urgent Legislative attention:**

Maine's numbers of youth coming into care is regrettably again on the rise, with this year projected to top 900 youth. Maine's Foster Parents are becoming more and more professional with each passing year. They are regarded in many circles as equal partners in the lives of Maine's youth in care. Foster Parent Bill of Rights are designed to inform foster parents of their rights within the child welfare system. Foster Parent Bill of Rights have been enacted in 17 states. Also, during the 2014 legislative session, ten states introduced fifteen bills (six enacted) either seeking to enact a bill of rights or otherwise extending or defining the rights of foster parents including independent living services for older youth, educational consistency and enrollment, foster child input into evaluations of out-of-home care placements, and extracurricular activities.

Thank you for your time and reconsideration of this bill.

Richard Malaby  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

LR 2552

FORESTRY

PRACTICES

Sponsor: Representative Martin of Eagle Lake

An Act To Make Corrections to the Biennial Budget Regarding the Maine Forest Service

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would make corrections to the biennial budget passed by the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature regarding the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Maine Forest Service.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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**John L. Martin**

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John.Martin@legislature.maine.gov

October 29, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2552, An Act To Make Corrections to the Biennial Budget Regarding the Maine Forest Service.**

This bill would make corrections to the biennial budget which passed during the first session of the 127th Legislature. The corrections are regarding the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and Maine Forest Service.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Martin', followed by a long horizontal line.

John Martin

State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2553

SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA

ADJUSTMENTS

Sponsor: Representative Martin of Eagle Lake

An Act To Transfer Excess Revenue from the State's Liquor Contract in Fiscal Year 2016-17 to  
General Purpose Aid to Local Schools

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would transfer excess revenue from the State's liquor contract in fiscal year 2016-17 to general purpose aid to local schools.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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**John L. Martin**

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Residence: (207) 444-5556

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Fax: (207) 444-5588

John.Martin@legislature.maine.gov

October 29, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2553, An Act to Transfer Excess Revenue from the State's Liquor Contract in Fiscal Year 2016-17 to General Purpose Aid to Local Schools.**

This bill would transfer excess revenue from Maine's liquor contract in fiscal year 2016-17 to general purpose aid to local schools.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Martin", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John Martin  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

LR 2322

CRIMES

NEW

Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan

An Act To Ensure the Proper Functioning of State Government by Ensuring Execution of Executive Branch Duties

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would require the Governor to issue a general obligation bond that has been ratified by the legal voters of the State unless one of 5 specific conditions exists, and it would require the Governor to provide certain information upon delaying or forgoing issuance of a bond. This bill would also amend the Maine Criminal Code to specify that a public servant is guilty of official oppression if the public servant, acting with the intent to harm or unduly influence another person or entity, refrains from performing a duty imposed upon that public servant by law or clearly inherent in the nature of that public servant's office.

---

Potential JR 217: LD 1378

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2134 Representative Vachon, K



STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HOUSE DEMOCRATIC OFFICE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

JEFF M. McCABE  
MAJORITY LEADER

October 27, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request, **LR 2322, An Act To Ensure the Proper Functioning of State Government by Ensuring Execution of Executive Branch Duties.**

This bill would require the governor to ratify bonds that have been voted on by the general public.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JM" followed by a stylized flourish.

Jeff McCabe  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LR 2359

HOUSING

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan

An Act To Provide Heating Assistance for Maine Seniors and Families

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would provide heating assistance for Maine seniors and families using proceeds from the State's liquor contract.

---



STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HOUSE DEMOCRATIC OFFICE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

JEFF M. McCABE  
MAJORITY LEADER

October 27, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request, **LR 2359, An Act to Provide Heating Assistance for Maine Seniors and Families.**

The legislation would provide heating assistance for Maine seniors and families using proceeds from the State's liquor contract.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JM" followed by a stylized flourish.

Jeff McCabe  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

LR 2360

PUBLIC LANDS

LAND FOR MAINES FUTURE BOARD

Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan

An Act To Protect the Land for Maine's Future Program

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would protect the Land for Maine's Future Program by ensuring that the Land for Maine's Future Board is able to do its work to enable the continuance of the program.

---

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2256 Representative Cooper, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2458 Senator Hill, D



STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HOUSE DEMOCRATIC OFFICE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

JEFF M. McCABE  
MAJORITY LEADER

October 27, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request, **LR 2360, An Act to Protect the Land for Maine's Future Program.**

This legislation strives to protect the Land for Maine's Future Program by ensuring that the Land for Maine's Future Board is able to do its work to enable the continuance of the program.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JM" followed by a stylized flourish.

Jeff McCabe  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2503

HEALTH EDUCATION

DRUG EDUCATION

Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan

An Act To Coordinate Education and Prevention Efforts in Our Schools To Stop Harmful Drug Use

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would link schools throughout the State with existing successful and effective programming to help prevent youth in the State from using harmful drugs.

---



STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HOUSE DEMOCRATIC OFFICE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

JEFF M. McCABE  
MAJORITY LEADER

October 27, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request, **LR 2503, An Act To Coordinate Education and Prevention Efforts in Our Schools To Stop Harmful Drug Use.**

This bill would link schools throughout Maine with existing successful and effective programming to help prevent youth from using harmful drugs.

According to the state's medical examiner, 105 people have died of overdose in the first half of this year. Thirty-seven of those deaths were attributed to heroin and 26 to fentanyl. Fentanyl is a synthetic opiate painkiller that is similar to morphine but more dangerous. Last year, 208 people died of overdoses – 57 related to heroin and 43 primarily due to fentanyl.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JM" followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Jeff McCabe  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2299

EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

SCHOOL CHOICE

Sponsor: Representative McClellan of Raymond

An Act to Limit Municipalities' Exposure on Tuition Payments for Choice Students

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	1	9	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would ensure that a student in a regional school unit or any school choice situation would have state funding available at the State-set rate for the year and would prohibit a regional school unit or parent from negotiating a higher payment to a school charging a higher rate.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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## Michael D. McClellan

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Raymond, ME 04071

Residence: (207) 655-4438

Business: (207) 329-6148

Cell Phone: (207) 329-6148

Michael.McClellan@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

President Thibodeau:

I would like to formally request that ***LR 2299, An Act to Limit Municipalities' Exposure on Tuition Payments for Choice Students***, be part of the appeal process scheduled for the next meeting of the Legislative Council on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

It is important that this bill request be treated as an emergency, because if passed, it would correct funding for students choosing other education options, rather than the local choice. Any tuition price above the state rate would be the choice of the municipality, as they will ultimately need to make the payment.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael McClellan", written over a horizontal line.

Michael McClellan  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2440

CULTURAL AGENCIES

ARTS COMMISSION

Sponsor: Representative McClellan of Raymond

An Act To Create Arts Engage ME

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	1	9	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow the Maine Arts Commission to have a support organization.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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Cell Phone: (207) 329-6148

Michael.McClellan@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

President Thibodeau:

I would like to formally request that *LR 2440, An Act to Create Arts Engage ME*, be part of the appeal process scheduled for the next meeting of the Legislative Council on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Maine Arts Commission does not have a support organization unlike the other cultural agencies within state government. This type of nonprofit support organization is critical for providing access to foundation and national funds that only grant to 501c3 organizations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. McClellan".

Michael McClellan  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2441

CULTURAL AGENCIES

ARTS COMMISSION

Sponsor: Representative McClellan of Raymond

An Act Regarding the Maine Arts Commission

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow the Maine Arts Commission to create an endowment fund.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
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## Michael D. McClellan

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Residence: (207) 655-4438

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Michael.McClellan@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

President Thibodeau:

I would like to formally request that ***LR 2441, An Act Regarding the Maine Arts Commission***, be part of the appeal process scheduled for the next meeting of the Legislative Council on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

If this bill were passed, it would allow the Maine Arts Commission to create an endowment fund that will be used to further the commission's mission of advancing its education objectives and programs.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael McClellan".

Michael McClellan  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

JUDICIARY

LR 2177

ADOPTION

PROCEDURES

Sponsor: Representative Melaragno of Auburn

An Act To Enhance the Opportunity for a Child To Be Adopted by Allowing a Single Spouse To  
Petition the Court To Adopt

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	2	8	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow one spouse to petition the court to adopt a child without requiring the other spouse to join in the petition.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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## Gina M. Melaragno

25 James Street, Apt. 3

Auburn, ME 04210

Residence: (207) 782-3348

Gina.Melaragno@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2177, An Act to Enhance the Opportunity for a Child to be Adopted by Allowing a Single Spouse to Petition the Court to Adopt.**

This legislation would allow a single spouse to petition the court for adoption of a child. This bill was formerly entitled "An Act To Allow One Spouse To Adopt a Child without Requiring Agreement by the Other Spouse," but the new title more accurately describes the bill.

This issue currently stands as a barrier to a kin adoption for at least one family in my district. Amending the statute would alleviate this problem and could have a wider application for other children across Maine waiting for adoption. The bill would be modeled after adoption statutes in approximately 26 other states.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gina Melaragno".

Gina Melaragno  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2320

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

Sponsor: Senator Millett of Cumberland

An Act To Promote Postsecondary Education Attainment and Degree Completion

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would establish postsecondary education attainment goals for the State's adult population and would establish the Commission on Higher Education and Workforce Needs.

---

127th Legislature  
*Senate of Maine*  
*Senate District 29*

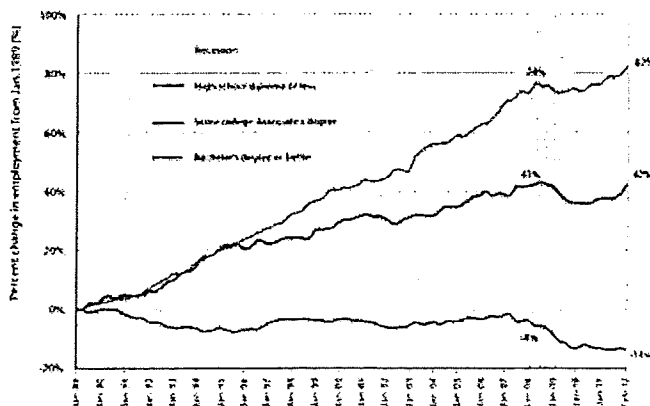
Senator Rebecca J. Millett  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0003  
(207) 287-1515

Dear President Thibodeau,

I respectfully request the Legislative Council reconsider its earlier decision regarding LR 2320, "An Act to Promote Post Secondary Education Attainment and Degree Completion." Waiting an additional year to put in place a higher education attainment goal for Maine leaves us further behind a majority of US states in their efforts to strengthen their workforce and potentially would result in our state being at a significant competitive disadvantage.

The Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce estimates that 65% of U.S. jobs by 2020 will require some form of post-secondary education. For Maine's working population age 25 - 64, college attainment is 39.9% compared to 46.7% in New Hampshire, 45.5% in Vermont and 51.5% in Massachusetts. Clearly there is much work to be done across New England but most so in Maine. Currently 31 states, from A to W (Arizona to Washington), have in place higher education attainment goals and various mechanisms to help optimally position themselves for future economic health. LR 2320 seeks to maintain the momentum of recent work in Maine around higher education attainment and workforce development and make sure Maine is economically competitive.

FIGURE 5: Employment growth in the past few decades has been entirely through increases in the number of workers with some postsecondary education, while employment for those with a high school diploma or less has declined.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1980-2010. Employment includes all workers aged 16 and older. The percent change in employment is calculated as the difference between the number of workers in 2010 and the number of workers in 1980, divided by the number of workers in 1980, and multiplied by 100. The percent change in employment is calculated as the difference between the number of workers in 2010 and the number of workers in 1980, divided by the number of workers in 1980, and multiplied by 100.

Maine's recovery from the great recession has lagged the rest of the country, and in part this can be attributed to our lower level of post-secondary degrees and certificates. The graph on the left from the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce illustrates the stark difference of employment for those with high school diplomas or less and others with some level of higher education. Maine employers, families, and higher education institutions are deeply concerned by our current situation and are at the ready to move us forward. The Maine Chamber of Commerce and Maine Development Foundation have been trying to focus attention on this issue since 2010 with their series of reports. The last report issued a year ago "Making Maine Work: Preparing Maine's Workforce" addresses the "quality of Maine's workforce – the education, skills and knowledge Maine workers need to meet the needs of employers and create opportunities for themselves and others." The Education Coordination Committee crafted

"Statewide Education and Workforce Development Strategic Plan" which provides goals, objectives, and specific actions. Without a statewide goal, however, Maine's leaders have no benchmark by which to measure progress, evaluate the effectiveness of strategies and adjust implementation based on findings. LR 2320 will refocus our key stakeholders on multi-pronged efforts to strengthen our workforce and sustain the focus for the requisite period of time.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Millett, State Senator –District 29

[senrebeccamillett@gmail.com](mailto:senrebeccamillett@gmail.com)

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**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2329

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

BUDGETS

Sponsor: Senator Millett of Cumberland

An Act To Facilitate the Use of State Education Subsidies

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would authorize a regional school unit or other school administrative unit to include an article in the warrant for its annual budget meeting providing that, in the event that the school unit receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its budget, the school board is authorized to increase expenditures for school purposes in cost center categories approved by the board, without a special budget meeting and budget validation referendum.

---

*127th Legislature*  
***Senate of Maine***  
*Senate District 29*

*Senator Rebecca J. Millett*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

President Thibodeau  
Legislative Council Chair  
RE: LR 2329, "An Act To Facilitate the Use of State Education Subsidies"

Dear President Thibodeau,

I respectfully request that the Legislative Council reconsider its decision regarding LR 2329, "An Act To Facilitate the Use of State Education Subsidies," which I sponsored.

This legislation attempts to address the difficulties local school districts face as a result of the requirement to hold town votes on budgets before the passage of a biennial state budget. Often local leaders and town citizens are forced to vote on their budgets without accurate information on how much money they will be receiving from the state. This bill would allow communities to vote for or against special warrant articles to bridge potential funding gaps.

The short legislative session is the opportune time to tackle legislation that would address the issue of the misalignment of the state and local budget time lines and the unfavorable results this creates. The 2015/2016 biennial budget has been passed; and notwithstanding any unforeseen changes, communities have viable state education funding amounts in order to proceed with their budget processes for the academic year 2016/2017. A decision by the legislature this spring 2016 will mean that local leaders will have a clear understanding of whether they may present voters with the advance warrant article for 2017/2018 school year. The budget process for this school year begins in the fall of 2016.

Similarly, if consideration of this issue is delayed until the first session of the 128th legislature, districts then will have no certainty around the availability of the special warrant along with no certainty of state funding levels -- compounding their difficult tasks.

I hope you will consider allowing LR 2329 to move forward through the legislative process this session. This common sense measure provides our towns with the flexibility they need to accurately vote on their local budgets.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Millett, State Senator -District 29



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LR 2154

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

LEAVE POLICIES

Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox

An Act To Protect Worker Benefits

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would provide that if an employee earns vacation time as part of the benefits offered by an employer, the employee must be paid for unused vacation time earned at the pay rate of the employee if the employee leaves that employee's job, voluntarily or involuntarily.

---

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 12*

*Senator David Miramant*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1515*

November 2, 2015

Legislative Council  
127<sup>th</sup> Legislature  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

**RE: LR 2154, An Act To Protect Worker Benefits**

Dear President Thibodeau and Members of the 127th Legislative Council,

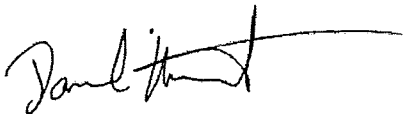
Thank you for the opportunity to appeal your previous decision on LR 2154, An Act to Protect Worker Benefits, and to explain my reasoning for why I feel this meets the emergency requirement for the upcoming legislative session.

Many people accept reduced pay to gain other benefits such as retirement and vacation. Retirement is protected by the federal government, and in many states vacation accrual is protected. Since this is part of the wage package agreed upon at the start of employment, we need to protect that as the employee's property regardless of the reason for ending employment.

This is not a new scenario that needs a lot of research. It should be easily worked in committee and will reinforce our commitment to Maine workers.

Please consider voting in favor of LR 2154. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Dave Miramant  
State Senator

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LR 2202

UTILITY DISTRICTS

POWERS

Sponsor: Representative Nadeau of Winslow

An Act To Allow the Kennebec Sanitary Treatment District To Establish and Maintain a Capital Reserve Fund

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow the Kennebec Sanitary Treatment District to establish a capital reserve fund to help in paying for the maintaining, upgrading and replacing of its aging infrastructure.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

**Catherine M. Nadeau**

23 Patterson Avenue

Winslow, ME 04901

Residence: (207) 873-2025

Catherine.Nadeau@legislature.maine.gov

October 29, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Legislative Council's rejection of the following bill request: **LR 2202, An Act To Allow The Kennebec Sanitary District To Establish and Maintain a Capital Reserve Fund.**

Kennebec Sanitary Treatment District's infrastructure is 40 years old, and capital replacement funds are necessary for maintenance and improvements. Rather than return to the bond market to fund the anticipated cost of these projects, Kennebec Sanitary Treatment District recommends establishing a Capital Reserve Fund, which requires this charter change.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine M. Nadeau".

Catherine Nadeau  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

LR 2303

ELECTIONS

ABSENT VOTING

Sponsor: Representative O'Connor of Berwick

An Act To Expand the Early Processing of Absentee Ballots

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	No
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow a municipality to opt to process absentee ballots as early as the 4th day before the election and would allow the Secretary of State to make available high-speed tabulators.

---

Potential JR 217: LD585 and LD1335

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2346 Senator Cyrway, S

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2302 Representative Chipman, B



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002  
(207) 287-1400  
TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Beth A. O'Connor

92 Sullivan Street  
Berwick, ME 03901  
Residence: (207) 698-7899  
Cell Phone: (207) 289-9047  
Beth.OConnor@legislature.maine.gov

October 29, 2015

Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

President Thibodeau:

I would like to formally request that ***LR 2303, An Act To Expand the Processing of Absentee Ballots*** be part of the appeal process scheduled for the next meeting of the Legislative Council on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

LR 2303 is common sense legislation supported by the town clerks of Maine. I believe based on what I have heard from them and also having visualized the election process more times than I can remember, this will help alleviate some of the bottle necks that occur on election day, specifically Presidential elections. It will help to increase efficiency, thus saving time and money for municipalities in the important election process. I also estimate it will speed up the rate of returns on election night. This bill is a win win for both voters and taxpayers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth A. O'Connor".

Beth O'Connor  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LR 2461

ELECTRIC UTILITIES

PLANNING

Sponsor: Senator Patrick of Oxford

An Act To Include Energy from Combined Heat and Power Facilities as Part of the Maine Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow energy generated by combined heat and power facilities to be eligible energy under Maine's renewable energy portfolio standard.

---

*127th Legislature*  
***Senate of Maine***  
*Senate District 18*

*Senator John L. Patrick*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*207-287-1515*

November 2, 2015

President Thibodeau  
Legislative Council Chair

RE: LR 2461 An Act to Include Energy from Combined Heat and Power Facilities as Part of the Maine Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard

Dear President Thibodeau,

I would like to formally request that the Legislative Council reconsider its decision on LR 2461, "An Act to Include Energy from Combined Heat and Power Facilities as Part of the Maine Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard," which I have sponsored.

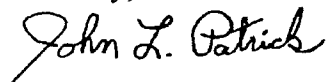
Maine's Renewable Resource Portfolio Standard (RPS) requires that competitive electricity providers supply at least 30% of their electric sales in Maine using electricity generated by eligible renewables and certain energy-efficiency resources. Electricity generated by efficient combined heat and power (CHP) facilities built before 1987 are eligible as "qualified facilities" under the RPS standard. This bill would simply allow new, modern and cleaner CHP facilities constructed between 2016 and 2019 to be eligible.

The Maine Long Term Capacity RFP is typically issued in the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of each calendar year to solicit offers for the long term supply of energy to ratepayers that provide both environmental and economic benefits. With the Long Term Capacity RFP upcoming, new CHP facilities would have the opportunity to provide efficient, clean, and cost effective energy to ratepayers while lowering energy costs to industry if allowed to bid.

The passage of LR 2461 would help CHP plants under development in the state have a platform to competitively supply excess power to Maine utilities. Plants under development, including the Rockland Energy Center ("REC"), also help to expand Maine's natural gas infrastructure to more rural areas of the state. The REC project in particular will enable businesses and residents in the greater Waldo County area to finally have access to clean and affordable natural gas through the construction of gas distribution infrastructure by a private company. For one manufacturer alone, the annual energy savings would exceed \$3M dollars.

Large scale CHP plants will help Maine realize its long term energy goals as well as enable positive private investment into our communities. Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this appeal. If I can be of any more assistance or provide additional explanation, please do not hesitate to contact me or my office.

Sincerely,



John Patrick, State Senator –District 18



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2426

DISABLED PERSONS

PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITY

Sponsor: Representative Peterson of Rumford

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Oversight over and Responsibility for the Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would transfer authority over the Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program Fund to a program administrator, eliminate the Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program Fund Board, authorize the establishment of an advisory board and transfer authority for administration of the fund from the Finance Authority of Maine to the Office of the Treasurer of State.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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**Matthew J. Peterson**

1106 Route 2

Rumford, ME 04276

Cell Phone: (207) 776-8051

Matt.Peterson@legislature.maine.gov

October 30, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

**LR 2426, An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Oversight over and Responsibility for the Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program.**

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Peterson".

Matthew Peterson  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

JUDICIARY

LR 2355

DOMESTIC RELATIONS

GRANDPARENTS

Sponsor: Representative Picchiotti of Fairfield

An Act To Ensure Children in the Care of Their Grandparents Can Access Fundamental Services

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	Yes
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would create state educational and health care consent laws for children in the care of their grandparents.



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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## John Joseph Picchiotti

6 Verdun Street

Fairfield, ME 04937

Residence: (207) 453-2137

Cell Phone: (207) 692-7226

John.Picchiotti@legislature.maine.gov

President Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chairman, Maine Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0115

November 2, 2015

**Re: L.R.2355 "An Act to Ensure Children in the Care of their Grandparents can Access Fundamental Services"** Sponsor: Representative John J. Picchiotti

### Appeal Summary:

Grandparents, also referred to as kinship families, are part of a system in Maine called kinship care. Maine youth sometimes come into a child welfare system due to emergency situations within the family such as drug addiction, parental mental illness, and incarceration of the parent or other emergency life events where these parents are unable to care for their children. There are three types of kinship care Maine:

- Informal Kinship Care- Arrangements made between the parents and other family members *without* the involvement of the child welfare system or family/juvenile court systems.
- Voluntary Kinship Care- Children live with relatives and the child welfare system is involved, but the State *does not* have legal custody of the children.
- Formal Kinship Care- Children are placed in the legal custody of the State by a Judge and the child welfare system and then places the children with grandparents or other kin.

Maine relies on the practice of diverting children *away* from the child welfare system into informal or voluntary placements with relatives when it is appropriate, as evidenced by the high number children that come into kinship care. The 2010 Federal Census shows that in Maine, 16,883 Grandparents have their grandchildren living with them in one of the above categories. Kinship care research confirms this is the best option for children who cannot live with their parents as it helps sustain family, community and cultural bonds.

**Why this bill demands urgent Legislative attention:** The State of Maine DHHS pursues a right policy of placing Maine youth into kinship care whenever possible and in the best interest of the child. Kinship families are stepping up by the thousands to support their families in crisis. But without legal custody or guardianship, it is very difficult for relative caregivers to make needed health care decisions or make needed school or educational decisions for these youth in their care. You see many of these families do not want or can't afford a legal relationship with the children in their care, as many times relatives step in to help stabilize the situation for these children on a temporary basis with the understanding that the parent(s) will resume care once they are able. These living arrangements can last for years and often become permanent.

This bill would create a Maine Educational and Health Care Consent Law (joining 40 other states who have already these consent laws) to allow these caregivers to make some basic choices for these youth *without unraveling the legal parent-child relationship*

Thank you for your time on this important bill

John J. Picchiotti  
State Representative

District 108 Fairfield, Mercer and Smithfield

Printed on recycled paper

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2411

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Sponsor: Representative Picchiotti of Fairfield

An Act To Enhance the Family Reunification Process

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would add de facto parents to the types of parents recognized by the Department of Health and Human Services for purposes of the reunification and placement process. It would not change procedures in the reunification and placement process.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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## John Joseph Picchiotti

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John.Picchiotti@legislature.maine.gov

President Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chairman, Maine Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0115

November 2, 2015

### **RE: L.R. 2411 'An Act to Enhance the Family Reunification Process'**

SPONSOR: State Representative John J. Picchiotti

#### **Appeal Summary:**

This bill looks to create 'defacto parent' within Maine Statutes as it only exists in case law. Maine currently has over 16,000 grandparents and/or Kinship families who are caring for their grandchildren or nieces and nephews (2010 Federal Census). This particular type of family unit requires Maine statutes to be prepared for this and other related questions that need answers to be available now.

Some "law" is never enacted by the legislative branch of government, but rather, the law develops over time as Maine Justices are forced to make decisions about certain judicial patterns that do not exist formally in Maine statute. This is the extent of how Maine's defacto parenthood law currently exists.

This bill will bring together the Maine Judicial system, Maine's Law community and Maine's Kinship community to create a basis to coexist with the Maine Grandparents Visitation Act, as this statute serves to protect an existing relationship between a grandparent and a child. This Act is also narrowly adapted to advance the compelling state interest *that is not* an unconstitutional breach of the parent's fundamental right to direct care, custody and control of that child. I feel that a 'defacto parent' law can also be adapted in a limited way.

#### **Why this bill demands urgent Legislative attention:**

There are over 16,000 grandparents in Maine who have their own grandchildren living with them. When these family units require the help of the Maine Judicial system, the laws of the State of Maine should reflect this shift. This bill will bring these interested parties together now to serve Maine's youth who seek permanency in a family.

Thank you for your time on this important bill.

John J. Picchiotti  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

JUDICIARY

LR 2245

REAL ESTATE

FORECLOSURE

Sponsor: Representative Pierce of Dresden

An Act To Ensure Consumer Protection in the Laws Governing Foreclosure

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill, which is modeled on Nevada law, would establish a process of mandatory mediation for parties to a foreclosure.



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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**Jeffrey K. Pierce**

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Dresden, ME 04342

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Cell: (207) 441-3006

Jeffrey.Pierce@legislature.maine.gov

October 28, 2015

Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

President Thibodeau:

I would like to formally request that ***LR 2245, An Act To Ensure Consumer Protection in Laws Governing Foreclosure***, be part of the appeal process scheduled for the next meeting of the Legislative Council on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

Last year in Maine there were around 4,000 new foreclosures in Maine, only 13% of those were successful of coming out of foreclosure. This number does not include the number of foreclosures that are still remaining in limbo of being finalized. These foreclosures that are still in the process of being finalized see a low success rate due to the long drawn out process. The purpose of this bill is to expedite the process in which these foreclosures get cleared up and allow these properties to get back on the tax rolls.

LR 2245 replicates Nevada's current law that creates mandatory mediation 135 days after a foreclosure is filed. This means both sides must come to some type of an agreement 135 days after the foreclosure is filed. Nevada has seen a very high success rate of 86% with this law on the books. Not only will this law save both parties involved money, it will save time in court, and stress of having proceedings drag on over a long period of time. During a time when mill jobs are being lost in the pulp, paper, and forestry products across the state and everyday people being less able to afford to pay their bills, this bill is crucial to getting these issues finally cleared up.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,

Jeffrey Pierce  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

LR 2318

WATER QUALITY

WASTEWATER DISCHARGES

Sponsor: Representative Powers of Naples

An Act To Require Houseboats To Have a Marine Sanitation Device

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would require houseboats to have a marine sanitation device to prevent the overboard discharge of treated or untreated sewage or any waste derived from sewage. The bill would also define "houseboat" as any watercraft that is moored, docked or anchored and is used for a dwelling on the inland waters of the State.

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# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Christine B. Powers

280 Thompsons Point Road  
Naples, ME 04055  
Cell Phone: (207) 318-2511  
Christine.Powers@legislature.maine.gov

October 26, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Legislative Council's rejection of the following bill request:

### **LR 2318, An Act To Require Houseboats To Have a Marine Sanitation Device.**

The economy of the Lakes Region depends on having healthy lakes and ponds. When a houseboat owner dumped entire holding tank full of human waste into Brandy Pond earlier this year, the levels of e-coli bacteria in the water increased a great deal.

The risk of overboard discharge continues to grow as more people turn to houseboats as an affordable way to live. It poses a growing danger to recreation, fishing, the surrounding environment and the drinking water supply. The communities I represent are rallying behind this legislation, because they want to come up with a solution before the damage gets worse.

I cannot think of a bigger emergency than the need to keep our drinking water clean.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christine Powers".

Christine Powers  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

JUDICIARY

LR 2271

ADOPTION

PROCEDURES

Sponsor: Senator Rosen of Hancock

An Act To Clarify Financial Responsibility in Gestational Carrier Agreements

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would amend the Maine Parentage Act to clarify financial responsibility for the costs of delivering a child when the child is the subject of a gestational carrier agreement.

---

*127th Legislature*  
***Senate of***  
***Maine***  
*Senate District 8*

***Senator Kimberley C. Rosen***  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*

October 28, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

I respectfully request an appeal for a second session submission that was rejected at the Legislative Council meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The proposed legislation is LR 2271, "*An Act To Clarify Financial Responsibility in Gestational Carrier Agreements.*"

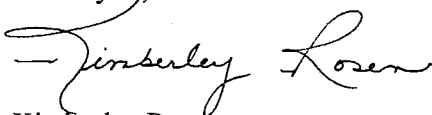
Last session, the Legislature enacted LD 1017 as PL 2015, Chapter 296, the "Act to Update Maine's Family Law." I was the sponsor of that law. LR 2271 proposes a small amendment to that legislation. It does not undo or in any way amend the provisions that were adopted but merely supplements that law to address an issue not covered in the bill as enacted. The law enacted last session specifies that the "intended parents" of a child adopted via surrogacy shall have financial responsibility for the costs of the child upon birth. That law, however, is silent as to financial responsibility for the costs of birth. On more than one occasion, a Maine hospital has had to suffer a financial loss for the costs associated with delivering a child in a surrogacy situation when neither party to the surrogacy arrangement paid the bill for delivery.

As supporters of this law, the Maine Hospital Association has spoken with the surrogacy attorney primarily responsible for crafting the relevant portions of the law adopted last year. It appears that that attorney does not object to the change sought by the Maine Hospital Association. She does want the opportunity to have input on the language submitted in order to protect against any unintended consequences. I will ensure that that occurs.

**Why an emergency?**

LR 2271 proposes to amend a comprehensive rewrite of the surrogacy law and creates a brand new regulatory scheme. However, it has not yet gone into effect. And will not do so until July 1, 2016. It makes the most sense to adopt necessary amendments prior to the scheduled effective date. That can only happen in the second session of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature rather than at some future time. Please allow LR 2271 be presented for consideration in the second session of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature.

Thank you,



Kimberley Rosen  
State Senator

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

LR 2399

CORRECTIONS DEPT  
ADMINISTRATION

Sponsor: Representative Rotundo of Lewiston

An Act To Fund and Implement Wage Adjustments for All State Correctional Employees Who Perform Direct Care or Supervision of Prisoners

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allocate funding necessary to meet the legislative intent to provide wage adjustment to all correctional employees who perform direct care or supervision of prisoners.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## **Margaret R. Rotundo**

446 College Street

Lewiston, ME 04240

Residence: (207) 784-3259

Business: (207) 786-8283

Fax: (207) 786-8282

Cell Phone: (207) 402-1939

October 30, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair

Legislative Council

115 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request, **LR 2399**  
**An Act To Fund and Implement Wage Adjustments for All State Correctional**  
**Employees Who Perform Direct Care or Supervision of Prisoners.**

This legislation would apply recent pay increases for some prison personnel to all those personnel who have direct contact with prisoners. The way the increases were administered left out some important groups of employees who share the same circumstances with those employees who did receive a pay increase.

An amendment to the budget document, LD 1019, to deal with the issue of pay raises in correctional facilities was proposed by Rep. Winsor and endorsed unanimously by the Appropriations Committee. It was included in PL 267 as section DDDD. This bill will clarify that the intent of that amendment was that the pay raise should apply to all personnel having direct contact with inmates.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peggy Rotundo".

Peggy Rotundo

State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LR 2231

LICENSING

DENTAL PERSONNEL

Sponsor: Representative Rykerson of Kittery

An Act Regarding Clinical Practice Requirements for Licensure as an Independent Practice Dental Hygienist

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	2	8	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would require applicants for licensure as independent practice dental hygienists to provide proof of having at least 5 years of clinical practice experience, including part-time practice or employment, to meet the clinical practice requirement for licensure.

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# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

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## Deane Rykerson

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Kittery Point, ME 03905

Residence: (207) 439-8755

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Deane.Rykerson@legislature.maine.gov

October 28, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request, **LR 2231 - An Act Regarding Clinical Practice Requirements for Licensure as an Independent Practice Dental Hygienist.**

This legislation would allow the Board of Dental Examiners, at its discretion, to accept alternate methods of evaluating clinical competency, including part-time experience, public health experience and portfolio models. This will expand the ability of dental hygienists to practice and help to meet the dental needs of the state. The board has requested this bill, as they cannot make the needed change through rulemaking. Given the shortage of dental personnel in the state, this legislation should be considered as soon as possible.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Deane Rykerson'.

Deane Rykerson  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

LR 2205

WASTES

SPECIAL WASTES

Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin

An Act To Create a Battery Stewardship Program

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would create a battery stewardship program to require labeling of batteries, indicating the chemistry used to store energy, and to require the provider of a battery to develop and maintain a program to manage discarded batteries.

---

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 17*

*Senator Thomas B. Saviello*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*

October 30, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

I respectfully request an appeal for a second session submission that was rejected at the Legislative Council meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The proposed legislation is LR 2205, "*An Act To Create a Battery Stewardship Program.*"

Many batteries enter the market in Maine packaged with or contained in battery-operated products. It is imperative that product manufacturers source their batteries only from producers that are participating in a state-approved stewardship program for battery recycling. Members of the National Electrical Manufacturing Association (NEMA) Dry Battery Section, PRBA - the Rechargeable Battery Association, and the Corporation for Battery Recycling (CBR) are united in support of legislation that would establish a mandatory, "all-battery" recycling program in Maine.

The industry has devised a legislative model that would require "producers" to fund and implement a statewide recycling network for consumer and small, industrial use batteries. The program will accept both primary (i.e., single-use) and rechargeable batteries through a broad network of collection sites at no cost to the public. Manufacturers of rechargeable batteries and battery-containing products have funded recycling of rechargeable batteries since 1996 when the industry established the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corp (now Call2Recycle), a voluntary program that recovers all types of rechargeable batteries (under 11 pounds), cell phones and, in selective areas, single-use batteries. Call2Recycle collects a large volume of batteries in Maine but is burdened with a significant number of "free-riders" that increase the cost burden on responsible, participating members. ***This is a severe financial drain that threatens the long-term viability of the program.***

**Why an emergency?**

The Joint Committee for Environmental and Natural Resources is working on updating the waste management program within the state. Product stewardship, managing a waste from cradle to grave, is one of the most important programs the state has to reduce waste materials from going to a landfill. This proposed bill will put into statute a product stewardship program for batteries and will help relieve the aforementioned cost and administrative burden on local and municipal waste management programs for recycling primary batteries.

Thank you,



Thomas Saviello  
State Senator

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

LR 2206

PRODUCTS

ORGANIC

Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin

An Act To Oversee Organic Dairy Farm Audits

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would establish a public process to allow organic dairy farms to appeal audits conducted by private firms.

---

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 17*

*Senator Thomas B. Saviello*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*

October 30, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

I respectfully request an appeal for a second session submission that was rejected at the Legislative Council meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The proposed legislation is LR 2206, "*An Act To Oversee Organic Dairy Farm Audits.*"

The Maine Dairy industry is struggling. Many dairy farms have closed and the farms sold in the last few years. Organic milk production has the potential to reverse this trend and make dairy farming again a viable farm industry. Unfortunately there is a problem third party certification requirements and auditors. These "auditors answer to no one and often create a hostile environment for the farmer. In fact some Organic Dairy farms have switched to out of state certifiers, although all certifiers are allegedly equivalent. The proposal for bill LR 2206 will address the issue of third-party certification issues.

This bill would provide a third party, the Maine Dairy Board, to hear the disagreements around the audit. They, the Board, could help mediate proper and necessary corrective actions required to meet the audit. If the Board is unsuccessful then the Farmer could proceed to any legal action that might be required.

**Why an emergency?**

There are farms that are presently in a position to lose their organic certification. If lost, the farms will curtail operations and, at worst, close down and sell out. The Maine Dairy Board could now mediate the issues BEFORE drastic measures occur. We need to help this industry NOW.

This legislation is essential to keeping Organic Dairy farms in business in Maine and ensuring fair audits for all.

Thank you,



Thomas Saviello  
State Senator

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

LR 2395

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

BEER

Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin

An Act To Allow All Manufacturers Licensed by the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations To Provide Samples of Products to Retail Licensees

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow all manufacturers licensed by the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations, regardless of size, to provide samples of products to retail licensees.

---

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 17*

*Senator Thomas B. Saviello*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*

October 30, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

I respectfully request an appeal for a second session submission that was rejected at the Legislative Council meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The proposed legislation is LR 2395, "*An Act to Allow All Beer Manufacturers to Provide Samples of Products to Retail Licenses.*"

The Maine Brewers' Guild, upon encouragement from BABLO, is seeking to amend the language of this law to allow for all manufacturers to be able to provide retail licensees samples of products. Currently, this privilege is only granted to small breweries or wineries (A 'small brewery' is defined by their production of beer. A small brewery is a brewery that produces no more than 1,500 barrels, or 50,000 gallons of beer per year).

As a result, one of the bigger breweries in Maine who was unaware of this law recently received a fine after a sales representative left a sample with a retail licensee, a seemingly reasonable sales practice. LR 2395 would permit sales representatives who work for breweries and wineries of all sizes to provide samples of products to retail licensees.

**Why an emergency?**

Sales Representatives are a key part of introducing retailers to new products. BABLO has only recently begun to enforce this provision. Several other outdated and long unenforced statutes were quickly repealed during previous legislative sessions. The Legislature needs to act quickly to bring this law into accord with the trade practices that have been in place for many years in this industry in order for Maine's breweries and wineries to avoid unnecessary fines. We have BABLO's support for LR 2395

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely



Thomas Saviello  
State Senator

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

LR 2396

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

LICENSING

Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin

An Act To Permit Tasting Rooms and Pubs Operated by a Manufacturer under an On-premises Retail License To Sell Their Products for On-premises or Off-premises Consumption without Physical Separation or Separate Inventory

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

Comment

This bill would remove the requirement that a manufacturer that holds an on-premises liquor license and that also sells food maintain separate entrances and physical separation of on-premises and off-premises retail areas.

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 17*

*Senator Thomas B. Saviello*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*

October 30, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

I respectfully request an appeal for a second session submission that was rejected at the Legislative Council meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The proposed legislation is LR 2396, *"An Act To Permit Tasting Rooms and Pubs Operated by a Manufacturer under an On-premises Retail License To Sell Their Products for On-premises or Off-premises Consumption without Physical Separation or Separate Inventory."*

Currently, manufacturers (i.e. breweries, distilleries, and wineries) who also serve food and have an on premise liquor license are required to have a separate entrance or physical separation, such as a wall or separate doorway from outside, between their on premise and off premise areas. Gritty's in downtown Portland is a good example of someone who is operating under this law right now.

This will be a benefit to brewpubs in the state as it will eliminate a law that is a burden and creates uneven requirements between manufacturers with tasting rooms and manufacturers who serve food. Please note that these manufacturers will maintain all assurances that taxes are appropriately accounted for and records maintained.

**Why an emergency?**

Three years ago, the Maine legislature legalized the selling of samples in brewery tasting rooms where guests can also buy beer to take home with them as part of the same transaction. However, due to a quirk in how liquor licensing works, if a tasting room or brew pub serves food, they are currently prohibited from selling bottled beer to take home from within the same space. Instead, they are required to have a separate gift shop where bottles could be sold.

As our rapidly growing industry continues to evolve and attract more and more visitors to our state, it is critical that tasting rooms and brew pubs be permitted to sell beer to take away regardless of whether or not food is part of their business model.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Thomas Saviello  
State Senator



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LR 2414

LICENSING

DENTAL PERSONNEL

Sponsor: Representative Sirocki of Scarborough

An Act To Conform Maine Law to the Requirements of the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

The bill would conform Maine law to the requirements of the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1440

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Heather Sirocki

32 Glendale Circle

Scarborough, ME 04074

(207) 730-6602

RepHeather.Sirocki@legislature.maine.gov

October 29, 2015

President Thibodeau

Chair, Legislative Council

127<sup>th</sup> Maine State Legislature

Dear President Thibodeau:

Please consider this letter of appeal regarding LR 2414 "An Act to Conform Maine Law to the Requirements of the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation."

LR 2414 proposes to align our state statutes with standards set by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. **Obviously, it is important that Maine align its dental statutes with these newly established national standards.**

In August, we had good news. The Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) recognized the mid-level profession of dental therapy on a national level. CODA develops the national standards for all dental professions including dentists, dental hygienists, and now they have developed standards for dental therapists. These standards help make the various dental professions uniform across the country and alignment with the standards is important for universities that are moving forward with developing curricula and are working toward full accreditation.

This month, we had more good news; the Forsythe School of Dental Hygiene (a premier university) in Boston is eager to offer the training for dental therapy. This is wonderful news so that Maine students do not need to travel to Minnesota for their classes. **They want to begin offering the curriculum in 2016.**

I sincerely hope you will reconsider your position and support LR 2414 and allow this important and time-sensitive bill the opportunity to expeditiously move forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather W. Sirocki".

Heather W. Sirocki

State Representative

*Serving the residents of Scarborough (part).*

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

LR 2290

RECREATION

WATERCRAFT

Sponsor: Representative Stanley of Medway

An Act To Allow Persons 16 Years of Age and Older To Operate Personal Watercraft

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would reduce from 18 to 16 the age at which a person may operate a personal watercraft.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Stephen S. Stanley

614 Pattagumpus Road

Medway, ME 04460

Residence: (207) 746-5371

Cell Phone: (207) 461-4761

Stephen.Stanley@legislature.maine.gov

October 27, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request, **LR 2290, An Act To Allow Persons 16 Years of Age and Older To Operate Personal Watercraft.**

The legislation would change the age requirement from 18 to 16 for when a person may operate a personal watercraft.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stephen S. Stanley".

Stephen S. Stanley  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

LR 2312

PUBLIC LANDS

CONVEYANCES

Sponsor: Representative Stanley of Medway

An Act To Limit Consent Regarding Land Transfers to the Federal Government

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	No
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	Yes

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would limit the application of the law providing the automatic consent of the Legislature to acquisitions of land by the United States to areas of land of 5 square miles or less.

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# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Stephen S. Stanley

614 Pattagumpus Road

Medway, ME 04460

Residence: (207) 746-5371

Cell Phone: (207) 461-4761

Stephen.Stanley@legislature.maine.gov

October 27, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request, **LR 2312, An Act To Limit Consent Regarding Land Transfers to the Federal Government.**

This bill would limit the application of the law providing the automatic consent of the Legislature to acquisitions of land by the United States to areas of land of five square miles or less.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stephen S. Stanley".

Stephen S. Stanley  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2361

EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

SCHOOL CHOICE

Sponsor: Representative Stearns of Guilford

An Act To Improve the Superintendent Transfer Process

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would make binding the decision of 2 school superintendents not to approve the transfer of a student from one school administrative unit to the other.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Paul A. Stearns

33 Applebee Hill Road

Guilford, ME 04443

Residence: (207) 876-3242

Cell: (207) 343-2615

Paul.Stearns@legislature.maine.gov

October 30, 2015

Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

President Thibodeau:

I would like to formally request that *LR 2361, An Act To Improve The Superintendent Transfer Process*, be part of the appeal process scheduled for the next meeting of the Legislative Council on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

While on the surface this bill might appear to deal with "adult" control issues, it actually involves the emotional, academic, and sometimes physical safety of a student.

Superintendents approve 92% of transfer requests. In 2014 they approved 2,302 of them. This year, as of September 30<sup>th</sup>, 189 were denied and appealed to the commissioner. In all but 12 of those cases the commissioner overruled the local authorities.

This issue is having an enormous negative affect state wide. The stories from the field are alarming. Students are transferring because they received a poor grade, to play on a different ball team, to be with boy or girl friends, to get away from one parent that has household rules and expectations, to get away from a child with lice, to avoid a difficult assignment - the list is endless. The reasons given in nearly all of these cases of appeal to the commissioner are "My child is being bullied" or "my child is not receiving a good education". Often times students are transferring multiple times, while teachers are left to pick up the pieces due to lack of any continuity in the child's life.

Let me share a specific example: As a superintendent I once had request for transfer. When I discussed this with the other superintendent I discovered that the "Mom" had "given" the student to a registered sex offender in order to pay off a drug bill. DHHS and local law enforcement were involved. We each denied the request, and sure enough it was overturned by the Commissioner's office. We did get it straightened out, but at a significant expense of time that could have been better spent at both the local and state level.

While we would all like to think that parents make decisions in the best interest of their children, to do so is naive. Read the headlines of our local papers, or watch the evening news. Some of the most bizarre mentally ill people in our society are featured each and every day. Many of them are parents or decision makers for youngsters.

Thank you for re-considering this request, and I fully respect the difficult task that you have.

Sincerely,

Paul Stearns

District 119 Abbot, Beaver Cove, Bowerbank, Greenville, Guilford, Monson, Parkman, Sangerville, Sebec, Shirley, Willimantic plus the unorganized territories of Blanchard Township, Northeast Piscataquis (including Barnard and Elliottsville Townships) and Northwest Piscataquis



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2195

MEDICAID

MAINECARE

Sponsor: Representative Tepler of Topsham

An Act to Provide MaineCare Coverage for Dental Services To Intellectually Disabled Adults

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would provide MaineCare coverage to intellectually disabled adults receiving so-called Section 21 or Section 29 services for the same level of dental services that are provided to children under MaineCare.

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# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Denise A. Tepler

13 Homeplace

Topsham, ME 04086

Residence: (207) 729-4018

Denise.Tepler@legislature.maine.gov

October 28, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

LR 2195, An Act to Provide Maine Care Coverage for Dental Services to Intellectually Disabled Adults

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denise A. Tepler".

Denise Tepler  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2526

SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA

SUBSIDIZABLE COSTS

Sponsor: Representative Tipping-Spitz of Orono

An Act To Improve Transparency in Education Funding

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would require education budget initiatives currently combined under "miscellaneous costs" and "student opportunity fund" to be listed as separate line items in budgets.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## Ryan D. Tipping-Spitz

279 Main Street

Orono, ME 04473

Residence: (207) 866-4333

Ryan.TippingSpitz@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

I would like to inform you of my intent to appeal Legislative Council's rejection of the following bill request:

### **LR 2526, An Act to Improve Transparency in Education Funding.**

As the main intent of this bill is to clarify education appropriations, I believe it fits well into the limits of consideration for the second regular session. I fully understand the need to keep bill numbers low the second half of this legislature, but in conversations with members of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs I have not found a single person who is unwilling to tackle this issue in the short time we have.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Tipping-Spitz", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ryan Tipping-Spitz  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

MARINE RESOURCES

LR 2183

FISH

EELS

Sponsor: Representative Tuell of East Machias

An Act To Extend the Length of Maine's Elver Fishing Season in Certain Circumstances

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	1	9	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would allow the Commissioner of Marine Resources to extend the State's elver harvesting season by an additional 2 weeks if the State's annual harvest quota has not been reached.

---

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2144 Representative Beebe-Center, P



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## William R. Tuell

431 Hadley Lake Road  
East Machias, ME 04630  
Residence: (207) 255-8056  
Cell: (207) 271-8521  
Will.Tuell@legislature.maine.gov

October 26, 2015

Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

President Thibodeau:

I would like to formally request that ***LR 2183, An Act To Extend the Length of Maine's Elver Fishing Season in Certain Circumstances*** be part of the appeal process scheduled for the next meeting of the Legislative Council on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

This request gives the Commissioner of Marine Resources the authority to extend the elver fishing season up to two weeks if fishermen are not able to meet their quota due to extreme weather conditions. These fishing seasons are dependent on weather, which changes at a rapid rate. The Commissioner should be given the authority to make necessary alterations at any given time to positively affect the fishing industry in the State of Maine, especially after uncharacteristically brutal winters like this past winter, which set the elver fishing industry back weeks, hurting families that depend on the elver harvest for their annual income.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William R. Tuell".

William R. Tuell  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2352

SCHOOL POLICIES

CURRICULUM

Sponsor: Representative Tuell of East Machias

An Act To Facilitate Homegrown Education in Maine

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	Yes
Hill	No	Espling	Yes

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would remove the Common Core standards from the system of learning results by June 30, 2017 and transition the State back to locally developed standards.

---



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

(207) 287-1400

TTY: (207) 287-4469

## William R. Tuell

431 Hadley Lake Road  
East Machias, ME 04630  
Residence: (207) 255-8056  
Cell: (207) 271-8521  
Will.Tuell@legislature.maine.gov

October 26, 2015

Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

President Thibodeau:

I would like to formally request that ***LR 2352, An Act To Facilitate Homegrown Education in Maine***, be part of the appeal process scheduled for the next meeting of the Legislative Council on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

This request is being made for several reasons. First, as Mainers continue to learn about Common Core, and the implications of one size fits all standards, more and more families, educators, and communities are raising legitimate concerns about the state's participation in Common Core. This comes at a time when we are starting to rethink many other aspects of educational policy ranging from standardized testing to proficiency based education. As states continue to rethink their participation, as awareness of Common Core grows, it is important that we in the Legislature take a "Maine first" approach to education before we reach a point of no return.

This bill does that. It offers the state a thoughtful, measured exit strategy, developed by a cross-section of Mainers from both urban and rural areas; educators at every level; as well as ordinary Maine families, all of whom want nothing but the best for their children. It does so in a way that respects Maine's home rule authority by putting policy in the hands of the very people who are most impacted by it on a day to day basis. **In short, the sentiment around common core has changed dramatically since the end of the last legislative session, and the time to act on this legislation is now.**

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William R. Tuell".

William R. Tuell  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

---

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2350

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS

Sponsor: Representative Turner of Burlington

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Withdrawal of a Single Municipality from a Regional School Unit

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would make the following changes to the laws governing the withdrawal of a single municipality from a regional school unit. It would limit the time between proposals and counterproposals of the municipality and the regional school unit to 30 days; require the parties to bargain in good faith; and require the Commissioner of Education or the department to help facilitate a compromise if the parties are unable to reach an agreement.

---



# House of Representatives

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002  
(207) 287-1440  
TTY: (207) 287-4469

Beth P. Turner  
PO Box 65

Burlington, ME 04417

Residence: (207) 732-4625

[RepBeth.Turner@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:RepBeth.Turner@legislature.maine.gov)

November 2, 2015  
Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

President Thibodeau:

As sponsor of LR2350 "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Withdrawal of a Single Municipality from a Regional School Unit" I am formally requesting this bill be reconsidered as part of the appeals process for November 19th. This is an emergency bill based on my concerns and also those of my constituents and the budgetary impact it is having on the Town of Burlington and others throughout the state.

After years of unsuccessfully trying to work with the RSU to bring the towns educational costs down to a reasonable level, the town by an affirmative vote of 96 to 10 on August 9, 2014, started down the path of withdrawal. Like so many of our rural towns Burlington's student population is going down. We are competing for young families to move into our town with an adjacent town that has school choice. The town pays over \$14,000 per student, well above the state rate. More importantly we want to offer increased educational opportunities to our students and can do so with another school just 15 miles from us.

Currently in state statute there are timelines that must be met for the municipalities to get proposals to the school district, however there are none for the district, which can and does allow delaying tactics. In a letter to acting Commissioner Desjardin, Chair Patrick MacEachern states " Since the initial proposal was sent to SAD 31 (1/22/15), SAD 31 has had the proposal for comment in their hands for 181 days. The Burlington Withdrawal Committee has had the proposal for comment in our hands for 41 days. (This is as of 9/2/15)" In response to the concerns of Burlington Withdrawal Committee Acting Commission Desjardin stated "While I appreciate your concerns, I do not have the legal authority to intervene with the withdrawal agreement negotiation process."

I suggest 30 days and this language would apply to all parties. The statute contains no explicit requirement that the RSU is to bargain in *good faith*, only that it bargains. This is very costly to both parties with no end in sight. Also there is no provision that allows the Commissioner/DOE to step in. I do not want to abolish home rule but there are many statutes that give the Commissioner "may" authority to suggest a course of action as a last resort. The Education Committee could best help with all these issues in this upcoming session. Don't get me wrong; I believe this process shouldn't be easy but, it should be an obtainable one, which it is not now! This request should be recognized as an emergency so the Legislature can review these deficiencies of the current statute. The students and municipalities of Maine deserve to have this bill brought before the upcoming legislature. We need to have a public hearing and due process.

To summarize the way the statute is written, all the school unit has to do is look at the proposal and say thank you, but NO, and that is the end of it.

I am unable to be with you on the 19th, however Representative Maker has agreed to speak on my behalf should you have any questions. Thank you for your time and your thoughtful consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth P. Turner  
State Representative

Proudly serving District 141: Penobscot County: Burlington, Carroll, Chester, Drew, Kingman, Lakeville, Lee, Lowell, Mattawamkeag, Prentiss, Whitney, Springfield, Twombly, Webster, Winn. Washington County: Alexander, Big Lake, Brookton, Codyville, Cooper, Crawford, Danforth, Day Block, Dennysville, Dyer, Fowler, Forest City, Forest Twp, Grand Lake Stream, Greenlaw, Chopping, Kossuth, Lambert Lake, Meddybemps, Princeton, Talmadge, Topsfield, Vanceboro, and Waite (East Central Washington County) Berry Twp., Cathance Twp., Edmunds Twp., Marion Twp., T19 ED BPP, T26 ED BPP, T6 R1 NBPP, T5 ND BPP (Sakon), T6 ND BPP, T8 R3 NBPP, T8 R4 NBPP, T11 R3, NBPP T30, MD BPP, T36 MD, BPPT37 MD BPP, T42 MD BPPT43 MD BPP

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2454

MEDICAID

MANAGED CARE PLAN

Sponsor: Representative Vachon of Scarborough

An Act To Clarify Medicaid Managed Care Ombudsman Services

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would amend the laws regarding the Medicaid managed care ombudsman to make them consistent with federal law and guidance. It also clarifies the services the ombudsman provides.

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION

AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0002

(207) 287-1440

TTY: (207) 287-4469

Karen Vachon

25 Ocean Avenue

Scarborough, ME 04074

(207) 287-1440

[Karen.Vachon@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Karen.Vachon@legislature.maine.gov)

Dear Senator Thibodeau,

I'm writing to appeal the decision to not accept LR 2454: "An act to clarify Medicaid Managed Care Ombudsman Services" as an emergency bill to be taken up this session.

As a licensed health insurance agent who enrolls Maine individuals in Marketplace and Medicare health plans, since the opening of the exchange, consumers are more confused than ever over how to navigate access to healthcare in Maine. They need all the help they can get. This is not the time to cut a valuable program that not only aids some of Maine residents' most complicated health access cases, but also aids insurance brokers/agents/navigators/assisters, and publicly educates and informs consumers regarding where to seek assistance. In June, 2015 DHHS cut the funding for the Ombudsman contract stating it no longer needed the services - that the Department could handle the outreach and education itself. Additionally, there was no general fund money expended to finance this contract.

The purpose of this bill is to clarify Medicaid's Managed Care Ombudsman Services, which will ensure that the services continue as REQUIRED by federal<sup>1</sup> and STATE law.<sup>2</sup> It is important and is an emergency for the following reasons as well:

1. The contract under this statute allows DHHS to deliver outreach without using any general fund dollars or tying up any state FTEs to do so. Without this contract the state may have to fund the outreach by appropriating extra unnecessary state funds.
2. Since 2006, these duties were successfully performed through privately raised funds, which were matched by federal dollars. In 2014 HelpLine calls alone under this contract increased six fold.
3. Ombudsman services ensure government accountability in Medicaid.

Without Ombudsman services under this contract, DHHS will have to invest in training and possibly hire additional personnel to provide the required outreach and education. Because of the contract, fewer people have to call DHHS because consumers are educated on all options; including, Marketplace plans, FQHC's, free clinics, PHIP, Prescription Assistance, and hospital free care. As an agent, I've referred clients to CAHC (the previous contractor), which has been able to resolve eligibility disputes; thus reducing costly and time-consumer appeals and questions that would otherwise be directed to DHHS.

Please reconsider LD 2454.

Sincerely,

Karen R. Vachon

*Proudly serving the residents of District 29: Coastal Scarborough*

<sup>1</sup> 42 U.S.C. §1396w-3(b)(1)(F); see also 42 U.S.C. §1369a(a)(75)(B); 42 C.F.R. §457.90; 42 C.F.R. § 435.908; 42 C.F.R. § 435.905.

<sup>2</sup> 22 M.R.S. § 3174-X. Maine's Medicaid program has adopted the Primary Care Case Manager model for managed care. See the definitions in 42 CFR 438.2.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES  
PROTECTIONS

LR 2219

Sponsor: Senator Volk of Cumberland

An Act To Protect Low-wage Workers

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	1	9	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would increase the minimum wage, clarify the authority of municipalities and counties to enact ordinances governing employment and make changes to the laws governing the employment of minors.

---

Potential JR 217:                      LD  
   36,52,72,77,92,487,843,1393

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 30*

*Senator Amy F. Volk*  
*Chair, Labor, Commerce, Research & Economic Development*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*Office (207) 287-1505*  
*Cell (207) 229-5091*  
*amy.volk@legislature.maine.gov*

October 30, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

I respectfully request an appeal for a second session submission that was rejected at the Legislative Council meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The proposed legislation is LR 2219, "*An Act To Protect Low-wage Workers.*"

LR 2219 seeks to increase the minimum wage, clarify the authority of municipalities and counties to enact ordinances governing employment and make changes to the laws governing the employment of minors.

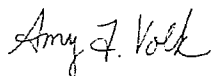
This legislation is needed to further efforts at increasing the minimum wage in Maine. The decision to change Maine's minimum wage has always rested with the Legislature and should continue to do so. It is widely anticipated that there will be a ballot referendum on increasing the minimum wage. While we cannot prevent such a referendum from moving forward, we can reassure Maine citizens and the business community that we are capable of fulfilling our responsibilities by agreeing on a wage schedule ahead of that vote. Organizations such as Maine Retailers and the Maine State Chamber of Commerce are deeply concerned that a higher wage will pass by referendum, thereby binding the legislature.

This bill increases Maine's minimum wage to \$10 an hour by the year 2020 and requires county-wide votes to increase a wage locally unless a municipality has already passed its own wage before the law goes into effect.

I believe that this bill is a very responsible endeavor for the Maine Legislature, and it may be the compromise we need to find common ground and help Maine's low wage workers. The difference with my proposal this session is the pre-emption. Areas would still be able to establish a unique minimum wage, but that decision would have to be made by an entire county rather than a single municipality.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Senator Amy F. Volk

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

LR 2489

ELECTRIC UTILITIES

PLANNING

Sponsor: Representative Wadsworth of Hiram

An Act To Ensure a Timely Reduction in Energy Costs for Maine Consumers

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	Yes
Hill	No	Espling	Yes

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	3	7	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would direct the 2 investor-owned electricity utilities in the State to purchase their respective New England power pool load ratio share of natural gas pipeline capacity at the lowest price available as determined by each utility's competitive solicitation process.

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## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002  
(207) 287-1440  
TTY: (207) 287-4469

### Nathan J. Wadsworth

P.O. Box 321  
Cornish, ME 04020  
Residence: (207) 838-7451  
Nathan.Wadsworth@legislature.maine.gov

November 2, 2015

Hon. Michael D. Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

President Thibodeau:

I would like to formally request **LR: 2489, *An Act To Ensure a Timely Reduction in Energy Costs for Maine Consumers***, be part of the appeal process scheduled for the next meeting of the Legislative Council on Thursday, November 19th.

This request is based on the emergency nature of Maine's energy costs. It is in my opinion that our energy costs facing Maine consumers is a dire need that should be a top priority to be handled in an expeditious manner. As Maine consumers continue to face some of our Nation's highest energy costs we have seen the burden negatively affect not only our businesses that struggle to stay open, but also our friends and familys living paycheck to paycheck struggle to keep up. Mainer's need relief and I believe this bill would certainly help address this issue.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nathan J. Wadsworth".

Nathan J. Wadsworth  
State Representative



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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JUDICIARY

LR 2369

FREEDOM OF ACCESS

RECORD CONFIDENTIALITY

Sponsor: Representative Warren of Hallowell

An Act To Give Proper Oversight to the So-called Fusion Center Advisory Board

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would ensure that the so-called Fusion Center Advisory Board has sufficient security clearance to receive classified information and would require that the board treat as confidential information it receives.

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STATE OF MAINE

*House of Representatives  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333*

October 28, 2015

Sen. Michael Thibodeau, Chair  
Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

It is my intention to appeal the Council's rejection of the following bill request:

**LR 2369, An Act to Give Proper Oversight to the So-called Fusion Center Advisory Board.**

This bill is an emergency because the Maine Information and Analysis Center was recently tapped to take on the drug epidemic and there are few parameters in place to oversee their work.

I look forward to addressing the Council on Nov. 19 to discuss this proposal and to clarify its need for inclusion as emergency legislation for the upcoming session.

Respectfully,

*Charlotte M Warren*

Charlotte M. Warren  
State Representative

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

LR 2371

INSURANCE PRACTICES

REINSURANCE

Sponsor: Senator Whittemore of Somerset

An Act To Amend the Maine Guaranteed Access Reinsurance Association Act

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	No
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	Yes

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would amend the Maine Guaranteed Access Reinsurance Association Act to reflect changes in the individual health insurance market following passage of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

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*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 3*

*Senator Rodney L. Whittemore*  
*Chair, Insurance & Financial Services*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*

October 30, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair of the Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0115

Dear President Thibodeau and members of the Legislative Council:

I am writing to request an appeal of the Legislative Council's decision on the following bill: LR 2371, "An Act To Amend the Maine Guaranteed Access Reinsurance Association Act."

The Maine Guaranteed Access Reinsurance Association (MGARA) was created in 2011 to stabilize premiums in the individual market by providing reinsurance against high-risk claimants, thereby mitigating the impact these claims placed on premiums. In practice, this was achieved by allowing health carriers to cede high-risk members to the reinsurance pool, where these members' claims would be paid largely by an assessment on health plans on all lines of health insurance business, and by premiums paid by the ceding carrier.

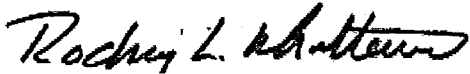
The Affordable Care Act (ACA) created a temporary federal reinsurance program that would go into effect on January 1, 2014, terminating at the end of 2016. In order to avoid double assessments to fund two different programs, the Maine Legislature passed legislation in 2013 suspending the MGARA reinsurance program. The legislation also permits MGARA to resume operations upon the expiration of the federal reinsurance program. While MGARA served an important purpose prior to the ACA, lawmakers should consider whether MGARA would continue to serve that purpose in a new healthcare landscape.

LR 2371 would amend or repeal the MGARA reinsurance program because this mechanism is no longer needed. First, premiums charged to individual health plan members enrolled in ACA compliant products introduced on or after January 1, 2014, are largely subsidized by federal tax dollars in the form of tax credits. According to recent data, more than 60,000 Mainers enrolled through Healthcare.gov received a premium tax credit, which reduced each enrollee's premium by an average of more than \$300 per month. Furthermore, because these tax credits are calculated based on the cost of health plans in the exchange, the amount Maine residents will receive in the form of tax credits will increase if health plan premiums increase. Second, the assessment mechanism required under MGARA places an additional burden on health insurance premiums, particularly for small and large businesses in Maine. In essence, the assessment on small and large group health plans subsidizes individual health plan rates.

Because health insurance plans are required to file their 2017 rates by mid-2016 and need to know whether to include the MGARA assessment in those rates, it is important that action on this legislation is taken during the 2016 legislative session. Absent legislative action, MGARA will resume operation in 2017.

I appreciate the Council's consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,

  
Senator Rodney L. Whittemore

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

LR 2478

HEALTH EDUCATION

DRUG EDUCATION

Sponsor: Senator Whittemore of Somerset

An Act To Promote Drug Awareness Education in Maine's Schools

Thibodeau	Yes	Eves	No
Mason	Yes	McCabe	No
Cushing	Yes	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	Yes
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	4	6	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would transfer \$2,000,000 from the Fund for a Healthy Maine into a grant program administered by the Department of Education. A school district would be able to apply for a grant to fund drug abuse education programs.

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Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2378 Senator Johnson, C

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 3*

*Senator Rodney L. Whittemore*  
*Chair, Insurance & Financial Services*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*

November 2, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair of the Legislative Council  
115 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0115

Dear President Thibodeau and members of the Legislative Council:

I am writing to request an appeal of the Legislative Council's decision on the following bill: LR 2478, "An Act To Promote Drug Awareness Education in Maine's Schools."

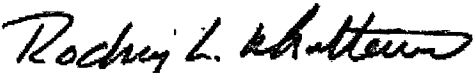
There is no denying that Maine has a severe drug crisis on its hands. Last year alone, more than 200 people in this state died of a drug overdose, the highest rate of drug overdose deaths Maine has seen on record. I believe that there is a strong commitment from lawmakers to be proactive in helping find solutions that tackle this epidemic. Education must be a part of that mix.

LR 2478 would transfer \$2 million from the Fund for a Healthy Maine into a grant program, which would be administered by the Maine Department of Education. A school district would be able to apply for a grant to fund drug abuse education programs that they are interested in providing within their schools.

Many schools in Maine already are providing some sort of drug awareness education program; however, in response to the drastic increase in the use of heroin and other opiate-based drugs, these programs need to be enhanced to effectively combat the consumption of these potentially-fatal drugs. The last thing that schools should have to be concerned about is how to pay for drug prevention programs that could make the difference in saving a student's life. It is my belief that LR 2478 fits the mission perfectly of how to use monies from the Fund for a Healthy Maine and provides an essential resource for our schools throughout Maine that want to do all they can in helping to reverse this trend and to prevent drug use among our youth.

I appreciate the Council's consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,

  
Senator Rodney L. Whittemore

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2555

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

EDUCATION

Sponsor: Senator Willette of Aroostook

An Act To Amend the Law Regarding the Diversion Alert Program

Thibodeau	No	Eves	No
Mason	No	McCabe	No
Cushing	No	Gideon	No
Alfond	No	Fredette	No
Hill	No	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	0	10	0	0	<b>Out</b>

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Comment

This bill would provide additional funding for the diversion alert program and move the program from the Office of the Attorney General to the Department of Public Safety.

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*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 2*

*Senator Michael J. Willette*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505 Office*  
*(207) 227-5989 Cell*

October 29, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair, Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

I respectfully request an appeal for a second session submission that was rejected at the Legislative Council meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The proposed legislation is LR 2555, "*An Act to Amend the Law Regarding the Diversion Alert Program.*"

Diversion Alert is an innovative, statewide program that provides monthly drug arrest reports to **over 2,000** medical professionals. The monthly reports help prescribers and pharmacists identify and respond to patients at risk for overdose, in need of treatment, or engaged in illegal prescription drug distribution. Diversion Alert is NOT the same as Maine's Prescription Monitoring Program, which is a federally funded database prescribers use to review prescription drugs dispensed to patients. Diversion Alert provides new, actionable information for medical professionals that enables them to more effectively address patient prescription drug abuse and diversion.

LD 2555 also seeks to move the program from the Office of the Attorney General to the Department of Public Safety (DPS). Many believe that DPS would be a better fit for Diversion Alert as they are knowledgeable on the issue and already have other programs to combat drug abuse.

**Why an emergency?**

Last session, the Legislature enacted LD 1307, "*An Act to Fund the Maine Diversion Alert Program.*" I was also the sponsor of that bill. **While we did receive funding with the passage of that law, LD 1307 only provided one-time funds of \$95,000 which run out after June 2016.** I believe that this essential program needs continued funding to further help the people of Maine. In addition to the lives positively impacted by Diversion Alert, **the total estimated cost savings to Maine's health care system which may result from the identification of patients abusing and diverting prescriptions is \$1,502,900 - \$3,176,204 per year.**

Diversion Alert is an essential component to Maine's efforts to address prescription and illegal drug abuse. **LR 2555 would authorize funding for Diversion Alert for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.**

Thank You,



Michael Willette  
State Senator



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Bill Requests For Screening On Appeal**

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LR 2407

MEDICAID

MAINECARE

Sponsor: Senator Woodsome of York

An Act To Increase Access to Opiate Addiction Treatment in Maine

Thibodeau	No	Eves	Yes
Mason	No	McCabe	Yes
Cushing	No	Gideon	Yes
Alfond	Yes	Fredette	No
Hill	Yes	Espling	No

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
Total:	5	5	0	0	<b>Out</b>

---

Comment

This bill would increase access to opiate addiction treatment by setting the MaineCare reimbursement rate for outpatient methadone treatment at a level equal to the rates in effect prior to the 2010 and 2012 rate cuts.

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Total number of bills screened: 147

*127th Legislature*  
*Senate of*  
*Maine*  
*Senate District 33*

*Senator David Woodsome*  
*3 State House Station*  
*Augusta, ME 04333-0003*  
*(207) 287-1505*

November 2, 2015

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau  
Chair of the Legislative Council  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau and Council Members,

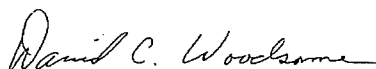
I am submitting a request for appeal for LR 2407, "An Act To Increase Access to Opiate Addiction Treatment in Maine." This bill proposes increased access to opiate addiction treatment by setting the MaineCare reimbursement rate for outpatient Methadone treatment at a level equal to the rates in effect prior to the 2010/2012 cuts. Opioid addiction has risen to the level of a public health crisis in Maine with two major summits being convened in the past 3 months to discuss this epidemic. All parties agree that treatment must be part of the strategy to combat this growing problem. A component that adds to the crisis is that two of Maine's treatment centers have recently closed due to funding issues; Mercy of Westbrook and Spectrum Health Systems in Sanford. Numerous constituents reached out to me when the news broke that Spectrum would be closing; many of them had friends or family members who were benefiting from the progress and recovery that Spectrum was providing. Over the past several years, the number of Mainers seeking treatment for heroin has tripled, while the number of patients in treatment has been flat or declining. We must act to combat this drug problem we all talk about wanting to solve.

The solution is a combined effort of education, prevention, treatment and enforcement, it cannot be solely enforcement. As of 2010 it costs roughly \$46,000 per person in prison, while it costs approximately \$5,000 per person for evidence-based treatment. Addiction is a disease not a crime and we need to start treating it as such. We have the opportunity to be proactive instead of reactive and we must act now. Failure to support treatment will cost the General Fund budget far more over time.

Methadone treatment is the most studied and cost effective form of treatment. Every month that we delay action means more emergency room visits, crimes, children being placed in protective services, overdoses, incarcerations and death. There is no doubt that this should be constituted as emergency legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Senator David Woodsome

## PART 8

## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

### **Appealed Bill Requests**

#### **Sorted By Subject**

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#### **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

##### **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DEPT PROCEDURES**

LR: 2120    Sponsor: Representative Hickman of Winthrop  
Title:        An Act To Increase Transparency in Cooperative Agreements Entered Into by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry  
Comment:    This bill would increase transparency in cooperative agreements entered into by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry by requiring the department to solicit public comments regarding each such agreement, respond to questions and comments from the public, respond to inquiries and notify the Legislature regarding such agreements. The bill would also authorize the Legislature to hold a public hearing on any such agreement.

##### **FORESTRY PRACTICES**

LR: 2552    Sponsor: Representative Martin of Eagle Lake  
Title:        An Act To Make Corrections to the Biennial Budget Regarding the Maine Forest Service  
Comment:    This bill would make corrections to the biennial budget passed by the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature regarding the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Maine Forest Service.

##### **PRODUCTS ORGANIC**

LR: 2206    Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin  
Title:        An Act To Oversee Organic Dairy Farm Audits  
Comment:    This bill would establish a public process to allow organic dairy farms to appeal audits conducted by private firms.

##### **PUBLIC LANDS CONVEYANCES**

LR: 2312    Sponsor: Representative Stanley of Medway  
Title:        An Act To Limit Consent Regarding Land Transfers to the Federal Government  
Comment:    This bill would limit the application of the law providing the automatic consent of the Legislature to acquisitions of land by the United States to areas of land of 5 square miles or less.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

**Appealed Bill Requests**

**Sorted By Subject**

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**AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

**PUBLIC LANDS**

**LAND FOR MAINE'S FUTURE BOARD**

LR: 2256 Sponsor: Representative Cooper of Yarmouth

Title: An Act To Amend the Appointment Process for Members of the Land for Maine's Future Board and the Responsibilities of the Board

Comment: This bill would place the Land for Maine's Future Program under the direction and control of the Land for Maine's Future Board and require that board members be appointed by the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House and the Governor.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2360 Representative McCabe, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2458 Senator Hill, D

LR: 2360 Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan

Title: An Act To Protect the Land for Maine's Future Program

Comment: This bill would protect the Land for Maine's Future Program by ensuring that the Land for Maine's Future Board is able to do its work to enable the continuance of the program.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2256 Representative Cooper, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2458 Senator Hill, D

**PUBLIC LANDS**

**STATE PARKS**

LR: 2141 Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc

Title: An Act To Allow Maine Residents To Access the Online Reservation Site for State Parks 24 Hours before Nonresidents

Comment: This bill would allow Maine residents to access the online reservation site for state parks 24 hours before nonresidents.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

##### BOND ISSUES

##### EDUCATION

LR: 2176 Sponsor: Representative Fecteau of Biddeford  
Title: An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Vocational High Schools  
Comment: This bill would authorize a general fund bond issue in the amount of \$10,000,000 for vocational high schools.

##### BOND ISSUES

##### PUBLIC LANDS

LR: 2130 Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec  
Title: An Act To Reauthorize Certain Land for Maine's Future Bonds and To Facilitate the Issuance of Those Bonds  
Comment: This bill would reauthorize the issuance of the land conservation bonds that were ratified by the voters of the State in statewide elections held in November 2010 and November 2012. This bill would also make necessary changes to the law to ensure that those bonds are issued and funds are transferred in accordance with those ratified bonds.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2212 Representative Timmons, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2373 Representative Guerin, S

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2131 Representative McCabe, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2132 Representative Pouliot, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2133 Representative Vachon, K

#### PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

##### EDUCATORS

LR: 2433 Sponsor: Representative Hubbell of Bar Harbor  
Title: An Act To Increase Transparency in the Setting of Normal Teacher Retirement Costs Rates for School Districts  
Comment: This bill would require that an actuarial report on the estimated costs of normal teacher retirement be presented to a joint meeting of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations matters and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters in the 2nd year of the biennium to project costs for the next biennium. Based on that actuarial report, a rate would be established in the 2nd year of the biennium for the amount school districts would have to pay in the new biennium and estimates would be published on what increase or decrease is projected in terms of dollar amount by district.

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**Appealed Bill Requests**

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**APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

**SPENDING**

**TRANSPORTATION**

LR: 2488    Sponsor: Representative Gideon of Freeport

Title:        An Act To Revitalize Infrastructure Investment To Create Jobs

Comment:    This bill would appropriate proceeds from Maine's liquor contract to address emergency needs of the State's public infrastructure, including roads and bridges.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

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#### CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

##### CORRECTIONS DEPT

##### ADMINISTRATION

LR: 2399 Sponsor: Representative Rotundo of Lewiston  
Title: An Act To Fund and Implement Wage Adjustments for All State Correctional Employees Who Perform Direct Care or Supervision of Prisoners  
Comment: This bill would allocate funding necessary to meet the legislative intent to provide wage adjustment to all correctional employees who perform direct care or supervision of prisoners.

##### CRIMES

##### NEW

LR: 2322 Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan  
Title: An Act To Ensure the Proper Functioning of State Government by Ensuring Execution of Executive Branch Duties  
Comment: This bill would require the Governor to issue a general obligation bond that has been ratified by the legal voters of the State unless one of 5 specific conditions exists, and it would require the Governor to provide certain information upon delaying or forgoing issuance of a bond. This bill would also amend the Maine Criminal Code to specify that a public servant is guilty of official oppression if the public servant, acting with the intent to harm or unduly influence another person or entity, refrains from performing a duty imposed upon that public servant by law or clearly inherent in the nature of that public servant's office.

Potential JR 217: LD 1378

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2134 Representative Vachon, K

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT

##### LOCAL POLICE

LR: 2438 Sponsor: Representative Grohman of Biddeford  
Title: An Act To Allow School Resource Officers To Have Jurisdiction at Off-site Events  
Comment: This bill would allow school resource officers to have jurisdiction at events that are school-related but are held outside the school district, such as proms.



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#### CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

##### OPERATING UNDER INFLUENCE

###### PENALTIES

LR: 2356 Sponsor: Representative Hymanson of York

Title: An Act To Reduce Drunk Driving

Comment: This bill would establish a "24/7 Sobriety Program" under which repeat offenders of the laws governing operating under the influence do not lose their driver's license but are required to take daily breathalyzer tests.

##### PRISONERS

###### MEDICAL CARE

LR: 2297 Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick

Title: Resolve, To Provide the Legislature with Information on the Need for Mental Health Services in County Jails

Comment: This resolve would direct the Consumer Council System of Maine to convene a working group to collect data to determine the unmet needs for mental health services in the county jails.

Potential JR 217: LD657

##### SENTENCES

###### DRUG OFFENSES

LR: 2284 Sponsor: Senator Cyrway of Kennebec

Title: An Act To Increase Sentences Imposed for Interstate Trafficking of Illegal Drugs

Comment: This bill would increase the sentences that are imposed for interstate trafficking of illegal drugs.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2244 Representative Pierce, J

##### WEAPONS

###### CONCEALED WEAPONS

LR: 2223 Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin

Title: An Act To Eliminate the Disclosure Requirement for a Person Carrying a Concealed Handgun without a Permit

Comment: This bill would eliminate the requirement that a person lawfully carrying a concealed handgun without a permit immediately disclose that fact to a law enforcement officer during the course of any arrest, detainment or routine traffic stop.

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**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**WEAPONS**

**SALES**

LR: 2296    Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick  
Title:        An Act To Require Background Checks for Private Sales or Transfers of Firearms  
Comment:    This bill would require a person who wishes to obtain a firearm in a private sale  
                 or transfer to first obtain a background check from a licensed firearm dealer.

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#### EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

##### COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

##### POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

LR: 2320 Sponsor: Senator Millett of Cumberland  
Title: An Act To Promote Postsecondary Education Attainment and Degree Completion  
Comment: This bill would establish postsecondary education attainment goals for the State's adult population and would establish the Commission on Higher Education and Workforce Needs.

LR: 2366 Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec  
Title: An Act To Establish the Maine Tuition Integrity Act  
Comment: This bill would establish laws governing for-profit colleges, including provisions requiring: evaluation at the program level; spending student tuition dollars on instruction rather than advertising and administrative salaries; meeting benchmarks for outcomes; obtaining correct accreditations; and informing students of the existence of certain barriers to certain types of licensure.

##### COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

##### STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

LR: 2365 Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec  
Title: An Act To Establish the Maine Student Loan Borrower Bill of Rights  
Comment: This bill, which is modeled on Connecticut's Student Loan Bill of Rights, would establish a Student Loan Ombudsman, regulate entities that service student loans, prohibit certain misleading and fraudulent actions and establish certain practices as unfair and deceptive.

##### CULTURAL AGENCIES

##### ARTS COMMISSION

LR: 2440 Sponsor: Representative McClellan of Raymond  
Title: An Act To Create Arts Engage ME  
Comment: This bill would allow the Maine Arts Commission to have a support organization.

LR: 2441 Sponsor: Representative McClellan of Raymond  
Title: An Act Regarding the Maine Arts Commission  
Comment: This bill would allow the Maine Arts Commission to create an endowment fund.

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#### EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

##### EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

##### SCHOOL CHOICE

- LR: 2299 Sponsor: Representative McClellan of Raymond  
Title: An Act to Limit Municipalities' Exposure on Tuition Payments for Choice Students  
Comment: This bill would ensure that a student in a regional school unit or any school choice situation would have state funding available at the State-set rate for the year and would prohibit a regional school unit or parent from negotiating a higher payment to a school charging a higher rate.
- LR: 2361 Sponsor: Representative Stearns of Guilford  
Title: An Act To Improve the Superintendent Transfer Process  
Comment: This bill would make binding the decision of 2 school superintendents not to approve the transfer of a student from one school administrative unit to the other.

#### HEALTH EDUCATION

##### DRUG EDUCATION

- LR: 2378 Sponsor: Senator Johnson of Lincoln  
Title: An Act To Establish a Pilot Program To Prevent Student Drug Addiction  
Comment: This bill would establish a pilot program funded through the Fund for a Healthy Maine to improve student health by preventing student drug and tobacco addiction, preventing abusive relationships between students and reducing teen pregnancy.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2478 Senator Whittemore, R

- LR: 2478 Sponsor: Senator Whittemore of Somerset  
Title: An Act To Promote Drug Awareness Education in Maine's Schools  
Comment: This bill would transfer \$2,000,000 from the Fund for a Healthy Maine into a grant program administered by the Department of Education. A school district would be able to apply for a grant to fund drug abuse education programs.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2378 Senator Johnson, C

- LR: 2503 Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan  
Title: An Act To Coordinate Education and Prevention Efforts in Our Schools To Stop Harmful Drug Use  
Comment: This bill would link schools throughout the State with existing successful and effective programming to help prevent youth in the State from using harmful drugs.

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#### EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

##### SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

##### ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS

LR: 2334 Sponsor: Senator Langley of Hancock

Title: An Act To Amend Certain Education Statutes

Comment: This bill would authorize the Commissioner of Education to designate a school administrative unit to enroll a student who lives in a school administrative unit without a school or a contract with another school administrative unit. This bill would also amend the laws regarding public charter schools.

Potential JR 217: LD1448

LR: 2350 Sponsor: Representative Turner of Burlington

Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Withdrawal of a Single Municipality from a Regional School Unit

Comment: This bill would make the following changes to the laws governing the withdrawal of a single municipality from a regional school unit. It would limit the time between proposals and counterproposals of the municipality and the regional school unit to 30 days; require the parties to bargain in good faith; and require the Commissioner of Education or the department to help facilitate a compromise if the parties are unable to reach an agreement.

##### SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

##### BUDGETS

LR: 2269 Sponsor: Senator Breen of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Promote Private Fund-raising for the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf

Comment: This bill would enable the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf to engage in private fundraising to support its mission. It will use an existing 501(c)(3) organization as its fiscal agent.

LR: 2329 Sponsor: Senator Millett of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Facilitate the Use of State Education Subsidies

Comment: This bill would authorize a regional school unit or other school administrative unit to include an article in the warrant for its annual budget meeting providing that, in the event that the school unit receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its budget, the school board is authorized to increase expenditures for school purposes in cost center categories approved by the board, without a special budget meeting and budget validation referendum.

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**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

**SCHOOL FACILITIES**

**CONSTRUCTION**

LR: 2262    Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin  
Title:        An Act Regarding New School Construction  
Comment:    This bill would freeze the positions of the top 20 projects currently in place for state funding for school construction in the event that a new application process is begun.

**SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA**

**ADJUSTMENTS**

LR: 2553    Sponsor: Representative Martin of Eagle Lake  
Title:        An Act To Transfer Excess Revenue from the State's Liquor Contract in Fiscal Year 2016-17 to General Purpose Aid to Local Schools  
Comment:    This bill would transfer excess revenue from the State's liquor contract in fiscal year 2016-17 to general purpose aid to local schools.

**SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA**

**SPECIAL EDUCATION**

LR: 2511    Sponsor: Representative Devin of Newcastle  
Title:        An Act To Address the Costs for Certain Special Education Students  
Comment:    This bill would provide school administrative units with additional state funding for certain special education students under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in time for the 2016-2017 school year.

**SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA**

**SUBSIDIZABLE COSTS**

LR: 2526    Sponsor: Representative Tipping-Spitz of Orono  
Title:        An Act To Improve Transparency in Education Funding  
Comment:    This bill would require education budget initiatives currently combined under "miscellaneous costs" and "student opportunity fund" to be listed as separate line items in budgets.

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#### EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

##### SCHOOL PERSONNEL

###### BENEFITS

- LR: 2300 Sponsor: Representative Hubbell of Bar Harbor  
Title: An Act To Enable Alternative Organizational Structures To Purchase Group Health Insurance for All Employees  
Comment: This bill would allow a school administrative unit that is a member of an alternative organizational structure to obtain health insurance loss information on an aggregate basis and to purchase a single health insurance policy that is offered to all members of the alternative organizational structure.

##### SCHOOL POLICIES

###### COMPUTERS

- LR: 2484 Sponsor: Representative Brooks of Lewiston  
Title: An Act To Improve Internet Safety for Children  
Comment: This bill would require Internet safety training for children receiving laptops in school, which would include warnings against communicating with strangers.

##### SCHOOL POLICIES

###### CURRICULUM

- LR: 2272 Sponsor: Representative Hubbell of Bar Harbor  
Title: An Act To Establish a Specific Schedule for the Review of the Content Areas of Learning Standards  
Comment: This bill would amend the law requiring the Commissioner of Education to review content standards and performance indicators of learning results to establish a specific schedule for the review of the content areas, such as science and technology and world languages.
- LR: 2352 Sponsor: Representative Tuell of East Machias  
Title: An Act To Facilitate Homegrown Education in Maine  
Comment: This bill would remove the Common Core standards from the system of learning results by June 30, 2017 and transition the State back to locally developed standards.

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#### EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

##### SCHOOL POLICIES

###### TESTING

- LR: 2397 Sponsor: Representative Golden of Lewiston
- Title: An Act To Increase Information for Parents and Teachers Regarding Standardized Tests
- Comment: This bill would require school boards to convene a stakeholder group of parents, teachers, school board members and administrators to develop a common policy and protocols concerning standardized testing and its usage. The group would be composed of a majority of parents and teachers. Each school board would be required to adopt a policy that clearly articulates the number of standardized assessments each student will be expected to take and provides a summary of the time students will spend on testing, and the board would be required to adopt a plan to communicate clearly with parents the testing schedule and the usefulness of the standardized tests.

##### SCHOOL PROGRAMS

###### CURRICULUM

- LR: 2279 Sponsor: Representative Daughtry of Brunswick
- Title: An Act To Require That High School Curricula Include Instruction Regarding Affirmative Consent, Communication and Decision-making Skills
- Comment: This bill would require that high school curricula include instruction regarding affirmative consent, communication and decision-making skills.

##### SCHOOL PROGRAMS

###### NUTRITION PROGRAMS

- LR: 2409 Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland
- Title: An Act To Increase Collaboration between the Department of Education and School Food Service Directors
- Comment: This bill would increase collaboration between the Department of Education and school food service directors.
- LR: 2416 Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland
- Title: An Act To Feed Children from Low-income Families
- Comment: This bill would provide funding to subsidize students' copayments for reduced price lunch.



## **127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

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#### **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

##### **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

###### **FUNDING**

LR: 2273    Sponsor: Representative Hubbell of Bar Harbor  
Title:        An Act To Clarify the Liability for Special Education Costs under State-directed Student Transfers  
Comment:    This bill would prohibit transfers effected by the Commissioner of Education or the State Board of Education from resulting in reduction of state liability for the subsidy of special education costs for individual transferred students.

##### **TEACHERS**

###### **CERTIFICATION**

LR: 2452    Sponsor: Representative Maker of Calais  
Title:        An Act To Amend the Teacher Certification Statutes  
Comment:    This bill would amend the teacher certification statutes.

##### **TEACHERS**

###### **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING**

LR: 2390    Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc  
Title:        An Act To Improve Teaching Assignments in Maine's Public Schools  
Comment:    This bill would expressly permit teachers to collectively bargain over involuntary transfers of teachers and require any transfer to be done with only the best interest of the students in mind.

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#### ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

##### PROTECTED NATURAL RESOURCES

###### SAND DUNES

LR: 2443 Sponsor: Representative Blume of York

Title: An Act To Improve the Management of "Beach-cast" Seaweed for Purposes of Health, Ecology and Tourism

Comment: This bill would amend the law regarding the management of "beach-cast" seaweed in coastal sand dune systems in order to help towns be more responsive to increasing accumulations of seaweed on our beaches.

##### TOXIC SUBSTANCES

###### TOXIC CHEMICALS

LR: 2351 Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc

Title: An Act To Protect Firefighters by Prohibiting the Use of Certain Flame-retardant Chemicals in New Upholstered Furniture

Comment: This bill would prohibit the use of certain flame-retardant chemicals in new upholstered furniture.

##### WASTES

###### SLUDGE

LR: 2281 Sponsor: Representative Kruger of Thomaston

Title: An Act To Require an Environmental Impact Statement for a Dredging Project in the Penobscot River Watershed and To Require That the Dredging Activity Be the Least Environmentally and Economically Damaging Alternative Available

Comment: This bill would require that an environmental impact assessment be completed for a dredging project in the Penobscot River watershed. It also would require that the dredging activity be the least environmentally and economically damaging alternative available.

##### WASTES

###### SPECIAL WASTES

LR: 2205 Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin

Title: An Act To Create a Battery Stewardship Program

Comment: This bill would create a battery stewardship program to require labeling of batteries, indicating the chemistry used to store energy, and to require the provider of a battery to develop and maintain a program to manage discarded batteries.

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**ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**WATER QUALITY**

**WASTEWATER DISCHARGES**

LR: 2318    Sponsor: Representative Powers of Naples

Title:        An Act To Require Houseboats To Have a Marine Sanitation Device

Comment:    This bill would require houseboats to have a marine sanitation device to prevent the overboard discharge of treated or untreated sewage or any waste derived from sewage. The bill would also define "houseboat" as any watercraft that is moored, docked or anchored and is used for a dwelling on the inland waters of the State.

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#### ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

##### ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

###### SOLAR ENERGY

LR: 2479 Sponsor: Representative Gideon of Freeport  
Title: An Act To Make Maine Energy-independent  
Comment: This bill would facilitate grid-scale solar projects that are community-owned and located on properties that cannot be used for other development.

##### ELECTRIC UTILITIES

###### PLANNING

LR: 2461 Sponsor: Senator Patrick of Oxford  
Title: An Act To Include Energy from Combined Heat and Power Facilities as Part of the Maine Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard  
Comment: This bill would allow energy generated by combined heat and power facilities to be eligible energy under Maine's renewable energy portfolio standard.

LR: 2489 Sponsor: Representative Wadsworth of Hiram  
Title: An Act To Ensure a Timely Reduction in Energy Costs for Maine Consumers  
Comment: This bill would direct the 2 investor-owned electricity utilities in the State to purchase their respective New England power pool load ratio share of natural gas pipeline capacity at the lowest price available as determined by each utility's competitive solicitation process.

##### ENERGY

###### ELECTRICITY GENERATION

LR: 2506 Sponsor: Representative Dion of Portland  
Title: An Act To Clarify Laws Relating to Affiliate Ownership of Electric Generation  
Comment: This bill would address ambiguities in statute regarding affiliates of electric transmission and distribution companies seeking to interconnect with the electric transmission and distribution system.

##### ENERGY

###### PLANNING

LR: 2331 Sponsor: Representative Campbell of Orrington  
Title: An Act To Encourage the Development of Electrical and Natural Gas Infrastructure in Bucksport  
Comment: This bill would encourage the development of electrical and natural gas infrastructure at the former site of the mill in Bucksport.

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## **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **GAS UTILITIES**

#### **NATURAL GAS**

LR: 2380 Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick  
Title: An Act To Establish a Single Government Entity To Coordinate and Ensure Pipeline Safety in Maine  
Comment: This bill would require a single government entity to have pipeline facility inspection authority, require first responders to have 24-hour access to pipeline facilities, ensure these responders are equipped and trained to deal safely with pipeline incidents and require pipeline owners to educate citizens fully about the dangers of hazardous material transportation.

### **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

#### **POWERS**

LR: 2435 Sponsor: Representative Grohman of Biddeford  
Title: An Act To Make Efficient Heat Pumps Available to Low-income Customers  
Comment: This bill would allow transmission and distribution utilities to implement a program to make efficient heat pumps available for use by low-income customers and others who face significant barriers to purchasing a heat pump directly. The program, whose design is subject to review by the Public Utilities Commission, may include special rates for participating customers to cover program costs, which costs may be paid only by participating customers, and the program must offer customer choice of qualified 3rd-party installers and distributors.

Potential JR 217: LD1257

LR: 2546 Sponsor: Representative Babbidge of Kennebunk  
Title: An Act To Establish Policy Regarding Distributed Solar Power  
Comment: This bill would establish policy concerning continued use and expansion of solar energy through information gathered and studied by the Public Utilities Commission.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2475 Representative Pouliot, M

## **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

### **CELLULAR PHONES**

LR: 2137 Sponsor: Senator Baker of Sagadahoc  
Title: An Act To Increase Access to Call Location Information by Law Enforcement Agencies  
Comment: This bill would require wireless service providers to provide call location information when requested by a law enforcement agency for the purpose of responding to emergency situations.

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**ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**RELAY SERVICES**

LR: 2459 Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick

Title: An Act To Revise Qualifications for Certain Members of the  
Telecommunications Relay Services Advisory Council

Comment: This bill would revise the qualifications of 4 members of the Telecommunications  
Relay Services Advisory Council.

**UTILITY DISTRICTS**

**POWERS**

LR: 2202 Sponsor: Representative Nadeau of Winslow

Title: An Act To Allow the Kennebec Sanitary Treatment District To Establish and  
Maintain a Capital Reserve Fund

Comment: This bill would allow the Kennebec Sanitary Treatment District to establish a  
capital reserve fund to help in paying for the maintaining, upgrading and  
replacing of its aging infrastructure.

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#### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##### CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

###### DAY CARE

LR: 2410 Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Feed Young Children by Strengthening the Child and Adult Care Food Program

Comment: This bill would provide for feeding young children by strengthening the child and adult care food program.

##### CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

###### FOSTER CARE

LR: 2404 Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick

Title: An Act To Establish the Maine Foster Children's Bill of Rights

Comment: This bill would establish the Maine Foster Children's Bill of Rights.

LR: 2554 Sponsor: Representative Malaby of Hancock

Title: An Act To Enact the Foster Parents' Bill of Rights

Comment: This bill would enact the foster parents' bill of rights. It would enumerate the rights of foster parents, including the right to training, consultation and assistance in evaluating, identifying and accessing services to meet their needs related to their role as foster parents; the right to all pertinent information known to the Department of Health and Human Services about a foster child; and the right to a written explanation of the plan concerning the placement of a child in the foster parents' home.

##### CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

###### PROTECTIVE SERVICES

LR: 2411 Sponsor: Representative Picchiotti of Fairfield

Title: An Act To Enhance the Family Reunification Process

Comment: This bill would add de facto parents to the types of parents recognized by the Department of Health and Human Services for purposes of the reunification and placement process. It would not change procedures in the reunification and placement process.

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#### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##### DISABLED PERSONS

##### PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITY

LR: 2426 Sponsor: Representative Peterson of Rumford  
Title: An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Oversight over and Responsibility for the Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program  
Comment: This bill would transfer authority over the Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program Fund to a program administrator, eliminate the Kim Wallace Adaptive Equipment Loan Program Fund Board, authorize the establishment of an advisory board and transfer authority for administration of the fund from the Finance Authority of Maine to the Office of the Treasurer of State.

##### ELDERLY

##### NUTRITION SERVICES

LR: 2525 Sponsor: Representative Hamann of South Portland  
Title: An Act To Provide Meals to Homebound Individuals  
Comment: This bill would fully fund the waitlist for Meals on Wheels.

#### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPT ADMINISTRATION

LR: 2514 Sponsor: Representative Frey of Bangor  
Title: An Act To Support State Psychiatric and Forensic Workers  
Comment: This bill would provide funding for a wage adjustment stipend for state employees in the state psychiatric and forensic facilities to assist in recruitment and retention. This bill also would include monthly reporting requirements for the Department of Health and Human Services on worker injury rates, the use of mandated overtime and other worker safety issues.

#### HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

##### REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

LR: 2182 Sponsor: Representative Kinney of Knox  
Title: An Act To Prohibit State Funding of Health Care Services Provided by Certain Health Care Providers  
Comment: This bill would prohibit all state funding currently provided to Planned Parenthood and would instead provide those funds to other health care providers established under Maine law that are able to provide those same women's health care services.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2531 Representative Guerin, S



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#### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##### HEALTH CARE SERVICES

###### DELIVERY

- LR: 2547    Sponsor: Representative Beck of Waterville  
Title:        Resolve, To Clarify Inspections of Caregivers under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act  
Comment:    This resolve would require the Department of Health and Human Services to establish clear standards for the inspection of caregivers under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act.

##### HEALTH CARE SERVICES

###### PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

- LR: 2436    Sponsor: Representative Cooper of Yarmouth  
Title:        An Act To Limit the Increase in the Price of Prescription Drugs  
Comment:    This bill would prohibit the sale of a prescription drug in Maine if its price has more than doubled in the previous 12 months or is proposed to be increased by more than twice its current price unless the manufacturer is able to demonstrate that the cost of manufacturing the drug justifies the price increase.
- LR: 2520    Sponsor: Representative Hamann of South Portland  
Title:        An Act To Prevent Fatal Opioid Overdoses among Youth and Seniors  
Comment:    This bill would allow school nurses and people caring for senior citizens to have access to naloxone hydrochloride.

##### HEALTH CARE SERVICES

###### RESPIRE CARE

- LR: 2548    Sponsor: Representative Jorgensen of Portland  
Title:        An Act To Strengthen the Respite Care Fund  
Comment:    This bill would allocate funding to the Respite Care Fund for a second program to provide short-term respite care for people with diseases other than Alzheimer's and dementia who are significantly limited in their ability to care for themselves and dependent upon others to help them with activities of daily living.

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### Appealed Bill Requests

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#### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##### MEDICAID

##### MAINECARE

LR: 2195 Sponsor: Representative Tepler of Topsham

Title: An Act to Provide MaineCare Coverage for Dental Services To Intellectually Disabled Adults

Comment: This bill would provide MaineCare coverage to intellectually disabled adults receiving so-called Section 21 or Section 29 services for the same level of dental services that are provided to children under MaineCare.

LR: 2325 Sponsor: Senator Brakey of Androscoggin

Title: An Act To Impose Penalties for Certain Transfers of Assets at Less Than Fair Market Value by Individuals

Comment: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to impose an asset transfer penalty, with a lookback period of 60 months, on a person seeking to qualify for MaineCare funding and support of any long-term care services, and who has made a transfer or other disposal of assets at less than fair market value.

LR: 2354 Sponsor: Representative Lajoie of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Require the State To Adequately Pay for Emergency Medical Services

Comment: This bill would increase the MaineCare reimbursement for ambulance services to the federal Medicare allowable rate.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2291 Representative Malaby, R

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2515 Senator Burns, D

LR: 2407 Sponsor: Senator Woodsome of York

Title: An Act To Increase Access to Opiate Addiction Treatment in Maine

Comment: This bill would increase access to opiate addiction treatment by setting the MaineCare reimbursement rate for outpatient methadone treatment at a level equal to the rates in effect prior to the 2010 and 2012 rate cuts.

LR: 2450 Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook

Title: An Act To Eliminate the Waiting List for Community-based Services Provided under MaineCare for Individuals with a Brain Injury, an Intellectual Disability or Autism

Comment: This bill would use excess proceeds from the state liquor contract to provide funding to eliminate the waiting list for community-based services provided under MaineCare for individuals with a brain injury, an intellectual disability or autism.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

##### MEDICAID

##### MANAGED CARE PLAN

LR: 2454 Sponsor: Representative Vachon of Scarborough  
Title: An Act To Clarify Medicaid Managed Care Ombudsman Services  
Comment: This bill would amend the laws regarding the Medicaid managed care ombudsman to make them consistent with federal law and guidance. It also clarifies the services the ombudsman provides.

##### MEDICAID

##### REIMBURSEMENT

LR: 2471 Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook  
Title: An Act To Expand Resources for Independent Living Services for People with Disabilities  
Comment: This bill would redirect current federal reimbursement under the federal Social Security Act to better meet the needs of people with disabilities to maximize their ability to live independently.

#### MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

##### PLANNING

LR: 2456 Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook  
Title: Resolve, To Improve Access to and the Quality of Services for Persons with Mental Illness  
Comment: This resolve would require the Department of Health and Human Services, by November 1, 2016, to develop an extensive and comprehensive plan to improve access to and the quality of care for patients who need inpatient and residential mental health services, whether forensic or civil. The plan would include an evaluation of the need for such services in Maine, the number of patients who need the services, a 10-year projection of the number of patients who will need to be served and multiple options for meeting any unmet needs that are determined to exist or improvements to care that need to be made.

#### SUBSTANCE ABUSE

##### EDUCATION

LR: 2555 Sponsor: Senator Willette of Aroostook  
Title: An Act To Amend the Law Regarding the Diversion Alert Program  
Comment: This bill would provide additional funding for the diversion alert program and move the program from the Office of the Attorney General to the Department of Public Safety.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

##### INSURANCE

##### HEALTH

LR: 2249 Sponsor: Senator Langley of Hancock

Title: An Act To Create Improved Consumer Protection against Long-term Care Insurance Premium Rate Increases

Comment: This bill would amend the laws governing long-term care insurance to implement certain safeguards based on consumer age and limit the amount and number of increases over a defined period of time.

LR: 2485 Sponsor: Representative Brooks of Lewiston

Title: An Act To Improve Insurance Coverage for Breast Cancer Screening and To Inform Patients If They Have Increased Breast Density

Comment: This bill would require insurance companies to cover additional breast cancer screening tests recommended by a patient's physician. It would also require that, if it is determined by a medical provider that a patient undergoing mammography has increased breast density, the patient be informed of that fact.

#### INSURANCE PRACTICES

##### REINSURANCE

LR: 2371 Sponsor: Senator Whittemore of Somerset

Title: An Act To Amend the Maine Guaranteed Access Reinsurance Association Act

Comment: This bill would amend the Maine Guaranteed Access Reinsurance Association Act to reflect changes in the individual health insurance market following passage of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

# 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

## Appealed Bill Requests

### Sorted By Subject

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#### INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

##### GAME

##### MOOSE

LR: 2161 Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians

Title: An Act To Reduce Diabetes and Obesity among Members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians by Recognizing and Providing for the Right of Tribal Members To Hunt Moose for Sustenance throughout Aroostook County

Comment: This bill would allow the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians to issue up to 75 tribal moose permits per year to resident tribal members to hunt in Aroostook County to improve health conditions with preferred protein sustenance and traditional, physical activity.

Potential JR 217: LD888

##### RECREATION

##### WATERCRAFT

LR: 2290 Sponsor: Representative Stanley of Medway

Title: An Act To Allow Persons 16 Years of Age and Older To Operate Personal Watercraft

Comment: This bill would reduce from 18 to 16 the age at which a person may operate a personal watercraft.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### JUDICIARY

##### ABUSE

##### CHILD

LR: 2413    Sponsor: Representative Malaby of Hancock  
Title:        An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding the Right to Standing and Intervenor Status in Child Protection Proceedings  
Comment:    The bill would amend the rights of foster parents and grandparents regarding standing and intervenor status in child protection proceedings.

##### ABUSE

##### PROTECTION ACTIONS

LR: 2210    Sponsor: Representative Fowle of Vassalboro  
Title:        An Act To Amend the Laws on Protection from Abuse and Unauthorized Dissemination of Certain Private Images  
Comment:    Recent legislation prohibiting unauthorized dissemination of private images included amendments to the protection from abuse laws to coordinate the laws. This bill would further amend the protection of abuse laws with respect to the definition of "abuse" and remedies.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2211 Representative Fredette, K

LR: 2211    Sponsor: Representative Fredette of Newport  
Title:        An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Protection from Abuse Orders in Order To Implement the Laws Regarding the Unauthorized Dissemination of Certain Private Images  
Comment:    This bill would amend the laws regarding protection from abuse orders to make changes necessary to implement Public Law 2015, chapter 339, An Act To Prohibit the Unauthorized Dissemination of Certain Private Images.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2210 Representative Fowle, L

#### ADOPTION

##### PROCEDURES

LR: 2177    Sponsor: Representative Melaragno of Auburn  
Title:        An Act To Enhance the Opportunity for a Child To Be Adopted by Allowing a Single Spouse To Petition the Court To Adopt  
Comment:    This bill would allow one spouse to petition the court to adopt a child without requiring the other spouse to join in the petition.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### JUDICIARY

##### ADOPTION

##### PROCEDURES

- LR: 2271 Sponsor: Senator Rosen of Hancock  
Title: An Act To Clarify Financial Responsibility in Gestational Carrier Agreements  
Comment: This bill would amend the Maine Parentage Act to clarify financial responsibility for the costs of delivering a child when the child is the subject of a gestational carrier agreement.
- LR: 2513 Sponsor: Representative Beavers of South Berwick  
Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Consider the Rights of Siblings in Situations of Adoption  
Comment: This bill would require that the Department of Health and Human Services, when working with minors in the custody of the State who may be adopted, consider facilitating regular visitation between siblings.

#### COURTS

##### DRUG COURT

- LR: 2427 Sponsor: Representative Frey of Bangor  
Title: An Act To Strengthen Programs To Help Individuals Overcome Addiction  
Comment: This bill would provide the necessary funds to conduct an evaluation of the State's drug courts to ensure that the best and most effective practices are identified and implemented in drug courts across the State and fund a pilot project for new case management services for people in jail who are struggling with addiction.

#### DOMESTIC RELATIONS

##### GRANDPARENTS

- LR: 2355 Sponsor: Representative Picchiotti of Fairfield  
Title: An Act To Ensure Children in the Care of Their Grandparents Can Access Fundamental Services  
Comment: This bill would create state educational and health care consent laws for children in the care of their grandparents.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### JUDICIARY

##### FREEDOM OF ACCESS

##### RECORD CONFIDENTIALITY

LR: 2369 Sponsor: Representative Warren of Hallowell  
Title: An Act To Give Proper Oversight to the So-called Fusion Center Advisory Board  
Comment: This bill would ensure that the so-called Fusion Center Advisory Board has sufficient security clearance to receive classified information and would require that the board treat as confidential information it receives.

LR: 2422 Sponsor: Representative Goode of Bangor  
Title: An Act To Increase the Safety of Social Workers  
Comment: This bill would prohibit the publication of the home addresses of social workers.

#### HUMAN RIGHTS

##### HOUSING

LR: 2539 Sponsor: Senator Cushing of Penobscot  
Title: An Act To Ensure Nondiscrimination against Gun Owners in Housing  
Comment: This bill would prohibit a landlord who receives public funds for rent from prohibiting a tenant from possessing a firearm while on the premises being rented.

#### REAL ESTATE

##### FORECLOSURE

LR: 2245 Sponsor: Representative Pierce of Dresden  
Title: An Act To Ensure Consumer Protection in the Laws Governing Foreclosure  
Comment: This bill, which is modeled on Nevada law, would establish a process of mandatory mediation for parties to a foreclosure.



## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

##### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

###### BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

LR: 2252    Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Transfer the Maine Coworking Development Fund from the  
                 Department of Economic and Community Development to the Finance Authority  
                 of Maine  
Comment:    The bill would transfer the Maine Coworking Development Fund from the  
                 Department of Economic and Community Development to the Finance Authority  
                 of Maine.

##### EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

###### LEAVE POLICIES

LR: 2154    Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox  
Title:        An Act To Protect Worker Benefits  
Comment:    This bill would provide that if an employee earns vacation time as part of the  
                 benefits offered by an employer, the employee must be paid for unused vacation  
                 time earned at the pay rate of the employee if the employee leaves that  
                 employee's job, voluntarily or involuntarily.

LR: 2497    Sponsor: Senator Haskell of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Strengthen the Economic Well-being of Maine's Workforce by  
                 Ensuring Employees Can Earn Paid Sick Time  
Comment:    This bill would require employers of 11 or more employees to allow employees  
                 to earn 56 hours of paid sick time.

##### EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

###### PROTECTIONS

LR: 2219    Sponsor: Senator Volk of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Protect Low-wage Workers  
Comment:    This bill would increase the minimum wage, clarify the authority of  
                 municipalities and counties to enact ordinances governing employment and make  
                 changes to the laws governing the employment of minors.  
Potential JR 217:        LD 36,52,72,77,92,487,843,1393

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

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#### LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

##### FINANCE AUTHORITY PROGRAMS

LR: 2453    Sponsor: Representative Fecteau of Biddeford  
Title:        An Act To Protect Taxpayer Dollars and Ensure the Integrity of State Economic Development Programs  
Comment:    This bill would reform the Maine New Markets Capital Investment Program by directing the Governor and State Tax Assessor to recapture tax credits associated with any fraudulent transactions that have occurred under this program; designate the Finance Authority of Maine, instead of a qualified community development entity, as the owner of tax credits under this program; and increase accountability for future projects in the program by establishing job creation and job quality standards.

##### HOUSING ENERGY ASSISTANCE

LR: 2359    Sponsor: Representative McCabe of Skowhegan  
Title:        An Act To Provide Heating Assistance for Maine Seniors and Families  
Comment:    This bill would provide heating assistance for Maine seniors and families using proceeds from the State's liquor contract.

LR: 2487    Sponsor: Representative Gideon of Freeport  
Title:        An Act To Facilitate Affordable Green Housing  
Comment:    This bill would create new financing mechanisms to make older housing stock more heat-efficient and electricity-efficient.

##### JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS

LR: 2367    Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec  
Title:        An Act To Enhance Economic Development through the Attraction and Support of Immigrant Populations  
Comment:    This bill would develop a highly coordinated pathway system that is easily understood and navigated for immigrants to integrate into the workforce and community. As part of this system, this bill would create pilot projects throughout the State that enhance access to services and training for immigrants and have defined, measurable outcomes for individuals.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

##### JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS

LR: 2398 Sponsor: Representative Golden of Lewiston  
Title: An Act To Ensure Central Maine Companies Have Access to Skilled Labor  
Comment: This bill would provide funding of \$75,000 in each year of the biennium to the Department of Education for the New Mainers Program in Lewiston adult education.

##### LICENSING DENTAL PERSONNEL

LR: 2231 Sponsor: Representative Rykerson of Kittery  
Title: An Act Regarding Clinical Practice Requirements for Licensure as an Independent Practice Dental Hygienist  
Comment: This bill would require applicants for licensure as independent practice dental hygienists to provide proof of having at least 5 years of clinical practice experience, including part-time practice or employment, to meet the clinical practice requirement for licensure.

LR: 2414 Sponsor: Representative Sirocki of Scarborough  
Title: An Act To Conform Maine Law to the Requirements of the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation  
Comment: The bill would conform Maine law to the requirements of the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation.

##### WORKERS COMPENSATION BENEFITS

LR: 2147 Sponsor: Senator Johnson of Lincoln  
Title: An Act To Ensure the Proportional Offset against Social Security Retirement Benefits of Workers' Compensation Awards  
Comment: This bill would ensure the proportional offset against social security retirement benefits of workers' compensation awards.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### MARINE RESOURCES

##### AQUACULTURE

##### SHELLFISH

LR: 2387 Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland  
Title: An Act To Protect Shellfish Conservation Areas  
Comment: This bill would amend the permit criteria related to unreasonably interfering with fishing that a municipal shellfish aquaculture proposed project must meet.

#### COMMERCIAL FISHING

##### LICENSES

LR: 2381 Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland  
Title: An Act To Ensure Fairness in Shellfish and Marine Worm Digger Licensing  
Comment: This bill would require municipal licensing for the taking of marine worms.

LR: 2391 Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians  
Title: An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment by Removing Barriers to the Granting of Commercial Lobster and Crab Fishing Licenses to Members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians  
Comment: This bill would waive for 3 years the requirement that a member of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians have 1,000 hours of experience and have completed a 2-year apprenticeship in lobster fishing in order to be granted a commercial lobster and crab fishing license.

LR: 2500 Sponsor: Representative Blume of York  
Title: An Act To Implement an Owner-operator Requirement in the Scallop and Sea Urchin Fisheries  
Comment: This bill would require scallop and sea urchin dragging license holders to own and operate their vessels in order to participate in the relevant fishery.

#### COMMERCIAL FISHING

##### PRACTICES

LR: 2474 Sponsor: Representative Devin of Newcastle  
Title: Resolve, To Ensure the Sustainability of the Periwinkle Fishery  
Comment: This resolve would require the Department of Marine Resources to adopt major substantive rules regarding the harvest of periwinkles including limits on the size and volume of periwinkles harvested and the time and location of the harvest.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### MARINE RESOURCES

##### FISH

##### EELS

LR: 2144 Sponsor: Representative Beebe-Center of Rockland  
Title: An Act To Improve the Elver Season  
Comment: This bill would allow the Commissioner of Marine Resources to set the starting date for the elver season based on weather conditions.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2183 Representative Tuell, W

LR: 2183 Sponsor: Representative Tuell of East Machias  
Title: An Act To Extend the Length of Maine's Elver Fishing Season in Certain Circumstances  
Comment: This bill would allow the Commissioner of Marine Resources to extend the State's elver harvesting season by an additional 2 weeks if the State's annual harvest quota has not been reached.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2144 Representative Beebe-Center, P

LR: 2424 Sponsor: Representative Kumiega, III of Deer Isle  
Title: An Act To Provide Flexibility To Designate the Closed Period for Elver Harvesting  
Comment: This bill would require the Commissioner of Marine Resources to set the 48-hour weekly closed period to harvest elvers by rule prior to the start of the season to increase fishing opportunities, based on the timing of the tides. Currently the period in statute is from noon Friday to noon Sunday.

##### LOBSTERS

##### MANAGEMENT ZONES

LR: 2423 Sponsor: Representative Kumiega, III of Deer Isle  
Title: An Act To Improve Maine's Lobster Licensing and Limited-entry System  
Comment: This bill would change the lobster licensing and limited-entry system to remove the option for zones to use tags as an entry mechanism, change the time frame to convert a student license to a commercial license, create a new Class II limited lobster and crab fishing license eligible for a maximum of 300 rather than 800 traps, eliminate the current limit on increasing trap tags and eliminate the apprenticeship requirement in the island limited-entry program.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

**Appealed Bill Requests**

**Sorted By Subject**

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**MARINE RESOURCES**

**MARINE RESOURCES DEPT**

**RULES**

LR: 2185    Sponsor: Representative Hanley of Pittston  
Title:        Resolve, To Postpone Implementation of Department of Marine Resources Rules  
              Regarding Smelt  
Comment:    This resolve would postpone for 2 years implementation of the most recently  
              adopted rules of the Department of Marine Resources regarding smelt.

**SHELLFISH**

**CLAMS**

LR: 2543    Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Change the Size Restriction on Soft-shell Clams  
Comment:    This bill would change the size restriction on soft-shell clams from the current  
              minimum shell length of 2 inches to a prohibition on possession of soft-shell  
              clams with shell lengths that are less than 1.5 inches or greater than 3.5 inches.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

##### MUNICIPALITIES

###### SECESSION

LR: 2184 Sponsor: Senator Edgecomb of Aroostook  
Title: An Act To Allow a Part of the Town of Caribou To Secede and Form the Town of Lyndon  
Comment: This bill would begin the process of permitting a portion of the Town of Caribou to secede and form the new town called Lyndon.

#### STATE GOVERNMENT

##### APPOINTMENTS

LR: 2379 Sponsor: Senator Johnson of Lincoln  
Title: An Act To Ensure the Continued Operation of Boards and Commissions in State Government  
Comment: This bill would provide that the President of the Senate may nominate persons to positions subject to nomination by the Governor, except for a nominating process set forth in the Constitution of Maine, if these positions are vacant for 6 months or more because no nomination is made or a nomination is made and withdrawn.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2324 Senator Katz, R

#### STATE GOVERNMENT

##### PROGRAM REVIEW

LR: 2408 Sponsor: Senator Hill of York  
Title: An Act To Provide Accountability in State Government Partnerships  
Comment: This bill would require each state agency to annually report to the legislative committee of jurisdiction on any federal grant programs in which the agency participates and on grant programs in which the agency chose not to participate.

#### STATE GOVERNMENT

##### STATE COMMEMORATIONS

LR: 2146 Sponsor: Representative Duchesne of Hudson  
Title: An Act To Establish November 1st as Veterans in the Arts and Humanities Day  
Comment: This bill would establish November 1st as Veterans in the Arts and Humanities Day.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

**Appealed Bill Requests**

**Sorted By Subject**

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**TAXATION**

**INCOME TAX**

**CHECKOFFS**

LR: 2311 Sponsor: Representative Davitt of Hampden  
Title: An Act To Establish the Veterans Count Maine Donation Fund  
Comment: This bill would establish the Veterans Count Maine Donation Fund funded by a \$2 voluntary checkoff on personal income tax forms. The fund would provide funding to nonprofit agencies that provide assistance to Maine veterans.  
Potential JR 217: LD544

**INCOME TAX**

**CREDITS**

LR: 2415 Sponsor: Senator Alfond of Cumberland  
Title: An Act To Attract Talent to Maine by Promoting the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit  
Comment: This bill would provide funding to promote the Educational Opportunity Tax Credit.

LR: 2542 Sponsor: Representative Beck of Waterville  
Title: An Act To Encourage Maine Employers To Offer and Employees To Enroll in Disability Income Protection Plans in the Workplace  
Comment: This bill would encourage employers to offer and employees to enroll in group disability income protection plans in the workplace by clarifying the ability of employers to offer appropriate opt-out enrollment to provide lower premium rates. This bill would provide employers an incentive to offer these plans by providing a limited tax credit to offset employer costs of administering a group disability income protection plan for employees.

**INCOME TAX**

**DEDUCTIONS**

LR: 2434 Sponsor: Representative Fredette of Newport  
Title: An Act To Make Additional Technical Changes to Recently Enacted Tax Legislation Concerning Pension Income  
Comment: This bill would make additional technical changes to recently enacted tax legislation concerning pension income.



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

**Appealed Bill Requests**

**Sorted By Subject**

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**TAXATION**

**MISCELLANEOUS TAXES**

**SERVICE PROVIDER TAX**

LR: 2496 Sponsor: Senator Cushing of Penobscot

Title: An Act To Repeal the Service Provider Tax on So-called Appendix C Private Nonmedical Institutions

Comment: This bill would repeal the service provider tax for private nonmedical institution services provided by MaineCare Appendix C private nonmedical institutions. The service provider tax would be maintained at a level of 6% for private nonmedical institution services that are provided by MaineCare Appendix B, D, E or F private nonmedical institutions and for personal home care services.

Potential JR 217: LD502

**SALES AND USE TAX**

**EXEMPT PURCHASERS**

LR: 2431 Sponsor: Representative Gattine of Westbrook

Title: An Act To Create Equity among Essential Nonprofit Health Care Providers in Relation to the Sales Tax

Comment: This bill would add community health centers serving all individuals regardless of insurance status and ability to pay to the list of nonprofits exempted from paying sales tax.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

**Appealed Bill Requests**

**Sorted By Subject**

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**TRANSPORTATION**

**OPERATORS LICENSES**

**SUSPENSION**

LR: 2181 Sponsor: Representative Kinney of Knox

Title: An Act To Authorize a Person Whose Driver's License Is Suspended Due To Failure To Pay Child Support To Drive to and from a Place of Employment

Comment: This bill would allow a person whose driver's license was suspended because of failure to pay child support to hold a driver's license that is restricted to travel to and from that person's place of employment.

**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**

**COMPANIES**

LR: 2298 Sponsor: Senator Haskell of Cumberland

Title: An Act To Allow Municipalities To Regulate Transportation Network Companies

Comment: This bill would allow a municipality to regulate the operations of a transportation network company, including the driver and motor vehicle, at a municipal airport.

**TRANSPORTATION DEPT**

**PLANNING**

LR: 2330 Sponsor: Representative Campbell of Orrington

Title: An Act To Encourage the Development of Commercial Transportation Opportunities in Bucksport

Comment: This bill would encourage the development of a transportation facility, including upgrading roads, rail and water access, at the former site of the mill in Bucksport.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

##### ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

##### AGENCY STORES

LR: 2505    Sponsor: Representative Herbig of Belfast  
Title:        Resolve, Directing the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations To Amend Its Rules To Allow Retailers To Return Promotional Alcoholic Beverages to Distributors  
Comment:    This resolve would direct the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to amend its rules to allow retailers to return promotional alcoholic beverages to distributors.

##### ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

##### BEER

LR: 2395    Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin  
Title:        An Act To Allow All Manufacturers Licensed by the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations To Provide Samples of Products to Retail Licensees  
Comment:    This bill would allow all manufacturers licensed by the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations, regardless of size, to provide samples of products to retail licensees.

##### ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

##### LICENSING

LR: 2396    Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin  
Title:        An Act To Permit Tasting Rooms and Pubs Operated by a Manufacturer under an On-premises Retail License To Sell Their Products for On-premises or Off-premises Consumption without Physical Separation or Separate Inventory  
Comment:    This bill would remove the requirement that a manufacturer that holds an on-premises liquor license and that also sells food maintain separate entrances and physical separation of on-premises and off-premises retail areas.

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

#### Sorted By Subject

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#### VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

##### ELECTIONS

##### ABSENT VOTING

LR: 2303 Sponsor: Representative O'Connor of Berwick  
Title: An Act To Expand the Early Processing of Absentee Ballots  
Comment: This bill would allow a municipality to opt to process absentee ballots as early as the 4th day before the election and would allow the Secretary of State to make available high-speed tabulators.  
Potential JR 217: LD585 and LD1335  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2302 Representative Chipman, B  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2346 Senator Cyrway, S

##### GAMBLING

##### BINGO

LR: 2239 Sponsor: Senator Collins of York  
Title: An Act To Allow Minors at Licensed Campgrounds To Participate in Certain Seasonal Activities  
Comment: This bill would allow minors under 16 years of age, without being accompanied by an adult, to participate in a bingo or beano game operated at a licensed campground as long as the prize is a nonmonetary prize, which may include a credit for food served on the premises of the campground, valued at no more than \$10.  
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2227 Senator Brakey, E

##### GAMBLING

##### CASINO GAMBLING

LR: 2162 Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians  
Title: An Act To Alleviate Unemployment in Aroostook and Washington Counties by Authorizing a Tribal Casino To Be Operated by the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians on Tribal Lands in Aroostook County  
Comment: This bill would authorize a tribal casino operated by the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians in Houlton. The purpose of this bill is to reduce unemployment within all 4 federally recognized Indian tribes and in Aroostook and Washington counties, promote economic development for all 4 tribes and in Aroostook and Washington counties and fund critical tribal government programs including elder care, housing, health and education.  
Potential JR 217: LD1066, LD1446

## 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

### Appealed Bill Requests

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#### VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

##### GAMBLING

##### CASINO GAMBLING

- LR: 2164 Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians
- Title: An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment, Fund Economic Development for the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and Provide Funding for Essential Tribal Government Health and Housing Programs in Aroostook County by Annually Apportioning a Percentage of Slot Machine Income from the Casino in Bangor to Federally Recognized Tribes in Aroostook County
- Comment: This bill would distribute 2% of the net slot machine income from slot machines at the casino in Bangor to the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and 2% to the Aroostook Band of Micmacs. Current law provides that 4% of net slot machine income from the casino in Oxford be distributed to the Penobscot Nation and the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

##### GAMBLING

##### GAMES OF CHANCE

- LR: 2345 Sponsor: Representative Bear of Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians
- Title: An Act To Alleviate Tribal Unemployment and Fund Critical Tribal Government Programs for Federally Recognized Tribes in the State by Exempting the Tribes from State Gaming Laws for Gaming Conducted on Tribal Lands Using 350 or Fewer Slot Machines and Located More Than 80 Miles from an Existing Casino
- Comment: This bill would exempt federally recognized Indian tribes located in this State from state gaming laws for gaming conducted on tribal lands in order to provide these tribes the same opportunities for alleviating tribal unemployment, raising tribal government revenues and providing funding for vital tribal programs as have been available to federally recognized tribes in other states beginning with the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in *California v. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians*, 480 U.S. 202 (1987).

#### VETERANS

##### VETERANS HOMES

- LR: 2260 Sponsor: Senator Katz of Kennebec
- Title: An Act To Update the Laws Governing the Maine Veterans' Home
- Comment: This bill would update the laws governing the Maine Veterans' Home.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

**Appealed Bill Requests**

**Sorted By Subject**

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Total number of bills screened: 147

## PART 9

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On First Screening**  
**Sorted By Subject**

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**APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

**BOND ISSUES**

**PUBLIC LANDS**

LR: 2132    Sponsor: Representative Pouliot of Augusta  
Title:        Resolve, To Reauthorize the Issuance of Certain Bonds for Land Conservation  
              Projects

**PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

**BENEFITS**

LR: 2230    Sponsor: Representative Foley of Wells  
Title:        An Act To Allow Members of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement  
              Program To Reapply for Disability Retirement Benefits after Denial

**PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM**

**CREDITS**

LR: 2412    Sponsor: Representative Ward of Dedham  
Title:        An Act To Update the Laws Governing the Maine Public Employees Retirement  
              System as They Relate to Wartime Veterans

**STATE FINANCES**

**BONDED DEBT**

LR: 2316    Sponsor: Senator Valentino of York  
Title:        An Act To Modernize and Consolidate Court Facilities

**STATE FINANCES**

**BUDGET PROCEDURES**

LR: 2338    Sponsor: Representative Rotundo of Lewiston  
Title:        An Act To Clarify Expenditures Regarding Androscoggin County



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On First Screening**  
**Sorted By Subject**

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**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**CRIMES**

**DRUG OFFENSES**

LR: 2486    Sponsor: Representative Fowle of Vassalboro  
Title:        An Act To Correct a Conflict in the Laws Regarding Schedule W Drugs

**FIRE SAFETY**

**PREVENTION**

LR: 2242    Sponsor: Senator Diamond of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Improve the Law Concerning Carbon Monoxide Detectors

**LAW ENFORCEMENT**

**PERSONNEL**

LR: 2317    Sponsor: Senator Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis  
Title:        Resolve, To Provide Wage Parity for Supervisors of Law Enforcement Personnel

LR: 2463    Sponsor: Senator Burns of Washington  
Title:        An Act To Provide Ballistic Vests to State Law Enforcement Officers

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**AMUSEMENT RIDES**

LR: 2315    Sponsor: Senator Rosen of Hancock  
Title:        An Act Regarding the Application Fees and Inspection Fees Associated with the Provision of Amusement Rides

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On First Screening**  
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**EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

**SCHOOL PERSONNEL**

**TRAINING**

LR: 2214    Sponsor: Representative Chenette of Saco

Title:        An Act To Allow Trained, Nonmedical Employees in Schools To Administer  
Emergency Rescue Medications

**SCHOOL POLICIES**

**TESTING**

LR: 2213    Sponsor: Representative Espling of New  
Gloucester

Title:        An Act To Delay Any New Statewide Assessment Test

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On First Screening**  
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**ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPT**

**POWERS**

LR: 2493    Sponsor: Representative Timberlake of Turner  
Title:        An Act To Create Stability in the Control of Pesticides

**LAND USE**

**SHORELAND ZONING**

LR: 2270    Sponsor: Senator Breen of Cumberland  
Title:        An Act To Reestablish Recreational Use of Historic Trolley Lines

**OILS**

**SPILLS**

LR: 2301    Sponsor: Representative Duchesne of Hudson  
Title:        An Act To Revise Oil Spill Reporting Standards

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On First Screening**  
**Sorted By Subject**

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**ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

**UTILITY DISTRICTS**

**CHARTER CHANGES**

LR: 2264    Sponsor: Senator Patrick of Oxford

Title:        An Act To Make Changes to the Rumford Water District Charter

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On First Screening**  
**Sorted By Subject**

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**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**DEATH**

**RECORDS**

LR: 2263    Sponsor: Senator Libby of Androscoggin

Title:        An Act To Amend Maine's Death Certificate Disclosure Law

**HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**

**CERTIFICATE OF NEED**

LR: 2442    Sponsor: President Thibodeau of Waldo

Title:        An Act To Improve Hospital Governance by Removing the Requirement for a  
Certificate of Need for Intracorporation Transfers

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On First Screening**  
**Sorted By Subject**

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**INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

**RECREATION**

**SNOWMOBILES**

LR: 2349    Sponsor: Representative Black of Wilton

Title:        An Act To Allow the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands To Transfer  
                 Ownership of Snowmobile Trail Grooming Equipment to Incorporated Nonprofit  
                 Snowmobile Clubs

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On First Screening**  
**Sorted By Subject**

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**JUDICIARY**

**ABUSE**

**PROTECTION ACTIONS**

LR: 2220    Sponsor: Senator Volk of Cumberland

Title:        An Act To Protect Victims of Human Trafficking

LR: 2383    Sponsor: President Thibodeau of Waldo

Title:        An Act To Enact The Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence  
Protection Orders Act

**CIVIL PROCEDURE**

**LIMITATION OF ACTIONS**

LR: 2498    Sponsor: Representative Corey of Windham

Title:        An Act To Protect and Promote Access to Shooting Ranges

**DOMESTIC RELATIONS**

**PARENTAL RIGHTS**

LR: 2347    Sponsor: Senator Diamond of Cumberland

Title:        An Act To Protect Victims of Sexual Assault

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On First Screening**  
**Sorted By Subject**

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**LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**BUSINESS ASSISTANCE**

LR: 2196    Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland

Title:        An Act To Create and Sustain High-quality Maine Jobs

**FINANCE AUTHORITY**

**PROGRAMS**

LR: 2382    Sponsor: President Thibodeau of Waldo

Title:        Resolve, To Establish a Program To Support Maine Agriculture and Improve  
Nutrition in the State



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On First Screening**  
**Sorted By Subject**

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**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**MUNICIPALITIES**

**PROPERTY TRANSFER**

LR: 2208    Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin

Title:        Resolve, Authorizing the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services  
              To Convey Approximately 0.75 Acre of Land in Madrid Township to the Madrid  
              Historical Society

**STATE GOVERNMENT**

**PURCHASES**

LR: 2207    Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin

Title:        An Act To Give Preference to Maine Vendors and American Products When  
              Issuing State Funding

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
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**Sorted By Subject**

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**TAXATION**

**INCOME TAX  
CREDITS**

LR: 2193    Sponsor: Representative McCreight of Harpswell  
Title:        An Act To Facilitate Student Loan Repayment by Allowing Graduates To Claim  
                 Educational Opportunity Tax Credits on Eligible Portions of Consolidated Loans

**INCOME TAX  
DEDUCTIONS**

LR: 2518    Sponsor: Representative Pouliot of Augusta  
Title:        An Act To Improve Access to Higher Education, Encourage Homeownership,  
                 Manage Medical Expenses and Strengthen Charitable Institutions by Eliminating  
                 Limitations on Claiming Itemized Deductions From Maine Adjusted Gross  
                 Income

**SALES AND USE TAX  
EXEMPT ITEMS**

LR: 2215    Sponsor: Senator Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis  
Title:        An Act To Protect Maine's Natural Resources Jobs by Exempting from Sales Tax  
                 Petroleum Products Used in Farming, Fishing and Forestry

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On First Screening**  
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**TRANSPORTATION**

**NAVIGATION**

**FERRIES**

LR: 2364    Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox

Title:        An Act To Improve the Safety of Ferries in the State

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On First Screening**  
**Sorted By Subject**

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**VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**

**LIQUOR SALES**

LR: 2180    Sponsor: Representative Luchini of Ellsworth

Title:        An Act Regarding the Distribution and Off-site Storage of Spirits by Licensed Reselling Agents

LR: 2295    Sponsor: Senator Patrick of Oxford

Title:        An Act To Clarify the Definition of "Sales Representative"

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On First Screening**  
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Total number of bills screened: 33

## **PART 10**

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On 10/22/2015**  
**Sorted By Sponsor**

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**Sponsor: Representative Black of Wilton**

LR: 2349

Title: An Act To Allow the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands To Transfer Ownership of Snowmobile Trail Grooming Equipment to Incorporated Nonprofit Snowmobile Clubs

**Sponsor: Senator Breen of Cumberland**

LR: 2270

Title: An Act To Reestablish Recreational Use of Historic Trolley Lines

**Sponsor: Senator Burns of Washington**

LR: 2463

Title: An Act To Provide Ballistic Vests to State Law Enforcement Officers

**Sponsor: Representative Chenette of Saco**

LR: 2214

Title: An Act To Allow Trained, Nonmedical Employees in Schools To Administer Emergency Rescue Medications

**Sponsor: Representative Corey of Windham**

LR: 2498

Title: An Act To Protect and Promote Access to Shooting Ranges

**Sponsor: Senator Davis, Sr. of Piscataquis**

LR: 2215

Title: An Act To Protect Maine's Natural Resources Jobs by Exempting from Sales Tax Petroleum Products Used in Farming, Fishing and Forestry

LR: 2317

Title: Resolve, To Provide Wage Parity for Supervisors of Law Enforcement Personnel

**Sponsor: Senator Diamond of Cumberland**

LR: 2242

Title: An Act To Improve the Law Concerning Carbon Monoxide Detectors

LR: 2347

Title: An Act To Protect Victims of Sexual Assault

**Sponsor: Representative Duchesne of Hudson**

LR: 2301

Title: An Act To Revise Oil Spill Reporting Standards

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On 10/22/2015**  
**Sorted By Sponsor**

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**Sponsor: Representative Espling of New Gloucester**

LR: 2213

Title: An Act To Delay Any New Statewide Assessment Test

**Sponsor: Representative Foley of Wells**

LR: 2230

Title: An Act To Allow Members of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program To Reapply for Disability Retirement Benefits after Denial

**Sponsor: Representative Fowle of Vassalboro**

LR: 2486

Title: An Act To Correct a Conflict in the Laws Regarding Schedule W Drugs

**Sponsor: Senator Gerzofsky of Cumberland**

LR: 2196

Title: An Act To Create and Sustain High-quality Maine Jobs

**Sponsor: Senator Libby of Androscoggin**

LR: 2263

Title: An Act To Amend Maine's Death Certificate Disclosure Law

**Sponsor: Representative Luchini of Ellsworth**

LR: 2180

Title: An Act Regarding the Distribution and Off-site Storage of Spirits by Licensed Reselling Agents

**Sponsor: Representative McCreight of Harpswell**

LR: 2193

Title: An Act To Facilitate Student Loan Repayment by Allowing Graduates To Claim Educational Opportunity Tax Credits on Eligible Portions of Consolidated Loans

**Sponsor: Senator Miramant of Knox**

LR: 2364

Title: An Act To Improve the Safety of Ferries in the State

**Sponsor: Senator Patrick of Oxford**

LR: 2264

Title: An Act To Make Changes to the Rumford Water District Charter

LR: 2295

Title: An Act To Clarify the Definition of "Sales Representative"



**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On 10/22/2015**  
**Sorted By Sponsor**

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**Sponsor: Representative Pouliot of Augusta**

LR: 2132

Title: Resolve, To Reauthorize the Issuance of Certain Bonds for Land Conservation Projects

LR: 2518

Title: An Act To Improve Access to Higher Education, Encourage Homeownership, Manage Medical Expenses and Strengthen Charitable Institutions by Eliminating Limitations on Claiming Itemized Deductions From Maine Adjusted Gross Income

**Sponsor: Senator Rosen of Hancock**

LR: 2315

Title: An Act Regarding the Application Fees and Inspection Fees Associated with the Provision of Amusement Rides

**Sponsor: Representative Rotundo of Lewiston**

LR: 2338

Title: An Act To Clarify Expenditures Regarding Androscoggin County

**Sponsor: Senator Saviello of Franklin**

LR: 2207

Title: An Act To Give Preference to Maine Vendors and American Products When Issuing State Funding

LR: 2208

Title: Resolve, Authorizing the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services To Convey Approximately 0.75 Acre of Land in Madrid Township to the Madrid Historical Society

**Sponsor: President Thibodeau of Waldo**

LR: 2382

Title: Resolve, To Establish a Program To Support Maine Agriculture and Improve Nutrition in the State

LR: 2383

Title: An Act To Enact The Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act

LR: 2442

Title: An Act To Improve Hospital Governance by Removing the Requirement for a Certificate of Need for Intracorporation Transfers

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**  
**Requests Accepted By The Legislative Council On 10/22/2015**  
**Sorted By Sponsor**

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**Sponsor: Representative Timberlake of Turner**

LR: 2493

Title: An Act To Create Stability in the Control of Pesticides

**Sponsor: Senator Valentino of York**

LR: 2316

Title: An Act To Modernize and Consolidate Court Facilities

**Sponsor: Senator Volk of Cumberland**

LR: 2220

Title: An Act To Protect Victims of Human Trafficking

**Sponsor: Representative Ward of Dedham**

LR: 2412

Title: An Act To Update the Laws Governing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System as They Relate to Wartime Veterans

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