

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**128th MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REVIEW OF PROPOSED STUDIES
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

MS= Misc. Studies Budget; APP=GF App; OSR =Other special Revenue

PROPOSED STUDIES SUMMARY

Does it Conform to Rules and Council Policy?														
Page #	LD (or other)	Notes	Policy Area	Study Name	Purpose	Membership	Report Date(s)	Staff	Jt. Rule and Council Policies	Compensation and # mtgs.	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
General Fund Miscellaneous Studies														
P16	LD 214, as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (on Study Table)	Emergency	VLA	Commission To Streamline Veterans' Licensing and Certification	Study and address military service members' and veterans' transition from military service to civil workforce; make recommendations to streamline licensing and certification processes for service members and veterans.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 5 Sen: 2(LCRED or VLA) House: 3(LCRED or VLA) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	January 15, 2018: Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development Committee and Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee	Legislative Council	Nonconforming Membership - majority not legislators; does not specify that members include 2 parties holding largest # of seats Report - late (12/06/17) LC staff - for nonconforming study	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 2,750		
P20	LD 309, as amended by Committee Amendment "A" and House Amendment "A" (on Study Table)	Not an emergency	JUD	Working Group to Restore Judicial Discretion	Review mandatory minimum sentences that are currently required under the state law and make recommendations to amend or repeal specific mandatory minimum sentence requirements as appropriate.	TOTAL: 5 Legis: 5 Sen: 2 House: 3 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	December 6, 2017: Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature	Legislative Council	Conforming	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 2,750		
P23	*PL 2017, c. 284, Sec. UUUU-17 (LD 390) (law but not yet started)	Emergency	JUD	Working Group to Improve the Provision of Indigent Legal Services	Develop recommendations to improve the delivery of indigent legal services to those eligible to receive such services in the State. The recommendations must focus on ensuring adequate representation, increasing the efficiency in delivering legal services, verifying eligibility throughout representation and reducing costs while still fully honoring the constitutional and statutory obligations to provide representation.	TOTAL: 11 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 House: 2 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	December 6, 2017: Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature	Legislative Council	Nonconforming Membership - majority not legislators LC staff - for nonconforming study	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 2,250		
P26	LD 523, as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (on Study Table)	Emergency	CJPS	Commission to Review the Laws Governing Domestic Violence	Conduct a comprehensive examination of the laws governing domestic violence in Maine to determine whether principles of ensuring victim safety and batterer accountability are upheld under the existing statutory scheme; examine domestic violence cases from investigation through court process and evaluate needs of victims and how to deter batterers' behavior.	TOTAL: 11 Legis: 7 Sen: 3 House: 4 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	December 6, 2017: Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature	Legislative Council	Conforming	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 3,750		

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P29	LD 642, as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (on Study Table)	Emergency	EDU	Task Force to Identify Special Education Cost Drivers and Innovative Approaches to Services	Address the rising cost of special education and the maintenance of high-quality services that accommodate the needs of all children by identifying cost drivers and recommending innovative approaches to serving students.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 2 Sen: 1(EDU) House: 1(EDU) Chairs: Senator and Representative	December 6, 2017: Education and Cultural Affairs Committee	Legislative Council	Nonconforming Membership - majority not legislators; does not specify that members include 2 parties holding largest # of seats LC staff - for nonconforming study	Legislative per diem and expenses; 5 meetings		\$ 1,500		
P33	LD 1015, as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (on Study Table)	Not an emergency	EDU	Commission to Study the Student Transfer Process	Conduct a comprehensive review of the appeal process under the laws governing the transfer of a student from one school administrative unit to another school administrative unit, including, but not limited to, a review of the criteria used by the Commissioner of Education and the State Board of Education to make a decision regarding a parent's request to review a decision to not approve a transfer.	TOTAL: 11 Legis: 4 Sen: 1(EDU) House: 3(EDU) Chairs: Senator and first-named Representative	December 6, 2017: Education and Cultural Affairs Committee	Legislative Council	Nonconforming Membership - majority not legislators; does not specify that members include 2 parties holding largest # of seats LC staff - for nonconforming study	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 2,250		
P36	LD 1021, as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (on Study Table)	Emergency	SLG	Study Committee to Develop a Disposition Plan for Future Surplus State Property in York County	Study and plan the disposition of the 3 district courthouses and of associated surplus state property in York County to be vacated when the courts are consolidated into one building in 2021.	TOTAL: 10 Legis: 6 Sen: 3 House: 3 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	December 6, 2017: Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature	Legislative Council	Nonconforming Membership - does not specify that members include 2 parties holding largest # of seats (York, Springvale, Biddeford only) LC staff - for nonconforming study	Legislative per diem and expenses; 6 meetings		\$ 3,250		
P39	LD 1128, as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (on Study Table)	Not an emergency	CJPS	Committee to Study the Processing of Evidence from Sexual Assault Test Kits	Study the processing of evidence from sexual assault test kits, including: reviewing data from state, county and municipal law enforcement agencies and from programs that serve victims of sexual assault and advocates of victims of sexual assault; determining the current status of the processing of sexual assault test kits and the prevalence of and reasons for kits not being analyzed; and reviewing information on the resources and funding necessary to ensure the timely processing of sexual assault test kits.	TOTAL: 11 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 House: 2 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	December 6, 2017: Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee	Legislative Council	Nonconforming Membership - majority not legislators LC staff - for nonconforming study	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings (may seek funding to partially or fully fund costs of study)		\$ 2,250		

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P42	LD 1143, as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (on Special Appropriations Table)	Not an emergency	EDU	Maine Bicentennial Commission	Prepare and administer a comprehensive plan and program for adequate observance and celebration on a statewide basis of the bicentennial anniversary of the formation of the State of Maine, coordinate the program and activities of all public and private agencies and organizations in the State that are planned for the observation of the anniversary and engage in such other activities as the commission determines necessary and appropriate.	TOTAL: 22 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 House: 2 Chairs: Commission selects chair from among its members	December 6, 2017, November 7, 2018, December 4, 2019 and November 4, 2020: Education and Cultural Affairs Committee	Maine State Cultural Affairs Council	Nonconforming Membership - majority not legislators	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings (may accept contributions from outside sources)		\$ 3,090	\$3,090	\$3,090
P47	LD 1260, as amended by Committee Amendment "A" and Senate Amendment "A" (on Study Table)	Not an emergency	JUD	Commission to Create a Plan to Enhance the Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Probate Court System	Create a plan for a more efficient and effective probate court system and describe how the system would be funded. May consider for inclusion in the plan any features that the commission determines relevant, including, features that will ensure timely, convenient and meaningful access to justice, promote judicial responsibility and adherence to the code of judicial responsibility, provide for qualified judges, provide for adequate professional staff, reflect efficient practices in scheduling and case management throughout the system, allow for convenient and consumer-friendly processing of matters that are not contested and reflect economies of scale in all appropriate operational aspects.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 House: 2 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	December 6, 2017: Judiciary Committee	Legislative Council	Nonconforming Membership - majority not legislators LC staff - for nonconforming study	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings (may seek funding to partially or fully fund costs of study)		\$ 2,250		

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P51	LD 1466, as amended by Committee Amendment "A" as amended by House Amendment "B" (on Special Appropriations Table)	Not an emergency	HHS	Commission to Study Long-term Care Workforce Issues	Study and make recommendations regarding: measuring current demand for direct care workers and projecting future needs; developing a statewide recruitment strategy; supporting career ladders; identifying education needs and methods to overcome hiring barriers; developing strategies to improve quality of long-term care jobs; increasing opportunities for shared staffing among long-term care providers; and making policy recommendations for public and private funding mechanisms to implement. Make recommendations for establishment of a program that will contribute to long-term care direct care workers' postsecondary education in related fields and for establishment of a pilot program to pool part-time home care workers' hours for purposes of providing greater employment opportunity and obtaining employee health benefits.	TOTAL: 18 Legis: 5 Sen: 2 House: 3 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	February 18, 2018: Health and Human Services Committee	Legislative Council	Nonconforming Membership - majority not legislators Report - late (12/06/17) LC staff - for nonconforming study	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 2,750		

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General Fund Appropriation														
P60	*PL 2017, c. 278 (LD 243) HP 96, Joint Select Committee on Marijuana Legalization Implementation (approved during 1st Regular and in progress)	Emergency; MLI convened in 1st Regular (LD 243, An Act to Change the Oversight Agency for Recreational Marijuana from ACF to DAFS, BABLO and to Allocate Funds for Implementation)	MLI	Joint Select Committee on Marijuana Legalization Implementation	LD 243 appropriates funds for consultant services and necessary travel and expenses and other purposes determined to be appropriate by the Joint Select Committee on Marijuana Legalization Implementation. HP 96 created JSC on MLI whose duties are to review existing MLA and identify and make recommendations (legislation) to resolve outstanding issues regarding implementation.	TOTAL: 17 Legis: 17 Sen: 5 House: 12 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	None	Contract staff during legislative session; Legislative Council staff during legislative interim		Requesting up to 15 meetings in interim		\$ 200,000		
P72	LD 1006, as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (on Special Appropriations Table)	Not an emergency	LCRED	Advisory Council on Senior Housing	Study the unmet need for affordable housing units for elderly residents of the State as well as the financial burden of home modifications and repairs necessary to enable the State's elderly residents to remain in their homes; make recommendations to the director of MSHA for development by 01/01/23 of strategic elderly housing plan.	TOTAL: 12 Legis: 2 Sen: 1 House: 1 Chairs: Not specified	March 15th of each First Regular Session regarding progress of development or implementation of strategic plan: Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development Committee	Not specified	Exception to Joint Rule 353 Created in statute and codified in Title 5 exempted, except use of new legislative financial resources (legislative per diems) must be referred to special study table for review and approval by LC regarding use of those resources; unclear who is staffing.	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
P77	LD 1008, as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (on Special Appropriations Table)	Not an emergency	SLG	Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Populations	Promote, carry out and coordinate programs designed to improve opportunities for racial and ethnic populations by carrying out research to incorporate the study of income levels of and opportunities available to historically disadvantaged racial and ethnic populations in the State and the examination of data regarding business ownership, household assets, debts and income, housing, employment and access to inherited wealth, capital and benefits.	TOTAL: 15 Legis: 5 Sen: 2 House: 3 Chairs: Governor selects chair from among the members of the commission	Initial report by March 1, 2018 to the Second Regular Session of the Legislature; Beginning January 1, 2019 and biennially thereafter to the Governor and Legislature	Secretary of State	Nonconforming Membership - majority not legislators Chairs - not legislators	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500

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General Fund Legislative - Interim JSC Meeting Budget														
P83	*SP 210 (approved during 1st Regular and in progress)		HHS	Task Force to Address the Opioid Crisis in the State	Examine the current laws in the State addressing opiate abuse and heroin use, including but not limited to existing laws focused on law enforcement, prevention, treatment and recovery; review recommendations of Maine Opiate Collaborative and review successful initiatives in other states including proposals for increased law enforcement, substance abuse prevention, treatment and peer recovery services and substance abuse prevention education in schools and communities.	TOTAL: 19 Legis: 8 Sen: 4 House: 4 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	April 30, 2017, initial report to the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature; December 6, 2017, final report to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature	Contract staff during legislative session; Legislative Council staff during legislative interim	Nonconforming Membership - majority not legislators LC staff - for nonconforming study	Legislative per diem and expenses; public members may receive per diem and expenses; 3 meetings held; 10 more possible	\$ 12,557	\$ 10,250		
P86	*SP 294 (approved during 1st Regular and in progress)		LCRED	Task Force on Maine's 21st Century Economy and Workforce	Review ways to strengthen the State's economy, improve the State's business climate and facilitate growth in the State, including strategies to make targeted and strategic investments in the State's workforce and businesses; to expand partnerships among the State's workers, educators and businesses to specifically address workforce needs and worker training; to develop strategies for attracting, retaining and training Maine workers in sectors of industry most acutely affected by workforce shortage; and to help improve the ability of small businesses to innovate and expand.	TOTAL: 18 Legis: 8 Sen: 4 House: 4 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	Initial report may be submitted prior to the adjournment of the 128th Legislature; final report due March 1, 2018 to the Second Regular Session of the 128th Legislature	Contract staff during legislative session; Legislative Council staff during legislative interim	Nonconforming Membership - majority not legislators Report - late (12/06/17) LC staff - for nonconforming study	Legislative per diem and expenses; public members may receive per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 1,924	\$ 4,250		

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p90	*PL 2017, c. 284, Sec. TT-2 (LD 390) (law but not yet started)	Emergency	ACF	Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Study of Conserved Lands Owned by Nonprofit Conservation Organizations	ACF Committee to study the financial and nonfinancial aspects of conserved lands owed by nonprofit conservation organizations, including property taxes paid, community benefits realized and value of lands to the State's economy.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 13 Sen: 3 House: 10 Chairs: Chairs of the ACF Committee	February 15, 2018	Legislative Council	Nonconforming Report - late (12/06/17)	Legislative per diem and expenses; at least 3 meetings	\$ 5,415	\$ 32,125		

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P92	LD 1150, as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (on Special Highway Table)	Not an emergency	TRA	Commission to Study Transportation Funding Reform	Study how to reform and adequately supplement funding for the State's transportation infrastructure to promote equity, sustainability and predictability in a manner that allows the State to responsibly provide a safe and reliable transportation system; focus on funding the state highway and bridge system and consider capital funding of multimodal infrastructure.	TOTAL: 11 Legis: 10 Sen: 3 House: 7 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	December 6, 2017: Transportation Committee	Legislative Council	Conforming	Legislative per diem and expenses; may meet up to 6 times; 3 meetings must include public comment and be held in different parts of the state		\$ 5,250		
Other Special Revenue Funds														
P96	SP 592 (on House Study table)	Not an emergency	IFS	Task Force on Health Care Coverage for All of Maine	Propose at least three design options, including implementation plans, for creating a system of health care that ensures all residents of the State have access to and coverage for affordable, quality health care.	TOTAL: 18 Legis: 8 Sen: 4 House: 4 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	Initial report due January 1, 2018; Final report due November 1, 2018; First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature	Legislative Council; may contract for staff during legislative session	Nonconforming Membership - majority not legislators LC staff - for nonconforming study; possibly during legislative session	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 4,682	\$ 4,682	
P103	LD 512, as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (on Study Table)	Not an emergency	CJPS	Committee to Study the State's Response to the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Youth	Assess the current policies, systems and resources related to preventing and responding to the commercial sexual exploitation of youth in the State to identify gaps and to make recommendations related to improving those policies, systems and resources.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 House: 2 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	December 6, 2017: Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee and Health and Human Services Committee	Legislative Council	Nonconforming Membership - majority not legislators LC staff - for nonconforming study	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings (<u>shall</u> seek funding to fully or partially fund study costs)		\$ 2,250		
Total Cost of Proposed Studies (All Funds):											\$ 19,896	\$ 291,147	\$ 11,272	\$ 6,590
Available Studies Budget (General Fund): <i>(Adjusted for previously authorized studies)</i>														
Other Required Funding Sources (Federal & Other Special Revenue):											\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
General Fund Appropriation:											\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Remaining Balance/(Shortfall) Studies Budget (General Fund):											(\$19,896)	(\$291,147)	(\$11,272)	(\$6,590)

* Future budgets will be adjusted to include the cost of studies authorized on an ongoing basis.

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Additional Legislative Resources for Interim Work														
P106	*Resolve 2017, c. 18 (law but not yet started)	Not an emergency	VLA	Legislative staff Recodification and Revision of Title 28-A	Prepare a recodification and revision of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 28-A.	TOTAL: 0 Legis: 0 Sen: 0 House: 0 Chairs: No chairs required	January 15, 2019; Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee	OPLA and ROS		No compensation or expenses required				