

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

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 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
General Fund Miscellaneous Studies														
	HP 1320 (On Senate Study Table)		EUT	Task Force to Study Rising Transmission and Distribution Costs	Conduct review of transmission and distribution costs for both residential and industrial consumers since 2000; compare costs of transmission and distribution in the ISO-NE region to other regions in which bulk power system is operated by a system operator; review and evaluate: cost differences between transmission and distribution, legislative and regulatory policies affecting distribution costs, cost containment provisions of law designed to prevent overbuilt transmission and distribution lines, different compensation models for transmission and distribution utilities in other regions in the United States in which the bulk power system is operated by a system operator, current transmission and distribution rate structures in the State and effectiveness of lower rates in promoting economic development; determine if the costs of advocacy before the Legislature and administrative bodies on behalf of transmission and distribution utilities are borne by ratepayers; develop recommendations for changing current regulatory policies and determine the costs of implementing those recommendations versus the cost of leaving current policies in place; and review and evaluate wheeling charges and time-of-use billing.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 House: 2 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	November 7, 2018	Legislative Council during the legislative interim	Nonconforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators *LC staff - authorized for conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses; at least 4 meetings		\$ 2,250		

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	SP 725 (On House Study Table)	(report to 2nd Regular Session of 128th needs to be amended)	LCRED	Task Force on Maine's 21st Century Economy and Workforce	Develop strategies to: make targeted and strategic investments in the State's workforce and businesses; expand partnerships among the State's workers, educators and businesses to specifically address workforce needs and worker training; develop strategies for attracting, retaining and training Maine workers in sectors of industry most acutely affected by workforce shortages, as identified in priority order by the Maine Department of Labor, including the construction and building trades; and improve the ability of small businesses to innovate and expand.	TOTAL: 19 Legis: 8 Sen: 4 House: 4 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	November 7, 2018	Legislative Council to contract for staff during the legislative session; Legislative Council staff may provide drafting assistance during session and other staff support during the interim	Nonconforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators; more than 13 members *Report - to 2nd Regular Session of 128th needs to be amended (November 7, 2018 date is correct) *LC staff - authorized for conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses; public members may receive per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 4,250		
	LD 1021, as engrossed as amended by Committee "A" (Carried over on Senate Study Table)	Emergency (report date needs to be amended because carried over)	SLG	Study Committee to Develop a Disposition Plan for Future Surplus State Property in York County	Study and plan disposition of 3 district courthouses and of associated surplus state property in York County to be vacated when 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: 2nd 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) *Report - date needs to be changed due to carry over (November 7, 2018 to conform) *LC staff - authorized for conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 750	\$ 2,500		
	LD 1466, as engrossed as amended by Committee "A" and House "B" (Carried over on Special Appropriations Table)	Not an emergency (report date needs to be amended because carried over)	HHS	Commission to Study Long-term Care Workforce Issues	Study and make policy recommendations on long-term workforce issues, make recommendations for establishment of a program that will contribute to long-term care direct care workers' postsecondary education in related fields and make recommendations for establishment of a pilot program to pool part-time home care workers' hours for purposes of providing greater employment opportunity and obtaining employee benefits.	TOTAL: 18 Legis: 5 Sen: 2 House: 3 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	February 1, 2018	Legislative Council	Nonconforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators; more than 13 members *Report - date needs to be changed due to carry over (November 7, 2018 to conform) *LC staff - authorized for conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses (subcommittees authorized); 4 meetings		\$ 2,750		

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	LD 1697, as engrossed as amended by Committee "A" (On Senate Study Table)	Not an emergency	EDU	Task Force on Mathematics Success in School	Examine the factors and forces that affect student success or lack of success in learning mathematics, including: sequential mathematical course curricula; threshold mathematical achievement requirements for grades 2, and 8; requirements for mathematical fluency in numeracy and computation; content topics for mathematical courses in high school; use and application of information from brain science; course work or study related to taking the SAT; early education; and teacher preparation.	TOTAL: 15 Legis: 2 Sen: 1 House: 1 Chairs: Senate and House members	November 7, 2018	Legislative Council	Nonconforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators; does not specify that members include 2 parties holding largest # of seats; more than 13 members *LC staff - authorized for conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 1,250		
	LD 1741, as engrossed as amended by Committee "A" and Senate "A" (On Senate Study Table)	Not an emergency	EUT	Commission to Study the Economic, Environmental and Energy Benefits of Energy Storage to the Maine Electric Industry	Review and evaluate economic, environmental and energy benefits of energy storage to State's electricity industry; consider challenges of broad electricity market in State and analyze whether energy storage is part of a transmission solution; consider whether environmental, economic, resiliency and energy benefits of energy storage support updating the State's energy policy to strengthen and increase role that energy storage plays throughout State; consider costs and benefits of energy storage procurement targets.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 5 Sen: 2 House: 3 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	November 7, 2018	Legislative Council	Nonconforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators *LC staff - authorized for conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses; at least 4 meetings		\$ 2,750		

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	LD 1870, as engrossed as amended by Committee "A" as amended by Senate "A" (On Special Appropriations Table)	Emergency (Senate "A" to Committee "A" may reduce membership and result in savings, if adopted)	EDU	Task Force to Study and Plan for the Implementation of Maine's Early Childhood Special Education Services	Examine national trends and relevant models of governing and delivering early childhood special education systems in other states, short-term and long-term costs and benefits of the DOE's proposed plan to restructure the CDS System as presented in LD 1870, findings and recommendations of the Subcommittee to Study Early Childhood Special Education January 2007 report and findings and recommendations of OPEGA's July 2012 report on CDS. Develop recommendations for ECSES program plan that includes: models of best practices, budget forecasting, transportation services, data systems, implementation timeline, data collection by MEPRI, methodology for assessing programs, training requirements, communication strategy for implementation and identification of potential Chapter 101 revisions.	TOTAL: 20 Legis: 2 Sen: 1 House: 1 Chairs: Speaker and President each appoint one co-chair; chairs cannot be legislators	December 5, 2018	Legislative Council shall contract for a facilitator by RFP; Legislative Council shall provide drafting assistance	Nonconforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators; does not specify that members include 2 parties holding largest # of seats; more than 13 members; chairs may appoint nonvoting members *Chairs - not legislators *Report - date is late (November 7, 2018) *LC staff - authorized for conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses; public members may receive compensation (also potential additional nonvoting members); no more than 6 meetings	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,250		

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	LD 1889, as amended by Committee "A" (No Senate or House action yet)	Emergency	CJPS	Blue Ribbon Commission on Community Safety	Make recommendations to identify individuals who pose a significant risk of serious bodily injury or death to themselves or others and to intervene to diminish the risk without unnecessarily infringing civil liberties of such individuals by: gathering information concerning existing policies and procedures in the State for identification and treatment of individuals who pose a risk to public safety and existing legal procedures for government intervention to diminish the risk, including information regarding whether existing policies and procedures can be used more effectively; and identifying and evaluating the merits of alternative approaches for identification and treatment of individuals who pose a risk to public safety as well as alternative policies and legal procedures that can be implemented to alleviate the risk without unnecessarily infringing the civil liberties of such individuals , including but not limited to determining whether legal standard for involuntary commitment should be altered and whether a process for the issuance of community protection orders that temporarily prevent individuals who pose a risk to public safety from possessing firearms or other deadly weapons should be available.	TOTAL: 10 Legis: 2 Sen: 2 House: 2 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	November 7, 2018	Legislative Council	Nonconforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators *LC staff - authorized for conforming studies	Legislative per diem and expenses; no more than 6 meetings	\$ 1,125	\$ 2,125		

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General Fund Appropriation														
	LD 966, as engrossed as amended by Committee "A" and Senate "A" (On the Special Appropriations Table)	Not an emergency; on-going council established in Title 5	CJPS HHS	Statewide Criminal Justice Coordinating Council	Accept and review data on encounters between law enforcement agencies and members of public and data gathered through use of nationally validated screening and assessment tools when persons are admitted to jail, including an assessment for mental illness and substance use disorders. Council is required to collect and review data submitted by law enforcement agencies, sheriffs, regional jail administrators and intensive case managers and summarize and review data and provide an annual report.	TOTAL: 12 Legis: 4 Sen: Chrs HHS & CJPS House: Chrs HHS & CJPS Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	Annually, beginning January 15, 2020	May be provided by Department of Public Safety or may be provided by contract staff	Exception to Joint Rule 353, per LC Policy - created in statute and codified in Title 5; however, use of new legislative financial resources (legislative reimbursement) must be referred to special study table for review and approval by LC regarding use of those resources	Legislators entitled to reimbursement for expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 1,560	\$ 1,560	\$ 1,560
	LD 1006, as engrossed as amended by Committee "A" (Carried over on Special Appropriations Table)	Not an emergency; on-going council established in Title 5; appointments by MSHA Director, except 2 legislators (need to amend reference to meetings in 2017 because carried over)	LCRED	Advisory Council on Senior Housing	Make recommendations to MSHA Director for development of a strategic housing plan enabling elderly residents to live in affordable, safe housing as they age. In developing its recommendations, council shall: review existing data, reports and other materials to determine the unmet need for affordable housing units for elderly residents; assess financial burden of home modifications or repairs necessary to allow elderly residents to remain in their homes, including elderly residents whose income is at or below area median income for their county or metropolitan area; and identify innovative strategies employed either within State or by other states to improve ability of elderly residents to remain in their homes or to secure alternative housing of their choice. MSHA Director shall submit report for development of plan by 01/01/23.	TOTAL: 12 Legis: 2 Sen: 1 House: 1 Chairs: Not specified	On or before March 15th of each 1st Regular Session	Not specified	Exception to Joint Rule 353, per LC Policy - created in statute and codified in Title 5; however, use of new legislative financial resources (legislative reimbursement) must be referred to special study table for review and approval by LC regarding use of those resources	Legislative per diem and expenses; at least 4 meetings/year (except not required to meet more than twice in 2017 - amend)		\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000

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	LD 1095, as engrossed as amended by Committee "A" (On Special Appropriations Table)	Not an emergency; on-going commission established in Title 5	ENR	Maine Coastal Risks and Hazards Commission	Review best available science relating to current and future coastal and coastal watershed hazards, including increased storm surges, extreme precipitation and other extreme weather events, projected sea level rise and increased river flooding and storm water runoff; make available on a publicly accessible website all publications and information reviewed or compiled for review by the commission; identify coastal assets that are vulnerable to current and future coastal and coastal watershed hazards and determine the risks to be considered in developing a set of objectives and recommendations for action; develop or identify a set of objectives, actionable strategies and best practices to protect, adapt and sustain coastal assets that are vulnerable to current and future coastal and coastal watershed hazards identified by the commission; and develop recommended legislation, rules and other actions in accordance with the set of objectives, strategies and best practices developed or identified to reduce the vulnerability of coastal assets and to adapt to current and future coastal and coastal watershed hazards identified by the commission.	TOTAL: 21 Legis: 3 Sen: 1 House: 2 Chairs: Selected by the commission members annually	On or before November 1, 2021, and every 4 years thereafter	Legislative Council only during legislative interims; may contract for administrative, clerical and professional services	Exception to Joint Rule 353, per LC Policy - created in statute and codified in Title 5; however, use of new legislative financial resources (legislative reimbursement, LC staff) must be referred to special study table for review and approval by LC regarding use of those resources	Legislative per diem and expenses; public members may receive per diem and expenses; at least 4 meetings annually (may seek outside funding)		\$ 1,750	\$ 1,750	\$ 1,750

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Legislative Studies Previously Approved by Legislative Council - for information only (no action required)														
	LD 1719, passed to be enacted as amended by Committee "A"	Emergency; on-going council established in Title 5 (Current status - vetoed by Governor)	MLI	Marijuana Advisory Commission	Review laws and rules pertaining to adult use marijuana and medical marijuana industries and any other provision of law or rule pertaining to marijuana; annually solicit public comment regarding contacts between law enforcement officers and citizens following the initiation of an adult use marijuana market in State that involve the personal adult use of marijuana and marijuana products and the home cultivation of marijuana for personal adult use; submit to Legislature recommended changes to the laws as it considers appropriate to preserve public health and safety and the well-being of the citizens of the State; standardize, coordinate or integrate the adult use marijuana and medical marijuana laws, rules and programs in State.	TOTAL: 15 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 House: 2 Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	January 15, 2020, and annually thereafter	Legislative Council only during legislative interims	Exception to Joint Rule 353, per LC Policy - created in statute and codified in Title 5; however, use of new legislative financial resources (legislative reimbursement and LC staff) must be referred to special study table for review and approval by LC regarding use of those resources	Legislative per diem and expenses (compensation pursuant to Title 5, chapter 579); 4 meetings/year	\$ 1,125	\$ 2,250	\$ 2,250	\$ 2,250
	Resolve 2017, chapter 52 (LD 1812)	Emergency	JUD	Directing an Independent, Nonpartisan, Objective Evaluation of the Provision of Indigent Legal Services (by contract with nonprofit organization to conduct study)	Transfers funds from the All Other account of the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services to pay for an independent, nonpartisan study to evaluate indigent legal services systems.		January 15, 2019	Legislative Council to contract with nonprofit			\$ 110,000			
	Resolve 2017, chapter 18	Not an emergency; enacted in 1st Regular Session of 128th	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 to VLA Committee	OPLA and ROS		No legislative compensation or expenses required				

Additional Legislative Resources for Interim Work

	LD 1902, as amended by Committee "A" (no Senate or House action yet)	Not an emergency	EDU	Legislative Staff Recodification and Revision of Title 20-A, Part 4, subpart 1	Prepare a Recodification and Revision of Title 20-A, Part 4, subpart 1.	TOTAL: 0 Legis: 0 Sen: 0 House: 0 Chairs: No chairs required	January 15, 2020 to EDU Committee	OPLA and ROS		No legislative compensation required				
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