

# 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.

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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.

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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 MAINES 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

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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.

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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

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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

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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.

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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.



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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.

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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.

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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.

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

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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.

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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

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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

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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.

**127th Legislature - Second Regular Session**

**Bill Requests For Screening**

**Sorted By Subject**

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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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#### 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 Alford 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.

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.

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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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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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 entites.

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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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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

###### 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.

##### 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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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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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#### 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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**Bill Requests For Screening**

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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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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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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## Bill Requests For 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

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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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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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## Bill Requests For Screening

### Sorted By Subject

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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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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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 Alford 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.

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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.

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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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#### 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.



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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.

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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.

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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.

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## 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.

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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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#### 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

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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.

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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.



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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**

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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.

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## 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 Alford 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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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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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#### 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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**Bill Requests For Screening**

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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.

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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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.

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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.

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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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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#### 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.

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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.

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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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.

# 127th Legislature - Second Regular Session

## Bill Requests For Screening

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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.

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## Bill Requests For Screening

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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.

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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

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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.

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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.

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Total number of bills screened: 397