

**2019 LD List - 1st Session of the 129th Maine Legislature
Prepared by the Maine Municipal Association**

Please note that bills are presented in reverse chronological order. For a sortable version of the LD List, please contact Laura Ellis at lellis@memun.org or 1-800-452-8786.

January 23, 2019

LD 385 - This bill amends the method by which the share of the total cost of education from kindergarten to grade 12 is calculated for a municipality that is within a regional school unit. Current law establishes that share as the lesser of the municipality's total cost of education as determined under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688, subsection 1 and an amount equal to the product of the education mill rate for the municipality multiplied by the total valuation of property in the municipality. This bill instead determines the share of the total cost of education from kindergarten to grade 12 of a municipality within a regional school unit based upon the product of the statewide per-pupil rate calculated under Title 20-A, section 15671-A, subsection 2-A and the number of pupils in the municipality who reside in the municipality and who are educated at public expense. The bill phases in this method of determining a municipality's share of the total cost of education from kindergarten to grade 12 over three years: in fiscal year 2020-21, the total cost is 2/3 of the amount determined based on property values and 1/3 of the amount determined based on number of pupils; in fiscal year 2021-22, the total cost is 1/3 of the amount determined based on property values and 2/3 of the amount determined based on number of pupils; and, in fiscal year 2022-23 and subsequent years, the total cost is determined based entirely on number of pupils.

LD 378 - This concept draft bill proposed to make changes designed to improve the state's laws governing deposits on beverage containers.

LD 375 - This bill requires consideration of modern wood heating systems, with wood biomass fuels sourced locally and in a manner that benefits the state's economy, in the construction of new or substantially renovated schools or school buildings subject to State Board of Education approval.

LD 374 - This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that the signatures on a petition to directly initiate legislation be of voters from each of the state's senate districts and that the number of signatures from each senate district be not less than 10% of the total votes for Governor cast in that senate district in the previous gubernatorial election. The resolution provides that, if the required votes are cast in favor of the proposed amendment to the Constitution, the proposed amendment becomes part of the Constitution on March 1, 2020 instead of on the date of the Governor's proclamation.

LD 372 - This bill allows a municipality, in the event of a power outage of 5 or more days, to hire appropriately licensed professionals to address power, telephone and similar lines that have been felled by weather events and that are preventing access to roadways within the

municipality. It allows a municipality to apply to receive compensation from the local electric utility, the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Emergency Management Agency, the United States Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency or another funding source.

LD 371 - This bill establishes the Small Communities Tourism Fund in the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Tourism to issue grants to small communities to promote tourism and events.

LD 369 - This bill creates an employee right to not less than one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours worked for employers of more than 5 employees. The bill also creates a right to at least 40 hours of unpaid sick leave for employees of an employer that employs 5 or fewer employees. This bill takes effect January 1, 2021.

LD 359 - This bill requires a school administrative unit with a public school in which at least 50% of students qualified for a free or reduced-price lunch during the preceding school year to operate an alternative breakfast delivery service that provides breakfast after the start of the school day for students at that public school. It also provides a process for a school administrative unit to opt out of the alternative breakfast delivery service if the governing board of the school administrative unit holds a public hearing regarding the program and votes in the affirmative that the service would not be financially or logistically viable. This bill requires the Department of Education to adopt rules to develop an application process and to adopt standards to address evaluation criteria based on need for funding assistance for alternative breakfast delivery services in school administrative units. The bill also appropriates \$1 million over the FY 20 – FY 21 biennium to support the program.

LD 358 - This bill provides \$1million in fiscal year 2018-19 to the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program in order to fully fund the cost of career and technical education pursuant to current law.

LD 357 - This bill resolves logistical issues created by the construction of a consolidated courthouse for York County in Biddeford. Earlier legislation that authorized construction of the courthouse did not factor in adequate space for the office of the district attorney, a required component of the judicial process. This bill provides for the construction of a building of sufficient size to accommodate the office of the district attorney to be connected to the new courthouse. This bill authorizes the issuance of up to \$6 million in Maine Government Facilities Authority securities to construct the building, but the planning and design, a joint project by the judicial branch and York County, will be covered by the existing funding of the courthouse. The goal of this bill is to make the new building as cost-neutral to the parties as possible. York County will pay the debt service on the bonds and pay annual rent for the land of \$1 until the debt service is fully paid, at which time the State will transfer the land and building to York County for \$1. In addition, the three district court buildings vacated when the new consolidated courthouse opens must be transferred at no cost to York County for its exclusive use.

LD 356 – This concept draft bill proposes to ensure that the state continues to implement certain solid waste management policies that were adopted to benefit all or part of Maine’s forest products industry.

LD 354 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$20 million bond issue for encouraging the provision of reliable high-speed internet service in rural underserved areas of Maine.

LD 353 - This bill requires a recovery residence located in a house to be considered a one-family dwelling under rules concerning fire safety if the recovery residence has no more than 6 occupants and contains a fire extinguisher and smoke detector in each room. This bill also defines "recovery residence" as an alcohol-free and illegal substance-free shared living residence for persons recovering from substance use disorder that provides peer support and connects residents to support services and community resources.

LD 350 - This bill exempts school buses operated by Head Start programs from the date restrictions on the use of studded snow tires.

LD 347 - This bill proposes to provide ongoing funding for improvements to water and wastewater infrastructure statewide, including, but not limited to, funding to support the State Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Fund.

LD 346 - This bill amends the Brunswick Sewer District Charter to allow the district to charge readiness to serve rates consistent with state statutes. The bill also amends the charter to allow the treasurer of the district, when authorized by the trustees, to waive the district's right to foreclose on a lien mortgage established by the district on an individual's property and provides the form that must be followed for filing the waiver.

LD 344 - This bill increases the penalties for passing a stopped school bus with its red lights flashing. The new penalties require the assessment of a \$500 fine and a suspension of a driver's license for not more than 30 days for the first offense and a fine of not less than \$1,000 and a suspension of a driver's license for not less than 30 days for a 2nd or subsequent offense occurring within 5 years of the first offense.

LD 342 - This bill establishes the failure to inform a law enforcement officer of a person's possession of a hypodermic apparatus as a Class D crime. Under the bill, if a person discloses the possession of a hypodermic apparatus as required, the hypodermic apparatus and any contents of the apparatus are inadmissible as evidence in a prosecution for a violation of the statutes governing drug-related violations.

LD 341 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$150 million bond issue for the construction of a convention center in Portland.

LD 337 - This bill amends the law on open and closed seasons on bear to direct the commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a spring bear hunting season.

LD 335 - This bill allocates 25% of the gross sales and excise tax revenue generated by adult use marijuana establishments in the state to the municipalities where the revenue was generated and makes a reduction to the amount deposited in the Adult Use Marijuana Public Health and Safety Fund.

LD 334 - This bill adds generators fueled by municipal solid waste in conjunction with recycling to the definition of "renewable capacity resource."

LD 333 - This bill repeals the law prohibiting a person from training or encouraging a dog that is not directly involved with a protection dog training program recognized by the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police to be aggressive toward or attack another person or domesticated animal.

LD 331 - This bill prohibits the operation, mooring or anchoring of commercial vessels over 200 feet in length or with the capacity to carry more than 100 passengers in the waters of southern Mount Desert Island.

LD 329 - This bill exempts from arrest or prosecution a person who in good faith seeks medical assistance for another person experiencing a drug-related overdose or who is experiencing a drug-related overdose and is in need of medical assistance. The person may not be arrested or prosecuted for a violation of laws prohibiting the possession of scheduled drugs, acquiring drugs by deception, the possession of hypodermic apparatuses and the use of drug paraphernalia or a violation of probation if the grounds for arrest or prosecution are obtained as a result of the person's seeking medical assistance or experiencing a drug-related overdose.

LD 327 – This concept draft bill proposes to revise the laws governing environmental protection.

LD 323 – Under current law, a person who disposes of 15 pounds or less of litter commits a civil violation for which a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500 may be adjudged. This bill provides an exception to the penalty provision requiring the assessment of a \$1,000 fine for disposing of 15 pounds or less of litter on state highways.

LD 322 – For the purpose of voting, this bill requires that a voter provide photographic identification approved by the Secretary of State.

LD 319 - This bill extends to inland shoreland areas the requirement that subsurface waste water disposal systems on property located within a shoreland area be inspected prior to a sale of the property. Currently, that inspection requirement applies only to the sale of property located within a coastal shoreland area.

LD 318 - This bill changes the requirement in the system of learning results from "career and education development" to "vocational preparation and practical life skills." The bill defines "vocational preparation and practical life skills" to mean experiential instruction of students, regardless of career choice or pathway, that develops their understanding of interests, aptitudes and options related to work and study; develops core workplace skills in areas such as planning, communication, problem solving, teamwork and computer applications; and includes practical workplace and home economics experiences that maximize learning through hands-on application.

January 17, 2019

LD 311 - This is the placeholder bill for the state's FY 2020 - FY 2021 biennial budget.

LD 310 - This is the placeholder bill for the state's FY 2019 supplemental budget.

LD 309 - This bill removes the regional adjustment in the total operating allocation for school administrative units under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.

LD 301 - This bill encourages municipalities to develop policies that assist older adults with aging in place and that create age-friendly communities. It amends the law governing comprehensive plans by encouraging municipalities to plan for the needs of older adults in their communities.

LD 299 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$15 million bond issue to assist schools, municipalities and counties in using emerging technologies and energy alternatives to fossil fuels in heating, electrical and other utility systems. The Finance Authority of Maine is directed to establish an application process and requirements for distribution of the funds.

LD 298 - This bill amends the workers' compensation laws by adding a presumption that heart disease or hypertension suffered by a state or county corrections employee was caused in the course of that employment, as long as the employee had successfully passed a physical examination upon entry into or during the course of that employment that failed to reveal any evidence of that condition.

LD 296 - This bill requires an elementary or secondary school to keep confidential a video recording in which a student is present, including a video recording taken in a bus or other means of student transportation used by the school, and prohibits the school from disseminating or publishing the video recording without the written permission of a parent of the student.

LD 295 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$100 million bond issue for the provision of broadband internet service in unserved and underserved areas of the state through ConnectME Authority grants to partnerships between private, municipal and nongovernmental service providers.

LD 293 - This bill allows municipalities to conduct early voting in person during the same period as is permitted for absentee voting. Early voting takes place in the municipal offices with the same requirements and restrictions regarding voting places, voting booths, ballot boxes and ballot challenges as apply to regular voting. At the end of early voting, the municipal clerk delivers the sealed ballot boxes to the voting place as presently required by law.

LD 290 - This bill prohibits a person from operating a motor vehicle in the intertidal zone except to launch or retrieve a watercraft, to engage in an activity that requires the use of a motor vehicle and for which any necessary state or local permits have been obtained or if the vehicle is an authorized emergency vehicle. It specifies that a person who violates the prohibition on the operation of a motor vehicle in the intertidal zone commits a civil violation, except that a person who is adjudicated as having committed three or more civil violations for operating a motor vehicle in the intertidal zone within the previous five-year period commits a Class E crime.

LD 289 – Beginning January 1, 2020, this bill prohibits the sale or distribution in the state of disposable food service containers composed in whole or in part of polystyrene foam. The bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt rules to implement these statutory provisions.

LD 288 - This resolve establishes the Commission to Create a Statewide Economic Development Plan to study economic development issues and create a strategic, regionally focused economic development plan.

LD 280 - This bill adds a prohibition on the use of a portable electronic device such as a video device or a global positioning system device to the prohibition on text messaging while operating a motor vehicle.

LD 277 - This bill makes it an unfair trade practice for a telemarketer to misrepresent the telemarketer's phone number when making a solicitation. It also prohibits the use of prerecorded or artificial voices by telemarketers. It also provides that the current exceptions to the prohibition against using an automated telephone calling device also apply to the use of an artificial or prerecorded voice and provides additional exceptions for public and private schools, emergency messages by governmental entities and calls made to deliver information with the prior express written consent of the recipient of the call.

LD 273 - This bill requires a transmission and distribution utility, at the request of the owner of a renewable resource, to purchase the electricity generated by that renewable resource at a price per kilowatt-hour that is 50% of the average cost per kilowatt-hour to generate electricity using a fossil fuel in this State.

LD 272 - This bill requires that, beginning November 1, 2020, all primary and general elections for President of the United States, United States Senator, United States Representative to Congress, Governor, State Senator and State Representative as well as all elections on people's veto questions, initiated measures, bond issues, constitutional amendments and other legislatively proposed referenda be conducted by mail. The bill also establishes the Commission to Implement Voting by Mail to make recommendations, including proposed legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs, which may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature for implementing voting by mail.

LD 269 - This bill changes the term "industrial hemp" in Maine law to "hemp" and defines "hemp" to match the definition found in the federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018.

LD 266 - This bill repeals the 24-month limit on MaineCare coverage or reimbursement for buprenorphine and naloxone combination drugs, also known as Suboxone, for the treatment of addiction to opioids.

LD 264 - This bill allows an emergency medical services person or law enforcement officer whose training allows that person to draw blood samples to draw a specimen of blood from the operator of a motor vehicle involved in a fatal traffic accident for the purpose of determining the blood-alcohol level or the presence of a drug or drug metabolite. This bill extends to those same

persons the current law shielding persons from liability for acts done or omitted in collecting or withdrawing specimens of blood.

LD 263 - This bill prohibits certain convicted sex offenders who were convicted of an offense against a minor under 14 years of age from intentionally or knowingly establishing residence in a dwelling unit of a multiunit residential building in which another dwelling unit that shares the same entryway is occupied by a person under 18 years of age. The bill makes violation of this provision a Class E crime.

LD 262 - This bill changes the crime of assault on an officer to include offensive physical contact and creates the crime of aggravated assault on an officer, which includes assaults against law enforcement officers and corrections officers and other corrections personnel.

LD 261 - This bill requires publicly available written justification for imposing restrictions on a public way for more than 6 weeks, prohibits the imposition of size and weight restrictions for vehicles on a public way when the ambient air temperature is below 31 degrees Fahrenheit and protects the ability of a commercial entity to operate its vehicles on the public way where it is headquartered or where it is conducting its business activities.

LD 259 - This bill increases the target for the state share of the adjusted total cost of the components of essential programs and services to 55%, as required by law, beginning in fiscal year 2019-20 and continuing at that rate annually.

LD 255 - This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that the signatures on a petition to directly initiate legislation be of voters from each of the state's two congressional districts and that the number of signatures from each congressional district be not less than 10% of the total vote for Governor cast in that congressional district in the previous gubernatorial election. This resolution provides that, if the required votes are cast in favor of the proposed amendment to the Constitution, the proposed amendment becomes part of the Constitution on March 1, 2020 instead of on the date of the Governor's proclamation.

LD 245 - This bill makes permanent the temporary provisions in law for presidential primaries that were repealed on December 1, 2018.

LD 244 - This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to rename the Stinson Bridge in the Town of Waterboro and the Town of Limerick the Woodsome-Carroll Bridge.

LD 241 - This bill increases the amount of the exemption from personal property taxation for farm machinery from \$10,000 to \$45,000.

LD 236 - This bill requires the warrant presented to the legislative body of the regional school unit to include an article describing how unanticipated school aid will be used. In cases where the adjustment prevents the regional school unit board from raising 100% of the required local share, the Commissioner of Education must waive the required proration of the state share.

LD 235 - This bill incrementally increases the fees for the lake and river protection stickers that are required for all resident and nonresident motorboats, personal watercraft and seaplanes

operating on inland waters of the state as follows. Beginning January 1, 2020, the fee for resident motorboats and personal watercraft is increased by \$8 and the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by \$10. Beginning January 1, 2022, the fee for resident motorboats and personal watercraft is increased by an additional \$2 and the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by an additional \$5. Beginning January 1, 2024, the fee for resident motorboats and personal watercraft is increased by an additional \$2 and the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by an additional \$5.

LD 227 – This concept draft bill proposes to enact measures designed to strengthen the state's public health infrastructure by identifying community-level geographic regions where essential public health services can be funded equitably and enabling the coordinated operation of public health, public safety and emergency preparedness professionals.

LD 224 - This bill provides the ConnectME Authority with a one-time \$10 million allocation to be used to provide grants to municipalities for high-speed broadband infrastructure development and improvement.

LD 223 - This bill allows a court to sentence an offender to community service such as litter collection and custodial duties for and under the supervision of the municipality in which the offense was committed.

LD 218 - This bill prohibits a Maine Clean Election candidate from soliciting, accepting or collecting, seed money contributions or qualifying contributions within 250 feet of the entrance to a voting place as well as within the voting place itself.

LD 217 - This bill allows a licensed veterans' organization, at the discretion of and by agreement with the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services, to sell liquor to the general public, subject to time-of-day and seasonal limitations defined at the time of license approval, if the organization has a valid license and is located in a municipality with fewer than 5,000 residents or is located on an island off the coast of the state that is provided with ferry service pursuant to state law.

LD 216 - This bill extends to inland shoreland areas the requirement that subsurface wastewater disposal systems on property located within a shoreland area be inspected prior to a sale of the property. Currently, that inspection requirement applies only to the sale of property located within a coastal shoreland area.

LD 215 - This bill requires the Department of Corrections, or its contracted medical provider, to pay to a provider of ambulance services 225% of the allowable reimbursement under the MaineCare program for ambulance services provided for a person residing in a correctional or detention facility.

LD 212 - This bill increases ATV registration fees from \$33 to \$45 for annual registrations for residents, from \$53 to \$65 for 7-day registrations for nonresidents and from \$68 to \$80 for one-year registrations for nonresidents. The bill provides that the increased fee revenue be deposited in the ATV Recreational Management Fund.

LD 211 - This bill allows an unenrolled voter to vote in a primary election without having to enroll in a political party. An unenrolled voter may vote in only one party's primary election.

LD 209 - This bill prohibits municipalities from prohibiting or restricting the use of short-term rentals except for narrowly tailored regulations to protect the public health and safety.

LD 207 - This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to rename Stillwater Bridge #1 and Stillwater Bridge #2 in the City of Old Town the Llewellyn Estes Bridge.

January 16, 2019

LD 200 - This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to rename the Ferry Hill Bridge in the Town of Orono the Brandon M. Silk Memorial Bridge.

LD 199 – This bill creates the Water Resources Planning Committee in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (ACF). Members of the committee must include personnel from the Department, Bureau of Resource Information and Land Use Planning, Division of Geology, Natural Areas and Coastal Resources, Maine Geological Survey, Public Utilities Commission, Department of Environment Protection, Maine Land Use Planning Commission and the drinking water program of the Department of Health and Human Services, as well members with expertise in agriculture, public water utilities, water bottling, environment and conservation, water advocacy and water conservation education. The committee is required to meet at least quarterly and beginning in August 2020 annually report a summary of its work to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. The bill details three phases on which the committee is required to focus its effort. During the first phase, the committee is tasked with collecting and reviewing information regarding water withdrawal activities, coordinating state water resources, and identifying at risk watersheds. In the second phase, the committee is directed to convene planning groups and work with other interested parties, including municipalities, to develop water use management guidelines for withdrawal activities from certain at risk watersheds. If after the first two phases the oversubscription of water use remains an issue, in the third phase, the committee must make recommendations resolving the water withdrawal issue.

LD 197 - This bill imposes a 2-year moratorium, beginning November 1, 2019, on new contracts or agreements by a consumer-owned water utility, municipality, state agency or other governmental entity involving the extraction of more than 75,000 gallons of groundwater during any week or more than 50,000 gallons of groundwater on any day. The bill also directs the Commissioner of Environmental Protection to convene a working group to develop the statutory and regulatory framework for the establishment of the Maine Water Trust, which must be designed to ensure a safe and plentiful drinking water supply for all Maine residents by regulating the use of groundwater for commercial purposes. The commissioner must, on or before January 15, 2021, report the recommendations of the working group to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources matters, which may report out a bill to implement those recommendations to the First Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

LD 193 - This bill restores state-municipal revenue sharing to 5% from 2% as of Jan. 1, 2019, which is six months earlier than currently provided in law.

LD 190 - This bill provides that a person 65 years of age or older who possesses a valid senior resident lifetime hunting license must receive a permit to lawfully take an antlerless deer in any part of the state open to the taking of antlerless deer.

LD 186 - This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to specify that only a person who is a citizen of the United States may vote in a state, county or municipal or other local election.

LD 182 - This bill amends the Maine Bail Code to provide that a defendant who is not dangerous, is not a flight risk in the absence of bond and is otherwise eligible for bail may not be detained solely due to financial inability to post a money or property bond and may file a motion with the court requesting relief from the requirement to post a money or property bond. This bill requires the court to determine the financial capacity of the defendant and rule on the motion in an expedited manner.

LD 180 - This bill allows a municipality to adopt an ordinance governing the operations of a transportation network company at an airport located within that municipality.

LD 178 - Current law requires the state to pay 45% of a retired teacher's share of the premium for group accident and sickness or health insurance. This bill incrementally raises that percentage to 90% by June 30, 2027.

LD 173 - This bill proposes to increase funding to the ConnectME Authority from \$1 million to \$5 million to expand universal broadband and high-speed internet into rural areas identified as the 6% of the state unserved by high-speed internet. This bill proposes to make expanding high-speed internet into unserved rural areas a key emphasis in the economic development of and to multiply the return to the state by directing the ConnectME Authority to use the increased funding to increase the rate of strategic broadband investment and leverage additional federal funding to provide middle-mile and last-mile infrastructure in the unserved areas and to correct broadband deficiencies identified in the ConnectME Authority's baseline update of 2013.

LD 172 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$15 million bond issue to provide funds through the Maine Technology Institute to allow municipalities to invest in smart and connected infrastructure, technology and capacity, including but not limited to information and communications technology such as broadband connectivity, connected sensors and data aggregation platforms; light-emitting diode lighting; adaptive traffic control signals; autonomous vehicle projects; electric vehicle infrastructure; and distributed power generation, storage and management.

LD 170 - This bill prohibits the state from including questions about criminal history on its employment application forms. The bill provides an exception to that prohibition when, due to the nature and requirements of the position, a person who has a criminal history may be disqualified from eligibility, such as for a law enforcement officer, corrections officer, child protective or adult protective services caseworker or child development services worker position.

The bill applies to state employment positions in the legislative, executive or judicial branch of state government and positions with quasi-independent state entities or public instrumentalities of the state; it does not apply to positions in school administrative units, municipalities, counties or other political subdivisions.

LD 166 - This bill increases the penalty for overtaking a school bus when the bus has stopped with its red lights flashing from a \$250 minimum fine to a \$500 minimum fine for the first offense and increases the driver's license suspension from 30 days to 60 days for a second offense.

LD 165 - The bill expands the current prohibition on minors and persons who have been issued a learner's permit from operating a motor vehicle while using a handheld electronic device to prohibit all persons operating a motor vehicle. The bill includes exceptions to the prohibition to allow for hands-free operation of the device and for using a handheld electronic device to communicate with law enforcement or emergency services personnel under emergency circumstances. The bill provides that the penalty for a first offense is \$75 and the penalty for a second or subsequent offense within a 3-year period is \$150.

LD 164 - This bill increases the total exemption under the Maine resident homestead property tax exemption program to \$50,000 for property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2020. This bill also increases state reimbursement to municipalities for homestead property tax exemptions from 62.5% to 100% for property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2020.

LD 163 - This bill provides enhanced property tax exemptions for certain veterans. A veteran regardless of age becomes eligible for a \$25,000 exemption if the veteran has served at least 90 days of active service and has served in a combat zone. A veteran with a service-connected disability becomes eligible for a \$50,000 exemption if the disability is rated 50% to 90% and a \$100,000 exemption if the disability is rated 100%. A surviving unremarried spouse, minor child or parent who is receiving a pension based on the service of a deceased veteran qualifies for the same exemption. The bill also requires the state to reimburse municipalities for 50% of the lost property tax revenue.

LD 162 - Retirement benefits under state, local or federal government retirement plans that are based on employment compensation for which contributions are not made to the federal Social Security system result in reductions in the amount of Social Security benefits that a retiree is eligible to receive under the federal windfall elimination provision. This bill provides an income tax exemption for those retirement benefits.

LD 161 - This concept draft bill proposes to enact measures designed to increase access to career and technical education.

LD 159 - This bill requires that, whenever an ambulance transports a patient from the scene of an emergency or from a hospital or other health care facility to another place, the ambulance must be equipped with video recording equipment that is in operation for the duration of the transport and that is producing a clear video record of the care provided to the patient. In accordance with applicable federal and state law, the video records are to be maintained as confidential by the

ambulance service operator and, if applicable, by the Emergency Medical Services' Board and the Department of Public Safety.

LD 158 - This bill removes the requirement that beano conducted by organizations such as volunteer fire departments, agricultural fair associations and nonprofit, charitable, educational, political, civic, recreational, fraternal, patriotic, religious or veterans organizations be conducted by members of those organizations and instead requires that beano conducted by these organizations be conducted in the presence of at least one member of the organization.

LD 156 - This bill allows a municipality that is a service center community to impose a local option sales tax of no more than 1% by local referendum for the purpose of funding infrastructure costs specifically authorized by the local legislative body.

LD 153 - This bill requires all schools to test water used for drinking or culinary purposes for lead using water testing kits or by submitting samples of water to an approved laboratory for lead testing. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services to establish by major substantive rule water lead levels, testing protocols, appropriate abatement and mitigation methods and public notification requirements. It directs the department to provisionally adopt major substantive rules and submit them to the Legislature no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 10, 2020. It provides that the department has the authority to issue an order reducing exposure to lead until the elevated water lead levels are abated or mitigated. It provides that water lead abatement or mitigation efforts will receive Priority 1 status for receipt of funds from the School Revolving Renovation Fund.

LD 149 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$250 million bond issue to provide funds for payment of student loan debt for individuals who agree to live and work in Maine for 5 years and to reimburse employers that make student loan debt payments on behalf of their employees who agree to live and work in Maine for 5 years. The bill also establishes the Maine Student Loan Debt Relief Program and the Maine Student Loan Debt Relief Fund and requires the Finance Authority of Maine to adopt major substantive rules to implement the program and submit the rules to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

LD 148 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$50 million bond issue to recapitalize the School Revolving Renovation Fund for the purpose of providing funds to public schools for renovation and capital repairs. The bill also gives upgrades of facilities required to meet prekindergarten facility standards and for prekindergarten capacity building Priority 4 status for loans from the fund.

LD 147 - This bill provides \$100,000 in one-time funding, distributed evenly in FY 2000 and FY 2001, for a program providing mobile wireless hot spot devices to libraries in Washington County.

LD 146 - This bill allows a municipality, by referendum, to exempt all personal property located in that municipality from taxation.

LD 143 - This bill prohibits a transmission and distribution utility from requiring a customer to meter the gross output of a facility for net energy billing purposes and from requiring a customer

to have a meter installed to measure gross output in order to participate in net energy billing. The bill requires that a net energy billing customer be credited for kilowatt-hours exported from an eligible facility at the total retail rate for electricity. It allows a transmission and distribution utility to collect data on gross output only if a meter to measure gross output was installed prior to the effective date of this legislation. Finally, it requires the Public Utilities Commission to amend its rules to conform with the changes made in this legislation within 90 days of the effective date.

LD 141 - This bill is similar to the provisions of law making consuming alcohol or having an open container of alcohol in the passenger area of a vehicle a traffic infraction. Specifically, the bill makes it a traffic infraction to consume marijuana or a marijuana product, to possess an open container of marijuana or a marijuana product in the passenger area of a vehicle or to place marijuana or a marijuana product in a container labeled by the manufacturer of the container as containing a non-marijuana substance.

LD 138 - This bill provides one-time funds for the expansion of existing collaborative workspace businesses and gives preference to applicants with projects in towns and counties in which the unemployment rate exceeds the state's unemployment rate.

LD 136 - This bill establishes the special education circuit breaker reimbursement program, in which the Department of Education reimburses school administrative units, for a student whose eligible special education costs exceed 4 times the statewide EPS per-pupil rate, 75% of the amount of the special education costs that are above 4 times the statewide EPS per-pupil rate. The bill requires the department to distribute reimbursements to eligible school administrative units on a quarterly basis, and the reimbursements must be deposited in a separate revolving account that may be spent only on approved special education services.

LD 134 - This bill amends the membership of the Criminal Law Advisory Commission to require that at least one member be a law enforcement officer from a state law enforcement agency and at least one member be a law enforcement officer from a county or municipal law enforcement agency.

LD 133 - This bill restores state-municipal revenue sharing to 5% from 2% for the current fiscal year (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019), rather the restoring full funding in the next fiscal year (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020), as statutorily required.

LD 126 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$2 million bond to provide funds to the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to capitalize the Historic Preservation Revolving Fund for the purpose of acquiring significant historic properties for resale and rehabilitation.

LD 124 - This bill provides a sales tax exemption for sales of watercraft that will be used to provide ambulance services and sales of ambulance supplies to an incorporated nonprofit transportation company that provides ambulance services from an island not served by a bridge to the mainland pursuant to a written agreement with a municipality to provide ambulance services without charge. An incorporated nonprofit transportation company providing ambulance services using watercraft certified and inspected by the United States Coast Guard is not required to be licensed as an ambulance service in order to be eligible for the exemption.

LD 123 - This bill prohibits the state, as an employer, from inquiring about a prospective employee's compensation history until after an offer of employment that includes all terms of compensation has been negotiated and made to the prospective employee. The bill also prohibits the state from requiring that a prospective employee's compensation history meet certain criteria. A department, agency or entity of the state that violates this provision is subject to a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500 per intentional violation.

LD 122 - This bill prohibits an employer from inquiring about a prospective employee's compensation history until after an offer of employment that includes all terms of compensation has been negotiated and made to the prospective employee. The bill also prohibits an employer from requiring that a prospective employee's compensation history meet certain criteria. An employer that violates this provision is subject to a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$500 per violation and is also subject to a civil action that may be brought by or on behalf of an affected prospective employee by the Department of Labor or the affected employee.

LD 119 - This bill changes the method of computing the excise tax that is levied on motor vehicles and camper trailers registered in the state. With the exception of certain commercial motor vehicles and buses and special mobile equipment, current law requires that the excise tax be based upon the maker's list price for the motor vehicle; the excise tax on certain commercial motor vehicles and buses and special mobile equipment is based on the purchase price. This bill requires that the excise tax for all motor vehicles and camper trailers be based upon the purchase price of the vehicle. Either the original bill of sale or the state sales tax document may be used to verify the purchase price. Current law requires the state to reimburse a municipality for the difference in the amount of excise tax that would have been collected by the municipality on each commercial motor vehicle or bus using the manufacturer's suggested retail price instead of the actual purchase price. This bill applies that requirement to all vehicles registered and taxed by the municipality using the actual purchase price.

LD 118 - This bill provides that revenue received by a municipality from the vehicle excise tax must be used for maintenance or improvement of transportation infrastructure within that municipality.

LD 117 - This bill provides that a new motor vehicle that has had an inspection is not required to have another inspection until 5 years from the last day of the month in which it was initially registered. After this time period has passed, the motor vehicle is required to have an annual motor vehicle safety inspection.

LD 114 - This bill provides for open primary elections for the candidates for United States Senator, United States Representative to Congress, Governor, State Senator and State Representative. All of the candidates for those offices, including candidates enrolled in a party and unenrolled candidates, must appear on the same open primary ballot. All qualified voters, regardless of enrollment status, are eligible to vote in open primary elections. The votes in an open primary election must be tabulated using ranked-choice voting, except that the two candidates who receive the most votes are declared the winners of the open primary and their names must appear on the ballot for the general election. If one of the two candidates who received the most votes at the open primary withdraws from the race at least 70 days before the

general election, that candidate must be replaced with the candidate who received the third most votes in the open primary election, if any. Voters may not vote for a write-in candidate in a general election that was preceded by an open primary election. As a result, ranked-choice voting will no longer be used in general elections for United States Senator and United States Representative to Congress. Instead, the candidate who receives a plurality of votes at the general election will be elected to those offices.

LD 112 – This concept draft bill proposes to implement changes to the laws governing the management, reduction and recycling of solid waste determined necessary based on a review of revisions to the state waste management and recycling plan prepared by the Department of Environmental Protection.

LD 111 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$250 million bond issue, to be issued in \$50 million increments over a 5-year period, to fund research and development and commercialization as prioritized by the Maine Innovation Economy Advisory Board's most recent innovation economy action plan and the Office of Innovation's most recent science and technology action plan. The funds must be allocated in support of technological innovation leading to commercialization in the targeted sectors of life sciences and biomedical technology, environmental and renewable energy technology, information technology, advanced technologies for forestry and agriculture, aquaculture and marine technology, composites and advanced materials and precision manufacturing.

LD 107 - This bill provides for the phase-out of the individual income tax.

LD 105 - This bill creates the Office of Outdoor Recreation within the Department of Economic and Community Development. The office is charged, in part, to strengthen and grow the outdoor recreation economy by developing strategies to create outdoor recreation employment, to enhance business growth and to coordinate with state economic development leaders to integrate development of the outdoor recreation industry with the state's economic development efforts, as well as to monitor, analyze, develop and coordinate outdoor recreation policies at the federal, state and local levels. The bill also proposes to fund the new office through an annual allocation of \$250,000 from the Tourism Marketing Promotion Fund, which is funded by a portion of the meals and lodging sales tax.

January 15, 2019

LD 104 - This bill expands the earned income tax credit by increasing the credit from 5% to 15% of the federal earned income tax credit and extending the credit to persons from 18 to 24 years of age who have no qualifying child. This bill also requires the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards to provide a poster or notice to employers that states that employees may be eligible for the earned income tax credit. This bill requires employers to post the poster or notice in a place that is accessible to the employers' employees.

LD 102 - Beginning January 1, 2020, this bill prohibits a manufacturer from selling, offering for sale or distributing for sale in the state a single-use plastic beverage container unless the container is composed of at least 15% postconsumer recycled plastic. Beginning January 1, 2022, this threshold for the percentage of postconsumer recycled plastic in single-use plastic beverage

containers increases to 20% and, beginning January 1, 2024, the threshold increases to 25%. The bill also prohibits, beginning January 1, 2020, a manufacturer from selling, offering for sale or distributing for sale in the state a single-use plastic beverage container with a plastic beverage cap unless the cap is composed of the same plastic as the beverage container and the cap is tethered to the container in a manner that prevents the separation of the cap from the container when the cap is removed or the cap includes an opening from which the beverage can be consumed while the cap remains screwed onto or otherwise affixed to the container.

LD 101 - This bill reestablishes the law governing the development and maintenance of a registry of the properties of residents, lessees and property owners who request to receive advance notification of the outdoor application of pesticides near their properties.

January 14, 2019

LD 98 - This resolve provides for legislative review of portions of Chapter 122: Grant Application and Award Procedure: Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services, a major substantive rule of the Department of Education.

LD 91 - This bill clarifies the definition of "net energy billing" to mean the difference between the kilowatt-hours delivered by a transmission and distribution utility to the customer over a billing period and the kilowatt-hours delivered by the customer to the transmission and distribution utility over the billing period, taking into account accumulated unused kilowatt-hour credits from the previous billing period. The bill requires the Public Utilities Commission to amend its net energy billing rules within 60 days of this legislation becoming effective. The bill also provides that all customers that entered into a net energy billing arrangement on or after March 29, 2017 are governed by the rules that are to be adopted pursuant to this legislation.

LD 90 - This bill removes the requirement that at least one member of the Town of York Planning Board and the Town of York Appeals Board be a resident of the York Beach geographical area.

LD 87 - This bill increases to 25¢ the deposit and refund value on refillable and non-refillable beverage containers whose deposit and refund value is currently 5¢. This increase does not apply to wine and spirits containers.

LD 83 - This bill allows a dealer selling a motor vehicle to use a copy of the valid certificate of title instead of the original valid certificate of title.

LD 79 - This bill allows the discharge of a firearm on a sport shooting range that is within 100 yards of a building if the sport shooting range was established and in regular operation prior to the erection of the building.

LD 77 - This bill increases the property tax exemption for individuals who are 75 years of age or older from \$20,000 to \$50,000 for property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2020. A homeowner seeking an enhanced exemption must file a notification verifying the individual's age with the assessor prior to April 1st of the year on which the taxes are based.

LD 75 - Under current law, a person who receives or is scheduled to receive remuneration in the form of vacation pay in excess of 4 weeks' wages or holiday pay is disqualified from receiving unemployment benefits for the week that remuneration is due. This bill removes those disqualifications.

January 10, 2019

LD 69 - This bill creates a paid family medical leave program, patterned after the unpaid family medical leave program existing in current law but requiring a contribution from an eligible employee, or a self-employed person on a voluntary basis, of no more than 0.5% of the employee's or self-employed person's wages or earnings. The program requires employers to deduct the contributions from employee paychecks and requires the employers and self-employed persons to submit contributions to the Department of Labor, Bureau of Unemployment Compensation, which is charged with administering the program. The program pays benefits of up to 66% of an employee's wages or self-employed person's earnings, capped at the same maximum amount as unemployment benefits for leave taken by the employee or self-employed person for various family-related medical issues. The bill makes participation optional for employers that employ fewer than 15 employees. The bill also directs the Department of Labor to develop an implementation plan dealing with staffing, technology, start-up expenses, rulemaking and scheduling to begin the program on its effective date of October 1, 2020.

LD 68 - This bill amends the law governing the record-keeping requirements of the Public Utilities Commission. Current law requires that the commission maintain a complete record of proceedings, investigations and formal public hearings. The bill adds the requirement to maintain a record of complaints. It also specifies that the required records be permanently maintained and include results and conclusions, including orders, findings, decisions and settlement agreements. Finally, the bill requires the commission, upon request of a public utility customer, to reconstruct, to the extent possible, the record of a proceeding, investigation, formal public hearing or complaint that was disposed of prior to the requirement that a permanent record be maintained.

LD 65 - This bill allows a municipality to impose a local option sales tax, which may be seasonal, if approved by referendum of the voters in that municipality. The referendum question must identify the rate of the local option sales tax, specify the months during which it will be imposed if not year-round and identify the purposes for which the revenue will be used. The local option sales tax would be collected and administered by the state in the same manner as the sales and use tax. Revenue from the local option sales tax is distributed to the municipality imposing the local option sales tax. Revenue received by a municipality may not be used to reduce or eliminate funding otherwise due the municipality under other provisions of law.

LD 64 - This bill sets the minimum amount of time a person convicted of animal cruelty may not own, possess or have on the person's premises an animal as five years for a Class D crime and 15 years for a Class C crime and makes a violation of these time periods a Class D crime. This bill also provides that a person may petition the court to reduce the amount of time that the person may not own, possess or have on the person's premises an animal upon a showing that the person does not present a danger to animals and meets other criteria.

LD 63 - This bill clarifies that a school board is accountable to the residents of the school board's district, who are the school board's constituents.

LD 62 - This bill increases the maximum benefit that a municipality may provide under a senior volunteer benefit program from \$750 to the greater of \$1,000 and 100 times the state minimum hourly wage.

LD 61- This concept draft bill proposes to simplify and improve the efficiency of the bottle redemption process.

LD 59 - This bill establishes a procedure to recall an elected official of a plantation based on the elected official's neglect of duty or misconduct.

January 8, 2019

LD 56 - This bill prohibits the use of personal watercraft on Lower Wilson Pond in the Town of Greenville and Upper Wilson Pond in the Town of Greenville and Bowdoin College Grant West Township.

LD 55 - This bill repeals the provisions of school funding law that require school administrative units and private schools to pay for teacher retirement.

LD 53 - This bill requires that municipal initiative and referendum questions be listed on election ballots using sequential capital letters of the alphabet rather than sequential numbers.

January 7, 2019

LD 48 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$15 million bond issue to provide funds for capital construction cost for housing for homeless persons.

LD 47 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$25 million bond issue to provide funds to rehabilitate existing or construct new municipal fire stations.

January 4, 2019

LD 43 - This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to dedicate all motor vehicle and related sales tax revenue to the Highway Fund for roads and bridge capital improvements.

LD 41 - This bill replaces the existing net energy billing arrangement utilized for customers of eligible renewable energy facilities with a market-based crediting system that provides credits to eligible customers who produce more electricity than they consume. The market-based system would award credits for excess output based on the real-time wholesale market price of the excess energy. Under the new system, single eligible facilities could be shared by no more than 50 customers, and the service territory of the Northern Maine Independent System Administrator would be exempt until the Public Utilities Commission finds the Administrator's billing system

can be modified to accommodate a market-based crediting system. Customers who are utilizing a net energy billing arrangement by December 31, 2019 would be allowed to continue to use that arrangement until December 31, 2034.

LD 39 - This resolve designates Bridge 1457 on Interstate 95, which crosses Main Street in the City of Waterville, the Specialist Wade A. Slack Memorial Bridge.

LD 35 - This bill increases the homestead exemption to \$50,000 for veterans of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard who are receiving disability compensation from the federal government due to a service-connected disability and provides an income tax deduction for all income of those individuals.

LD 33 - This bill directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish a special youth hunting season from the Monday prior to Thanksgiving Day to the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day during which youth hunters with a valid junior hunting license may harvest one wild turkey.

LD 32 - This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to designate a portion of U.S. Route 1 in the Town of Whiting the Brigadier General John Crane Memorial Highway and to rename the New Crane Bridge in the Town of Whiting the Purple Heart Veterans Memorial Bridge.

LD 30 - This concept draft bill proposes to enact measures designed to improve the state's capacity to analyze and use data regarding health care costs and health care systems.

LD 29 - This resolve requires the Department of Education to establish a work group to evaluate existing substance use prevention programs targeting school-age children, investigate prevention programs that have proven effective in other areas of the U.S., identify funding resources and determine how prevention programs should be incorporated into education curricula. The work group must include representatives of educational, law enforcement and public health organizations. The department is required to submit a report of the work group's findings no later than January 1, 2020 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education matters.

LD 26 - This bill allows a retired game warden with 25 years of service to receive a complimentary lifetime license to hunt, trap and fish.

January 2, 2019

LD 19 - This bill requires the front bumpers of school buses to be equipped with a crossing arm, which requires students to walk at least 10 feet in front of the bus when crossing the roadway.

LD 17 - This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to designate Route 1 from its intersection with Route 1A in the Town of Jonesboro to the southern entrance to the Jeremiah O'Brien Memorial Bridges in the Town of Machias the Hannah and Rebecca Weston Trail.

LD 16 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$50 million bond issue to provide funds to improve waterfront and coastal infrastructure in municipalities addressing sea level rise.

LD 15 - This emergency bill authorizes municipalities to adopt ordinances allowing grocery stores with no more than 10,000 square feet of interior customer selling space to be open on Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

LD 13 - This bill directs the Public Utilities Commission to approve a petition to construct and operate a new microgrid if the commission finds the proposal to be in the public interest. It provides the commission with the ability to impose such terms, conditions or requirements as it considers necessary in approving a new microgrid and also gives the commission oversight to ensure reliability and security of the electrical system and consumer protections for new microgrid consumers. It specifies that a new microgrid does not become a public utility as a result of its furnishing electrical service to participating consumers. The bill also stipulates that a new microgrid that has been approved by the commission may construct, maintain or operate its lines in, upon, along, over, across or under the roads and streets. The bill directs the Public Utilities Commission to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utility matters by January 15, 2021.

LD 10 - This bill provides that a new motor vehicle that has had an inspection is not required to have another inspection until 2 years from the last day of the month in which it was initially registered. After the expiration of the 2 year period, the motor vehicle must have an annual vehicle safety inspection. For the purposes of this bill, a “new” motor vehicle is defined as a non-commercial vehicle that has not been previously titled and registered.

LD 8 - This bill allows a person who is getting married to change that person’s name by indicating the new name on the application for recording the notice of intent to marry, which becomes effective upon the completion of the marriage license.

LD 7 - This resolve designates Bridge 3790, which crosses the Penobscot River between the towns of Lincoln and Chester, the Master Sergeant Gary Gordon Bridge.

LD 4 - This bill amends municipal shellfish conservation ordinance authority by permitting the adoption of ordinances allowing eligible entities to conduct the research necessary to support a locally adopted shellfish conservation program. Only research entities working in conjunction with the Department of Marine Resources or a department approved entity may conduct the research. In addition, the adopted ordinance must require the research entity to issue a report on its findings to the Commissioner of Marine Resource by January 1 of each year.

Bills Without LD Numbers

Recording Plans with Registry of Deeds. Under current law, plans filed with the county registry of deeds must be drawn on strong linen cloth or polyester film with archival photographic image. This bill requires that all plans dated after January 1, 2020 be submitted on

white 20 pound weight paper. The bill also directs the register to maintain a copy, rather than the original and a copy, for public inspection either in paper or digital image format.

TIF and Broadband. This bill expands the allowable use of tax increment financing to include the development, expansion or improvement of broadband services.

Support for Municipal Recycling Programs. This resolve directs the Department of Environmental Protection to develop a product stewardship program requiring producers of packaging materials to assist municipalities with managing and financing packaging waste disposal and recycling programs, including covering at least 80% of the cost of recycling packaging materials sold in Maine; providing per-capita based reimbursement to municipalities for non-recyclable packaging; and making investments in waste reduction and recycling education and infrastructure.

Guns in Public Proceedings. This bill allows local units of government, boards, commissions and agencies to prohibit the carrying of dangerous weapons at public proceedings and voting places within the municipality. The bill also provides an exception to allow the carrying of a handgun by an on-duty law enforcement officer.

Cable Franchise & Public, Education and Government (PEG) Channels. This bill amends the statute governing cable television-related ordinances. The bill addresses no less than the following eight objectives: Requires a minimum density of 15 residences per mile of cable; eliminates automatic renewal of franchises and requires cable operators to notify franchising authorities 36 months in advance of the expiration of the franchise; requires Public, Education and Government (“PEG”) channels to be carried the same as local broadcast channels (i.e., at a low channel number), making this provision retroactive to cover any PEG channels moved within the 24 months prior to enactment; requires municipal consent to any alterations of the State’s model franchise agreement by the cable operator as enacted by the municipality; requires cable operators to carry PEG channels in both high and standard definition; requires PEG channels to be included in the Electronic Program Guide; requires cable operators to retain adequate staff and resources to respond to municipal requests for renewal information within 60 days, and; authorizes municipalities to require maps, diagrams, annual reports, and franchise fee statements of franchises.

Small cells in Municipal Rights of Way. This bill defines a new type of antenna commonly known as “small cells” starting to be deployed in densely populated areas to facilitate and accommodate the increased use of cellular data by wireless phones and other devices. The definition states the antenna itself cannot be larger than three cubic feet, and the associated equipment cannot exceed 28 cubic feet. The bill adds language in existing statute allowing small cell facilities in all municipal rights of way, subject to local conditions that apply to other permitted uses in the municipality, and to the state’s general requirements for utilities located in the right of way. The locally-imposed conditions can include those imposed within designated historic districts.