

**Category** Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry  
**LD #** 1047  
**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/22/09 9:30 AM Rm206CSOB  
**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority OTP-AM/Minority OTP-AM  
**AMENDMENT #** Majority H-468  
**LAW #** **Public Law Chapter 375**  
**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor  
**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Amend the Review and Approval Process of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. (Rep. Clark, Millinocket) (Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry Comm)(**Emergency**) (Requires that a comprehensive land use plan to be adopted by the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission & approved by the the Leg comm overseeing conservation matters. Current law requires that the Maine LURC adopt and the Governor approve a comprehensive land use plan.) (Maj amend requires Maine LURC to submit a comprehensive land use plan or portions of a plan to the Committee over conservation matters a minimum of 30 days prior to final vote of the commission. Requires review by the legislative committee at a public meeting prior to commission's vote. Fiscal note.) (Minority report requires Maine LURC to submit comprehensive land use plan or portion to Committee & wait for Committee review before adoption. Authorizes Comm to submit leg-FN)

**Archived** NO

**Category** Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry  
**LD #** 1133  
**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/8/09 1:00 PM Rm206CSOB  
**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM  
**AMENDMENT #** S-274  
**LAW #** **Public Law Chapter 356**  
**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor  
**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Commission To Study the Protection of Farms and Farmland.(Sen. Nutting, Androscoggin for Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry Comm) (Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry Comm) (Part B requires projects and development subject to review and approval under the MRS, Title 38 to also be reviewed for impact on farmland when the project or development is funded in whole or in part with federal or state funds. This bill directs the State Board of Education to amend the Dept's rule governing the siting of new schools to require consideration of farmland in siting decisions.) (among other things the amendment modifies the provisions for a pilot project on the formation of agricultural districts. Report back date is February 2011.)

**Archived** NO

**Category** Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry  
**LD #** 1370  
**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/22/09 9:30 AM Rm206CSOB  
**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM  
**AMENDMENT #** H-494 (**Indef PP--DEAD**)  
**LAW #**  
**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor  
**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Reform the Land Use and Planning Authority within the Unorganized Territories of the State.) (Rep. Joy, Crystal) (Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry Comm) (this bill eliminates the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission, effective July 15, 2010, and directs the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission prior to its elimination to develop a plan to provide authority over land use planning in the unorganized territory to the counties in which the land is located. The Maine LURC is required to submit its proposal and transfer of its duties to the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Comm by December 2, 2009.)(Minority report amendment clarifies that each county containing land under Maine LURC jurisdiction is to establish its own process for revising the 1997 Comp Land Use Plain as basis for planning for a min of 2 years.)

**Archived** NO

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**Category** Appropriations & Financial Affairs

**LD #** 913

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/10/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority OTP-AM/Minority ONTP

**AMENDMENT #** H-583

**LAW # Public Law Chapter 414**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor\*\*

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor\*\*

**Archived** NO

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

New Title: 'An Act To Authorize Bond Issues for Ratification by the Voters for the November 2009 and June and November 2010 Elections.' Part A includes bond issue for improvements to highways and bridges, airports, public transit facilities, ferry & port facilities. Part B includes capital investment to stimulate economic development and job creation by making investments under Communities for Maine's Future Program. Part C bond issue for a drinking water revolving loan fund and wastewater revolving loan fund. Part D bond for investments in weatherization & energy efficiency projects and green energy workforce development. Part E land conservation & working waterfront preservation. Part F FAME to establish rules to administer funds for grants & loans for food processing. Part G Establishes Communities for Maine's Future Program and accompanying fund & Historic Preservation Revolving Fund. Part H Marine Wind Energy Demo Site Fund.)

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**Category** Business, Research Economic Dev

**LD #** 1

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Carry Over Approved

**AMENDMENT #** S-309

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**Archived** NO

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Stimulate Capital Investment for Innovative Businesses in Maine. (Sen. Mills, Somerset) (BRED Comm) (The bill is modeled on statutes of other states, It authorizes the establishment of the Maine Fund of Funds within the Small Enterprise Growth Board for the purpose of increasing the availability of venture capital to the Maine economy. The goal of the fund is to create investments in the Maine economy, which is broadly described as including the development of intellectual capital as well as job creation.)(The amendment replaces the Maine Fund of Funds and establishes a secured loan of up to \$10,000,000 from the retirement system to the Maine Economic Development Venture Capital Revolving Investment Program admin by the Finance Authority of Maine. It establishes a secured loan of up to \$5,000,000 from the retirement system to the Small Enterprise Growth Fund and other innovative finance programs.)

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**Category** Business, Research Economic Dev

**LD #** 11

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 2/5/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-15

**LAW # Resolve Chapter 22**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:**

**Archived** NO

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

Resolve, To Encourage the Preservation of Dark Skies. (Rep. Schatz, Blue Hill) (BRED Comm) (This Resolve directs the State Planning Office to establish uniform state standards for new commercial construction and the lighting of the outside surrounding space to limit light pollution and encourage the preservation of the areas natural state.)(Amendment replaces resolve and directs the State Planning Office to review existing commercial outdoor lighting standards and make recommendations on standard language that will limit light pollution and encourage the preservation of the area's natural state, as well as identify policy options for promoting outdoor lighting standards for commercial development findings to be reported to the BRED Committee by January 15, 2010)

**Category** Business, Research Economic Dev  
**LD #** 156  
**PUBLIC HEARING:** 2/10/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB  
**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM  
**AMENDMENT #** S-14, S-15  
**LAW #** **Public Law Chapter 44**  
**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor  
**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Protect Consumers from the unlicensed Practice of a Trade or Profession. (Rep. Connor, Kennebunk) (BRED Comm) (This bill increases the civil penalty for the unlicensed practice of a trade or profession from not less than \$100 and not more than \$2,000 to not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000.) (Amendment, S-14 decreases the min and max penalties as proposed in the bill from a min of \$1000 to \$200 and a max of \$5000 to \$2500. Amendment S-15 provides that the penalty applies only if the unlicensed person received payment of \$1000 or more for a service performed.)

**Archived** NO

**Category** Business, Research Economic Dev  
**LD #** 272  
**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/24/09 9:30 AM Rm208CSOB  
**COMMITTEE ACTION:** **Carry Over Approved**  
**AMENDMENT #**  
**LAW #**  
**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor  
**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To License Home Building and Improvement Contractors. (Rep. MacDonald, Boothbay) (BRED Comm) (This bill creates the Maine Home Contractor Licensing Act. The bill contains provisions concerning: requirements for licensure of general contractors and persons who perform framing, roofing, siding insulating, window work or chimney work, if the work concerns residential dwellings; certain specific exemptions from licensure; required qualifications for general and specialty licenses; requirements for criminal and financial disclosures; creation of the Maine Home Contractor Licensing Board; and fees for licensing.)

**Archived** NO

**Category** Business, Research Economic Dev  
**LD #** 347  
**PUBLIC HEARING:** 2/17/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB  
**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM  
**AMENDMENT #** S-269 **(DEAD)**  
**LAW #**  
**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor  
**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Reduce Regulatory Costs for Maine Businesses. (Sen. Smith, Piscataquis) (This concept draft proposes to reduce regulatory costs for businesses in the State by establishing a council on private sector regulatory costs composed of private sector business leaders.) (Minority report replaces bill. It establishes the Small Business Regulatory Advocate in order to assist small businesses in resolving problems iwth state agencies

**Archived** NO

**Category** Business, Research Economic Dev  
**LD #** 440  
**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB  
**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought Not to Pass  
**AMENDMENT #**  
**LAW #**  
**ARCH. POSITION:** Oppose  
**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act Regarding Exceptions to the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. (Rep. Crockett, Bethel) (BRED Comm) (This bill adds residential single family and 2-unit homes to the list of structures that are exempt from the requirements of the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code.)

**Archived** NO

**Category** Business, Research Economic Dev  
**LD #** 500  
**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/3/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB  
**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass  
**AMENDMENT #**  
**LAW #** **Public Law Chapter 126**  
**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor  
**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Include as Authorized Project Costs the Construction or Improvement of Buildings Used by Municipalities for Purposes of Designating Municipal Development Districts. (Sen. Schneider, Penobscot) (BRED Comm) (This bill includes the costs of construction or improvement of buildings leased by State Government or a municipal government that are located in downtown tax increment financing districts in authorized project costs of a development program.)

**Archived** NO

**Category** Business, Research Economic Dev  
**LD #** 652  
**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB  
**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM  
**AMENDMENT #** H-301  
**LAW #** **Public Law Chapter 261**  
**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor\*  
**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Clarify the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. (Rep. Giles, Belfast) (BRED Comm) (Amendment replaces the bill, which changes from July 2010 to Dec 1, 2010, the date by which a municipality that has more than 2,000 residents that has adopted any building code by Aug 1, 2008, must begin enforcement of the Maine Uniform Building & Energy Code. It changes from July 2010 to Dec 1, 2010, the date that the MUBEC becomes the successor to all adopted building, energy and radon codes and standards, and extends from Jan 1, 2010, to June 1, 2010, the effective date for code enforcement officers to become certified in the MUBEC standards. It exempts municipalities that are enforcing MUBEC thru 3rd-party inspections from the provision of law requiring the inspector of buildings to inspect construction for compliance with MUBEC. The Tech Board is to adopt MUBEC no later than Jun 1, 2010...) (delays code enforcement by 11 mos.)

**Archived** NO

**Category** Business, Research Economic Dev  
**LD #** 958  
**PUBLIC HEARING:** 5/6/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH  
**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM  
**AMENDMENT #** H-577 **(DEAD)**  
**LAW #**  
**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor  
**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Encourage Renewable Energy Investment. (Rep. Cornell du Houx, Brunswick) (Taxation Comm) (This bill authorizes the State to provide the benefits of Pine Tree Development Zones to businesses producing renewable energy onshore or offshore or manufacturing component parts necessary for the production of renewable energy onshore or offshore.)(The Minority Report Amendment adds a fiscal note.)

**Archived** NO

**Category** Business, Research Economic Dev  
**LD #** 997  
**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB  
**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM  
**AMENDMENT #** H-127 **(DEAD)**  
**LAW #**  
**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor\*  
**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Clarify the Limits of the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. (Rep. Hinck, Portland) (BRED Comm) (Amends the laws governing the MUBEC to allow a municipality to voluntarily adopt and enforce an appendix to the code, the so-called "stretch energy code," that contains energy standards that exceed the energy conservation and efficiency requirements established by the code. The bill requires the Tech Bldg Codes & Standards Board within the Dept of Safety to adopt, amend and maintain no later than 7/1/10 an appendix to the code that contains energy conservation and efficiency requirements based on est nat'l voluntary efficiency standards that exceed the energy req of the code. It provides that the appendix be made available for vol adoptions by any municipality interested in adopting standards and that the board maintain a list of municipalities that have voluntarily adopted the appendix to the code on the board's publicly

**Archived** NO

**Category** Business, Research Economic Dev  
**LD #** 1085  
**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/6/09 1:00 PM Rm209CSOB  
**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM  
**AMENDMENT #** S-107  
**LAW #** **Public Law Chapter 173**  
**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor  
**ENG. POSITION:**

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act Concerning Dispute Resolution in Home Construction Contracts. (Sen. Mills, Somerset) (BRED Comm) (This bill amends the home construction contract laws to clarify what steps may be taken to resolve a dispute between the parties in the contract.) (The amendment replaces the bill. It changes the home construction contract laws to notify the parties of the option of resolving any smaller disputes in small claims court prior o engaging in mediation or arbitration. Fiscal Note)

**Archived** NO

Category Business, Research Economic Dev  
LD # 1240  
PUBLIC HEARING: 4/14/09 2:00 PM Rm208CSOB  
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM  
AMENDMENT # H-249  
LAW # **Resolve Chapter 73**  
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor  
ENG. POSITION: Monitor\*

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

Resolve, To License Wetland Scientists. (Rep. Eberle, South Portland)(BRED Comm) (Directs the Dept of Professional and Financial Regulation to develop a licensing protocol for wetland scientists in collaboration with the DEP and the Maine Association of Wetland Scientists and to report to the BRED Committee by December 2, 2009. This committee is authorized to introduce legislation related to this report to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.)(The amendment replaces the resolve-- **Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to Conduct a Sunrise Review Regarding a Proposal To License Wetland Scientists**-- and requires the Commissioner of Prof & Fin Regulation to conduct an independent assessment to the sunset review requirements of a proposal to license wetland scientists. Commissioner to submit report by Feb 15/2010)

Archived NO

Category Business, Research Economic Dev  
LD # 1389  
PUBLIC HEARING: 5/5/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB  
COMMITTEE ACTION: **Carry Over Approved**  
AMENDMENT # S-306  
LAW #  
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor  
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Create State and Regional Quality of Place Investment Strategies for High-value Jobs, Products and Services in Maine. (Sen. Damon, Hancock) (Governor's Bill) (BRED Comm) (Establishes the Maine Quality of Place Council to act as a coordinating body for state and regional quality of place investment strategies. It will award annually Maine Quality of Place Prosperity Awards recognizing the preservation, enhancing and marketing of Maine's quality of place assets to stimulate job creation and economic prosperity. Requires the State Planning Office to provide assistance to the Council, engage in public education regarding asset-based investment strategies and work with regional planning and development districts to aid them in development of regional quality of place investment strategies.)

Archived NO

Category Business, Research Economic Dev  
LD # 1394  
PUBLIC HEARING: 4/16/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB  
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass  
AMENDMENT #  
LAW # **Public Law Chapter 131**  
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor  
ENG. POSITION:

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Modify the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program. (Rep. Smith, Monmouth) (BRED Comm) (Submitted by FAME) (The bill increases the amount that a cooperation may received from \$2,500,000 to \$3,500,00. It amends the descriptions of eligible projects and expands eligibility to entities to June 30,2010. It increases the number of employees from 5 or fewer to 10 or fewer.)

Archived NO

Category Business, Research Economic Dev

LD # 1413

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/16/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-379

LAW # **Resolve Chapter 110-EMERG**

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

Resolve, To Implement Select Recommendations of the Joint Select Committee on Future Maine Prosperity. (Rep. Cohen, Portland)(**Emergency**) (BRED Comm) (The amendment replaces the resolve and requires the Maine Regulatory Fairness Board, in consultation with private and public stakeholders, to review and identify ways to advance the State's business climate as identified by the 2009 Measures of Growth in Focus report from the Maine Economic Growth Council, the final report of the Committee on Future Maine Prosperity, the report entitled "Charting Maine's Future, An Action Plan for Promoting Sustainable Prosperity and Quality Places" by the Brookings Institution and any other reports identified by the board. Also requires the board to provide a briefing regarding its review no later than Feb 15, 2010, and authorizes the BRED Committee to introduce legislation.)(minor fiscal note)

Archived NO

Category Criminal Justice & Public Safety

LD # 53

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/25/09 10:00 Rm 436 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority OTP-AM/Minority OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # H-173, H-317

LAW # **Public Law Chapter 250**

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Permit the Use of a Common Flue for Oil and Solid Fuel Burning Equipment. (Rep. Martin) (Criminal Justice & Public Safety) (The bill prohibits the Commissioner of Public Safety and the Oil and Solid Fuel Board from adopting rules that prohibit the use of a common chimney flue for 2 appliances using different fuels.) (The maj amendment allows the use of a single chimney flue to vent two appliances that use different fuels as long as a carbon monoxide detector is installed in the bldg near a bedroom.)(Minority amend replaces the bill and requires Public Safety Commissioner and the Oil and Solid Fuel Board to adopt rules that allow the continued use of an existing connection of a solid fuel burning appliance to a chimney flue to which another appliance burning oil or solid fuel is connected for any chimney existing and in use prior to Feb 2/98 as long as sufficient draft is available for each appliance and the chimney is lined & structurally intact.)

Archived NO

Category Criminal Justice & Public Safety

LD # 550

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/6/09 10:00 Rm 436 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-98

LAW # **Public Law Chapter 162**

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Protect Maine Residents fro Home Fires and Carbon Monoxide. (Sen. Diamond, Cumberland) (Criminal Justice & Public Safety Comm) (The bill requires that all single-family dwellings and multiapartment bldgs sold in the State and newly constructed single-family dwellings have photoelectric-only-type smoke detectors and at least one carbon monoxide detector in an area within or giving access to a bedroom. The detectors in multifamily dwellings and newly constructed single-family dwellings must be powered by both the electrical service in the bldg and by battery.)(Amendment clarifies that smoke detectors are required in all single-family dwellings and removes the requirement for smoke detectors in multifamily or newly constructed single-family buildings to be the photoelectric type and only requires smoke detectors to be powered by both electricity and battery. Directs Office of SFM to develop standards for compliance.)

Archived NO

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**Category** Criminal Justice & Public Safety

**LD #** 1224

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/27/09 10:00 Rm 436 SH

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-439

**LAW # Public Law Chapter 391**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:**

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act Regarding the Operation of County Jails and the State Board of Corrections. (Rep. Crockett, Augusta) (Criminal Justice & Public Safety Comm) (The amendment replaces the bill and implements recommendations of the State Board of Corrections. It specifies that counties may use unencumbered surplus funds from corrections operations to fund a corrections services capital reserve account. It clarifies that a certificate of need must be approved by the board before a public or private construction project can be undertaken.)

**Archived** NO

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**Category** Criminal Justice & Public Safety

**LD #** 1242

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 5/1/09 10:00 Rm 436 SH

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-368

**LAW # Public Law Chapter 364-EMERG**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor\*

**ENG. POSITION:**

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Streamline the Regulatory Process for Commercial Building Construction Projects. (Rep. Haskell, Portland) (Criminal Justice & Public Safety Comm)(**Emergency**) (Provides for the delegation of fire code permitting authority from the Dept of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal to municipalities. Amends the law concerning certain public building projects for which the Dept of Public Safety provides plan reviews. Amends the laws concerning project permits to allow the option of municipal review for those projects. It creates a new section of law that outlines the circumstances that need to be satisfied before the Commissioner of Public Safety delegates permitting authority to a municipality. Also amends the law in order to adjust the payment of the current 5 cent plan review fee that is paid to the Dept. It requires that if a municipality issues the permit, the municipality receives 4 cents per sq foot & Dept receives 1 cent per sq foot.)

**Archived** NO

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**Category** Health & Human Services

**LD #** 1164

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/6/09 1:00 PM Rm209CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-534

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:**

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Amend the Maine Certificate of Need Act of 2002 to Change Nursing Facilities Review Thresholds for Energy Efficiency Projects and for Replacement Equipment.(The amendment replaces the bill. Beginning Jan 1/2010, it increases the threshold amount for nursing facility projects to \$1,000,000. It exempts from the full cert. of need approval certain nursing facility projects including capital expenditures under limited circumstances, nonmedical replacement equipment, info systems, parking lots, garages and projects that implement certain energy-efficient improvements. It req the costs associated with energy-efficient projects to be excluded from the total cost of a project in determining whether the project is subject to review. Fiscal Note) (JWH added late in session FYI)

**Archived** NO

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**Category** Health & Human Services

**LD #** 1260

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/29/09 1:00 PM Rm209CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-535

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:**

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Amend the Certificate of Need Act of 2002 for Nursing Facility Projects. (Rep. Martin, Eagle Lake) (Health & Human Services Comm) (The amendment replaces the bill and amends the Certificate of Need Act of 2002. Beginning Jan 1/2010, it increases the threshold amount for nursing facility projects to \$1,000,000. It exempts from the full certificate of need approval certain nursing facility projects including capital expenditures under limited circumstances, nonmedical replacement equipment, information systems, communication systems, parking lots and garages. It changes the nursing facility MaineCare funding pool to create certain exceptions to the constraints of the pool. It permits certificate of need approval of different types of nursing facility projects as long as MaineCare neutrality is demonstrated.)

**Archived** NO

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**Category** Insurance & Financial Services

**LD #** 290

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/16/09 9:30 AM Rm 427 SH

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-169 **(DEAD)**

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Allow Maine Residents To Purchase Health Insurance from Out-of-state Insurers. (Rep. McKane, Newcastle) (Insurance & Financial Services Comm) (This bill permits out-of-state health insurers to offer their individual and group health plans for sale in this State if certain requirements of Maine law are met including minimum capital and surplus and reserve requirements, disclosure and reporting requirements and grievance procedures. It also permits Maine health insurers to offer individual health plans of out-of-state parent or subsidiary health insurers if similar requirements are met.)(Minority amendment removes language from the bill that would have authorized out-of-state health insurers to offer group health plans for sale in the State, and retains language that authorizes out-of-state health insurers to offer individual health plans for sale in the State.)

**Archived** NO

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**Category** Insurance & Financial Services

**LD #** 1002

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/13/09 1:00 PM Rm 427 SH

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority OTP-AM/Minority ONTP

**AMENDMENT #** H-353, S-330

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

Resolve, To Conduct an Updated Study of the Feasibility of Establishing a Single-payor Health Care System in the State. (Rep. Beaudoin, Biddeford) (Insurance & Financial Services Comm) (Requires the Legislative Council to contract for an update to a 2002 study of the feasibility of establishing a single-payor health plan in the State. The update is contingent on the successful securing of outside funding by Aug 1/09. The updated study must be submitted to the 2nd regular session of the 124th Legislature during which the Insurance & Financial Services Comm may submit legislation based on the updated study.)(The amendment adds a requirement that the updated study include a prlim analysis of the impact of any federal health care reform leg on state leg to establish a single-payor health care system or other mechanism for universal health care-fiscal note)

**Archived** NO

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Category Insurance & Financial Services

LD # 1365

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/17/09 1:00 PM Rm 427 SH

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Carry Over Approved

**AMENDMENT #**

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor\*

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor\*

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Establish a Single-payer Health Care System. (Rep. Priest, Brunswick) (Insurance & Financial Services Comm) (Establishes a universal access health care system that offers a choice of coverage through organized deliver systems or through a managed care system operated by the Maine Health Care Agency and channels all health care dollars through a dedicated trust fund. Establishes a 7.5% payroll tax on wages and earnings, including self-employed earnings, and dedicates that tax revenue to the Maine Health Care Trust Fund.)

Archived NO

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Category Judiciary

LD # 882

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/2/09 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-154 (Indef PP -- DEAD)

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:**

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Consolidate and Modernize Maine's Courts. (President Mitchell, Kennebec) (Judiciary Comm) (This bill increases the maximum amount of securities that may be issued by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority for specific allocation to the judicial branch. The increase will be used to fund projects for court facilities in Augusta, Dover-Foxcroft and Machias.) (The amendment corrects the total amount to be available for the identified court construction and renovation projects--2009-10 \$109,375 and 2010-11 \$573,824) (Fiscal Note included)

Archived NO

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Category Labor

LD # 849

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/16/09 1:00 PM Rm220CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority OTP-AM/Minority ONTP

**AMENDMENT #** H-241 (fiscal note)

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor\*

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor\*

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Clarify the Application of the Public Works Minimum Wage Laws. (Rep. Tuttle, Sanford) (Labor Comm) (This bill adds public schools to the definition of "public works" in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, chapter 15, which deals with preference to Maine works and contractors.(The amendment includes public schools to the list of all buildings, roads, highways, bridges, streets, alleys, sewers, ditches, sewage disposal plants, demolition, waterworks, airports and all other structures done under contract and paid for in whole or in part out of public funds (w/o regard to whether work is done under public supervision or direction) and which contract amounts to \$50,000 or more.)(If passes, there would be less money for design) (The amendment adds a fiscal note that the legislation may increase the total state&local repair projects with a cost of \$50,000 or more if prevailing wage&benefits being paid by schools for construction projects.)

Archived NO

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Category Labor

LD # 1092

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/16/09 1:00 PM Rm220CSPB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

**AMENDMENT #**

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Improve Worksite Accountability for Public Construction Projects by Requiring Subcontractor Identification. (Rep. Tuttle, Sanford) (Labor Comm) (This bill requires a general contractor on a project undertaken with public funds to provide the public agency with a list of all independent contractors and subcontractors on the job site and the names of their workers' compensation insurers. The list must be posted on the job site and the agency's website and updated weekly. The bill also establishes penalties.)

Archived NO

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Category Labor

LD # 1185

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/9/09 1:00 PM Rm220CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM

**AMENDMENT #** S-180 (DEAD)

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor\*

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor\*

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Require Cause for Employment Termination. (Sen. Craven, Androscoggin) (Labor Comm) (Enacts the Maine Employment Termination Act applicable to employers employing 5 or more employees.) (Amendment adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.)

Archived NO

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Category Maine's Energy Future

LD # 774

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/25/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

**AMENDMENT #**

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Proponent

**ENG. POSITION:** Proponent

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Create Jobs and Improve Energy Efficiency through the Transformation of Maine's Housing Stock. (Sen. President Mitchell, Kennebec) (Maine's Energy Future Comm) (Emergency)(Establishes within the Maine State Housing Authority the Maine Energy, Housing & Economic Recovery Program to support the construction of multifamily affordable housing units; renovation of affordable housing units; and weatherization of owner-occupied residences. Authorizes the issuance of revenue bonds by the MSHA for purposes of the Program. The authority may have at any time an aggregate principal amount outstanding on such bonds of up to but not exceeding \$200,000,000. The authority is required to issue revenue bonds in the amount of at least \$30,000,000 in FY 2009-10 and an additional \$30,000,000 in FY 2010-11 and may issue additional amounts as appropriate for Program purposes.) (See LD1485)

Archived NO

Category Maine's Energy Future

LD # 1481

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT # S-336

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor\*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor\*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Energy Efficiency Investments for Maine's Future. Reported for the Leg Comm on Maine's Energy Future by Rep. Martin, Eagle Lake) (The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$30,000,000, will be used to provide for investments in weatherization and energy efficiency projects and green energy workforce development. Once it passes floor votes, it will be sent to the Appropriations Committee.)(Amendment changes the date of the referendum election from November 09 to June 2010.)

Archived NO

Category Maine's Energy Future

LD # 1485

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION: Report A:OTP, B:OTP-AM, C: ONTP

AMENDMENT # H-505=Report B, H-540

LAW # Public Law Chapter 372-EMERG

ARCH. POSITION: Proponent

ENG. POSITION: Proponent

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Regarding Maine's Energy Future. Report A from the Committee on Maine's Energy Future. This bill is the majority report. Part E of the bill establishes within the Maine State Housing Authority the Maine Energy, Housing and Economic Recovery Program and the Maine Energy, Housing and Economic Recovery Fund to support the construction and substantial rehab of multifamily affordable rental housing units. It directs that a portion of the revenues derived from the real estate transfer tax be deposited in a new fund to provide funds for the Maine Energy, Housing and Economic Recovery Program. It authorizes the issuance of revenue bonds by the MSHA for purposes of the Program. The authority may issue revenue bonds in an amount of at least \$30,000,000 in FY 2010-11. Directs the Dept of Labor, PUC and the MSHA to dev a specific green workforce development plan.)(This comprehensive committee bill incorporates LD774)(Amendment adds **Emergency**)

Archived NO

Category Natural Resources

LD # 348

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/3/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-21

LAW # Pubic Law Chapter 75

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Facilitate the Removal of Dams That Pose a Hazard to Public Safety and the Installation and Repair of Fishways. (Sen. Damon, Hancock) (Natural Resources Comm) (This bill amends the Natural Resources Protection Act to specify that a permit is not required for (1) erection, maintenance, repair or alternation of a fishway in a dam or other artificial obstruction when required by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife or Comm of Marine Resources; (2)activity associated with the release of water from an abandoned dam by order of DEP; and (3) activity associated with the breach or removal of a dam pursuant to a dam safety order issued by the Comm of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management.) (Amendment amends the exemption for fishway proceedings in the bill to be consistent with the MRS Title 12)

Archived NO

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Category Natural Resources

LD # 460

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/3/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority OTP / Minority ONTP

**AMENDMENT #**

**LAW # Public Law Chapter 16**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

Resolve, To Evaluate Climate Change Adaptation Options for the State. (Sen. Simpson, Androscoggin) (Submitted by DEP) (Natural Resources Comm) (This resolve directs the DEP to create a stakeholder group to evaluate the options available to Maine people and businesses for adapting to the most likely impacts of climate change and to focus on the climate impact assessment by the University of Maine that concluded that climate change is already occurring in the State as a result of increased levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere The DEP is to report recommendations, along with proposed legislation, to the Natural Resources Committee by February 27, 2010.)(The amendment removes the authorization of the DEP to accept public and private funds to pay the costs of preparing the report. Requires the Dept to complete the report within the existing resources of the Dept.)

Archived NO

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Category Natural Resources

LD # 476

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/17/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

**AMENDMENT #** S-56

**LAW # Pubic Law Chapter 121**

**ARCH. POSITION:**

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Amend Certain Laws Administered by the Department of Environmental Protection. (Sen. Goodall, Sagadahoc) (Natural Resources Comm) (Submitted by the DEP) (This housekeeping bill amends, authorizes and clarifies in many different areas such as recovering the cost of preparing and implementing a plan to restore natural resources damaged by the discharge of oil or hazardous matter from person responsible. Amending Maine's ambient air quality standards for particulate matter to make them consistent with national ambient air quality standards.)

Archived NO

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Category Natural Resources

LD # 759

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/24/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority OTP/Minority ONTP

**AMENDMENT #**

**LAW # Public Law Chapter 348**

**ARCH. POSITION:**

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Require State-owned Solid Waste Disposal Facilities To Demonstrate a Public Benefit. (Rep. Duchesne, Hudson) (Natural Resources Comm) (Current law provides that certain landfills are exempt from demonstrating a significant public benefit, including landfills that are state-owned This bill removes the exemption for state-owned landfills.)

Archived NO

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Category Natural Resources

LD # 760

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/24/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-451, H-520

**LAW # Public Law Chapter 412**

**ARCH. POSITION:**

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

Archived NO

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Improve Landfill Capacity. (Rep. Duchesne, Hudson) (Natural Resources Comm) (A concept draft proposing to increase the availability of landfill space by either conserving capacity in current publicly owned landfills or allowing limited expansion of current privately owned landfills.)(The amendment replaces the bill. It makes changes to the laws governing process facilities that generate residue requiring disposal. Amends the law that prohibits expansion of commercial solid waste disposal facilities by authorizing a commercial landfill that is not under an order or agreement to close to expand if the proposed expansion is contiguous with the existing facility and is located on property owned by the licensee.) (fiscal note)(2nd amendment removes the provision that authorizes a commercial landfill that is not under an order or agreement to close to expand if the proposed expansion is contiguous with the existing facility and is located on property owned by licensee.)

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Category Natural Resources

LD # 860

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/24/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSPB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-177

**LAW # Public Law Chapter 153**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

Archived NO

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act Relating to Geothermal Heat Exchange Wells. (Rep. Eberle, South Portland) (Natural Resources Comm) (Geothermal heat exchange systems for the purposes of res., commercial and institutional heating sources use particular types of geothermal heat exchange wells. Ensures that the boreholes for geothermal heat exchange wells are drilled approp. and that groundwater quality and drinking water quality are protected. Provides the Maine Water Well Commission, which oversees well drillers, well drilling companies, pump installers and pump installation companies, with oversight of geothermal heat exchange wells and geothermal heat exchange well drillers.)(Amendment adds geothermal heat exchange well pump installers to the provisions of the bill. Directs the Maine Water Well Commission to adopt rules establishing a licensing structure for geothermal heat exchange well drillers & geo Heat exchange well pump installers.)

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Category Natural Resources

LD # 891

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 3/24/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Carry Over Approved

**AMENDMENT #**

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

Archived NO

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Amend the Site Location of Development Laws To Include Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions. (Sen Goodall, Sagadahoc for the DEP) (Natural Resources Comm) (This bill adds a new standard to the laws governing site location of development to allow the DEP to review and consider the greenhouse gas emissions likely to occur as a result of the project. Also provides a related provision concerning mitigation.)

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**Category** Natural Resources

**LD #** 956

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/9/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Carry Over Approved

**AMENDMENT #**

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Provide Constitutional Protection of the Funds Generated by the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. (Rep. Adams, Portland) (Natural Resources Comm) (This resolution proposes to amend the Maine Constitution to ensure that all revenues derived from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative be expended solely to support the goals and implementation of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.)

**Archived** NO

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**Category** Natural Resources

**LD #** 1268

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/14/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-339

**LAW #** Public Law Chapter 293

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor\*

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor\*

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act to Update the Site Location of Development Laws. (Rep. Duchesne, Hudson) (Natural Resources Comm) (It eliminates the definition of "significant ground water aquifer." It eliminates the exceptions for a lot of 40 or more acres in the definition of "subdivision." It changes the exception for a sale or lease of a lot to an abutter in the def of "subdivision" by clarifying that the lot my not be further divided or transferred within a 5-year period, except as otherwise provided. It changes the exception for a common lot created with a conservation easement in the def of "subdivision." It removes the req that the lot be a common lot and adds the requirement that the conservation easement be approved by the DEP Makes changes to a provision addressing approval of future dev sites to refocus it on long-term construction projects. It provides a one-time requirement concerning provisions in the site location & dev & storm water management requiring registration of municipalities...)

**Archived** NO

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**Category** Natural Resources

**LD #** 1269

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/10/09 10:00 Rm214CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-340

**LAW #** Public Law Chapter 295

**ARCH. POSITION:**

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Clarify the Laws Regarding Significant Groundwater Wells. (Rep. Hill, York) (Natural Resources Comm) (The amendment replaces the bill. It amends the definition of "significant groundwater well" by: (1) Excluding withdrawals of water for preoperational capacity testing from the determination of whether or not the significant groundwater thresholds have been met; and (2) Clarifying when a public water system qualifies as a significant groundwater well. The amendment also clarifies the changes to three (3) unallocated law provisions that address transition language and rule-making requirements concerning public information meetings and fees intended to support independent assessment of monitoring information - fiscal note.)

**Archived** NO

Category Natural Resources

LD # 1310

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/10/09 10:00 Rm214CSPB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-434

LAW # **Resolve Chapter 132-EMERG**

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

Resolve, to Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission To Examine the Legal and Policy Implications of Groundwater Extraction. (Rep. Webster, Freeport) (**Emergency**)(Natural Resources Comm) (The amendment replaces the resolve and changes the title. The new title: '**Resolve, Relating to a Review of International Trade Agreements and the Management of Groundwater Resources.**' Directs the Water Resources Planning Committee of the Land and Water Resources Council along with the Office of AG and the Citizen Trade Policy Commission to conduct an examination of the potential legal impacts of international trade agreements on the State's ability to manage its groundwater resources.) (fiscal note)

Archived NO

Category Natural Resources

LD # 1332

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/17/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-360

LAW # **Public Law Chapter 319**

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Continue Coverage of Oil Clean-up Costs and Improve Administration of the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund. (Rep Duchesne, Hudson) (Submitted by the DEP) (Natural Resources Comm) (It eliminates the Dec 31, 2010, sunset date on the provisions of law that insure owners and operators of oil storage tanks against the cost of cleaning up tank leaks and authorize the DEP to pay those costs, up to \$1,000,000 per incident, from the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund. Authorizes the use of restrictive covenants and other land use controls to minimize the risk of human exposure to residual contamination on property that has suffered an oil discharge. Requires aboveground oil storage facilities that have been out of service for more than 12 months to be abandoned in accordance with rules adopted by the Board of Environmental Protection.)

Archived NO

Category Natural Resources

LD # 1333

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/14/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority OTP-AM/Minority OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # H-514, S-348

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Establish Climate and Energy Planning in Maine. (Speaker Pingree, North Haven) (Natural Resources Comm) (Amended title: 'An Act To Reduce Maine's Dependence on Fossil Fuels and Enhance Energy-efficient Development.') (Amendment S-348 substitute title '**An Act To Ensure that Replacement Culverts Permit Fish Passage.**') (This substitute amendment strikes out all of the former amendment except the part that amends the exceptions in the Natural Resources Protection Act for the maintenance and repair of stream crossings and of existing road culverts and clarifies that the exceptions apply only to water courses containing fish. Forestry & agricultural activities are exempted from the new standards.)

Archived NO

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**Category** Natural Resources

**LD #** 1399

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/17/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-452 (Indef PP -- DEAD)

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:**

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**Archived** NO

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act Concerning Water Quality in Watersheds. (Rep. Tilton, Harrington) (Natural Resources Comm) (Creates the Clean Shores Fund with the DEP to provide a funding source for grants to municipalities and other entities to identify and abate pollution in shellfish growing areas and to pay the Personal Services cost for 3 employees within the Dept of Marine Resources . The dedicated revenue for the Clean Shores Fund is established through surcharges on the installation of new sewer systems and the municipal combined sewer overflow and overboard discharges and on sewer utilities based on the number of ratepayers. Also requires the DEP to consider bacteria and viral standards when issuing waste discharge licenses to ensure that shellfish harvesting is protected.) (Amendment changes the name of the clean Shores Fund to Water Quality and Infrastructure Improvement Fund & provides DEP may est criteria for grant applic)

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**Category** Natural Resources

**LD #** 1423

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/30/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Carry Over Approved

**AMENDMENT #**

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:**

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**Archived** NO

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Improve Toxics Use Reduction and Reduce Energy Costs by Maine Businesses. (Rep. Treat, Hallowell) (Natural Resources Comm) (Submitted by the DEP) (The bill amends the toxic use and hazardous waste reduction laws administered by the DEP. It modernizes the statewide toxics use, toxics release and hazardous waste reduction goals by establishing a goal of zero discharge by 2050 and charges the Pollution Prevention Advisory Committee with establishing a schedule and process for continual progress toward tis goal. It sets forth a procedure to add anew facilities or new chemical or classes of chemical to the provisions of the law. It includes the State's greenhouse gas reduction goals and encourages facilities to meet those goals and eliminates the requirement that facilities use an activity production index when filing the pollution prevention plan.)

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**Category** Natural Resources

**LD #** 1434

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/17/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority OTP-AM/Minority ONTP

**AMENDMENT #** S-159, S-272

**LAW #** Public Law Chapter 374

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**Archived** NO

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act Regarding Asbestos Abatement Work. (Sen. Craven, Androscoggin) (Natural Resources Comm) (Submitted by the DEP) (Clarifies that person engaged in an activity affecting more than 3 square feet or 3 linear feet of any absestos-containing material are subject to licensing, certification, notification and work practice requirements administered by the DEP. Increases the maximum fee that may be changed by the DEP to license or certify asbestos professionals, and increases the maximum fee that must be paid when notifying the DEP of asbestos abatement activity.)(The majority report amendment changes the annual license fee for asbestos abatement contractors and asbestos abatement consultants to \$250 for the first annual license, \$625 for the 2nd annual license and \$1,000 for the 3rd and each subsequent annual license. Amendment also adds an appropriations and allocations section.)

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**Category** Natural Resources

**LD #** 1479

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 5/14/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass

**AMENDMENT #**

**LAW # Public Law Chapter 306**

**ARCH. POSITION:**

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act Relating to Biomass Gasification. (Sen. Goodall, Sagadahoc) (Governor's Bill) (Natural Resources Comm) (The bill amends the definition of "coal gasification facility" to make the moratorium on the licensing and permitting of those facilities specific to the gasification of coal or coal-derived materials.)

**Archived** NO

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**Category** Natural Resources

**LD #** 1482

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**COMMITTEE ACTION:**

**AMENDMENT #**

**LAW # Public Law Chapter 338**

**ARCH. POSITION:**

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act to Amend Mercury Standards for Air Emission Sources. (Reported by Rep. Duchesne, Hudson, for the Natural Resources Comm)

**Archived** NO

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**Category** State & Local Government

**LD #** 448

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/1/09 10:00 Rm216CSOB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority OTP-AM/Minority OTP-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-232, H-233

**LAW # Public Law Chapter 260**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Modify the Informed Growth Act. (Rep Beaudette, Biddeford) (State & Local Gov't) (Exempts a municipality that has adopted a review process for large-scale retail development applications that include economic and community impacts from the Informed Growth Act rather than a municipality that has adopted economic and community impact review criteria that require a study.) (Majority amendment clarifies that a municipality is exempt from the Informed Growth Act if the municipality has adopted an ordinance that contains requirements for determining the impact of large-scale retail dev and includes an independent study of the community economic impacts of the lg scale retail dev. Study to be prepared by State Planing Office & presented at public hearing. The minority amend replaces the bill & clarifies that a municipality is exempt form the Growth Act if it adopts an ordinance requiring for impact of dev done by qualified preparer.)

**Archived** NO

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Category State & Local Government

LD # 1028

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/29/09 1:00 PM Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # H-298 (DEAD)

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Enhance Municipal Home Rule Statutes. (Rep. Casavant, Biddeford) (State & Local Government Comm) (This bill allows a municipality to adopt an ordinance that denies corporations constitutional rights. It would allow a municipality to adopt an ordinance that states that a corporation may not be recognized as a person)(The minority report amendment clarifies that a municipality may adopt or enforce an ordinance that provides that a corporation or other business entity may not be afforded any constitutional rights, privileges, powers or protections that would enable the corporation or other business entity to avoid the enforcement of an ordinance or challenge an ordinance.)

Archived NO

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Category State & Local Government

LD # 1313

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/13/09 10:00 Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-329

LAW # **Resolve Chapter 89**

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act to Restructure the State Planning Office. (Rep. Joy, Crystal) (State & Local Government Comm)( New title: '**Resolve, Directing the State Planning Office to Prepare a Reorganization Plan.**') (The amendment replaces the bill with a resolve directing the State Planing Office to prepare a proposed reorganization plan that includes the office remaining responsible for the state-owed landfill.)

Archived NO

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Category State & Local Government

LD # 1453

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/11/09 10:00 Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # S-212, S-212 (DEAD)

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Reform Natural Resources Agencies and Establish the Department of Natural Resources. (Sen. Gerzofsky, Cumberland) (State & Local Government Comm) (Governor's Bill) (Emergency) (The bill's purpose is to reorganize the current Dept of Agriculture, Dept of Inland Fisheries, Dept of Conservation and Dept of Marine Resources into one Dept of Natural Resources, effective July 1, 2009, and provide for the transition.)

Archived NO

Category Taxation

LD # 922

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/16/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority ONTP/ Minority OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # S-145 (DEAD)

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Require a Supermajority Approval of the Legislature for Tax Increases.(Sen. Rector, Knox) (Taxation Comm) (This resolution proposes to amend the Maine Constitution of Maine to require a 2/3 vote of both Houses of the Legislature to approve an increase in state revenue.)

Archived NO

Category Taxation

LD # 974

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/26/09 1:00 AM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor\*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Decrease the Automobile Excise Tax and Promote Energy Efficiency.(Citizens' Initiative) (Taxation Comm) (Legislature cannot amend only vote up or down. If voted down, the referendum goes out to vote in Nov 09) (The bill decreases the excise tax imposed on motor vehicles for the first year from 24 mills to 12 mills for the 2nd year from 17 1/2 mills to 8 mills and for the 3rd year from 13 1/2 mills to 4 mills and imposes a 4 mills rate for the 4th and succeeding years. This bill also exempts from the excise tax imposed on motor vehicles the first 3 model years of a hybrid gas-electric vehicle, a fuel-cell-fueled or hydrogen-fueled vehicle or a highly energy efficient vehicle that has a highway fuel economy estimate of at least 40 mpg. This proposal is estimated by some to cut tax revenues by about 50% that are used for roads and bridges.)

Archived NO

Category Taxation

LD # 976

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/16/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # H-562 (DEAD)

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor\*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor\*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide Tax Relief. (Citizens' Initiative) (Taxation Comm)(Legislature cannot amend only vote up or down. If voted down, the referendum goes out to vote in Nov 09) (This bill imposes expenditure limitation on state and local government and requires voter approval of certain state tax increases. Under this bill, growth in annual expenditures of the General Fund, the Highway Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds are limited according to increases in population and inflation. For the General Fund and Highway Fund budgets, revenues exceeding the expenditure limitation must be distributed by direction 20% of that excess to a budget stabilization fund and 80% of that excess to a tax relief fund. And more...)(The minority report incorporates a fiscal note)

Archived NO

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Category Taxation

LD # 1088

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/2/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority OTP-AM/Minority ONTP

AMENDMENT # H-530, H-537 (DEAD)

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor\*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor\*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Modernize the Tax Laws and Provide over \$75,000,000 to Residents of the State in Tax Relief. (Rep. Piotti, Unity) (Taxation Comm) (This proposal revisits the 2007 tax reform plan that past House but not Senate. The plan broadens the sales tax base to include recreational activities, entertainment and certain amusements. The proposed changes are revenue neutral and lowers the income tax. Professional services are not included as written)(Amended title '**An Act To Modernize the Tax Laws and Provide over \$50,000,000 to Residents of the State in Tax Relief**')

(See LD1495)

Archived NO

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Category Taxation

LD # 1288

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/6/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority ONTP/ Minority OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # S-279 (DEAD)

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Reduce Income Tax Rates, (Sen. Smith, Piscataquis) (Taxation Comm) (The bill reduces over a 3-year period the income tax rates imposed on individuals and corporations.)(The amendment makes technical changes and updates income tax indexing language to reference the changes in income tax rates. Also adds an appropriations and allocations section to the bill.)(fiscal note)

Archived NO

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Category Taxation

LD # 1314

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/29/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor\*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor\*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Reform and Lower Maine Taxes. (Rep Crockett, Augusta) (Taxation Comm) (It expands the definition of "taxable service" for purposes of the imposition of sales tax to include amusement, recreational and personal services and consumer purchases of transportation service and **professional**, club or fraternal memberships. It subjects those services to the 5% sales tax.)

Archived NO

**Category** Taxation

**LD #** 1341

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 5/1/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-382 (DEAD)

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:**

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act to Reform Maine's Motor Fuel Tax Laws. (Rep. Crockett, Augusta) (Taxation Comm) (Restructures the excise tax imposed on motor fuels by reducing the motor fuel excise tax imposed on gasoline from the current inflation adjusted rate of 28.4 cents per gallon to 21 cents per gallon and on diesel fuel from the inflation adjusted rate of 29.6 center per gallon to 21 cents per gallon,Also transfers 8 cents per gallon and 70% of the amount in excess of 8 cents of the price-based excise tax component to the TransCap Trust Fund.) (Amendment includes fiscal note)

**Archived** NO

**Category** Taxation

**LD #** 1392

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 5/6/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Majority OTP-AM/Minority OTP-AM

**AMENDMENT #** S-295, S-296

**LAW #** Public Law Chapter 314

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Promote Economic Development and Reduce Reliance on Automobiles through Transit-oriented Tax Increment Financing Districts. (Sen. Bliss, Cumberland) (Taxation Comm) (Establishes authority for creation of transit-oriented development districts under the tax increment financing laws to provide an impetus for transit-oriented development, provide new or additional transit services and provide facilities for transit and alternative modes of transportation for the purposes of promoting sustainable economic development, energy efficiency, transportation cost reduction, open space preservation and greenhouse gas reduction.)

**Archived** NO

**Category** Taxation

**LD #** 1401

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/15/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

**AMENDMENT #** H-482

**LAW #** Public Law Chapter 361

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor\*

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor\*

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Make Minor Substantive Changes to the Tax Laws. (Rep. Watson, Bath) (Taxation Comm) (Submitted by the Dept of Administrative & Financial Services) (It changes procedures for certification of eligibility for the income tax credit for rehabilitation of historic properties including moving language regarding the responsibility of Maine State Housing Authority. It clarifies the procedures for calculating and certifying the income tax credit for rehabilitation of historic properties.) (The amendment removes changes to the income tax credit for rehabilitation of historic properties that applies the maximum credit limitation to certified historic structures rather than to a certified historic project.)(minor fiscal note)

**Archived** NO

Category Taxation

LD # 1495

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW # Public Law Chapter 382

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor\*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor\*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Implement Tax Relief and Tax Reform. (Rep Watson,Bath) (Governor's Bill) (Taxation Comm) (This last minute legislation incorporates the substance of LD1088. It enacts an income tax surcharge equal to .35% on taxable income over \$250,000 bringing the tax rate to 6.85% on Maine income over \$250,000 beginning on or after Jan 1/2010. It eliminates the proposed real estate transfer tax increase. It eliminates the proposed sales tax exemption for businesses that make snow for skiing etc. and eliminates the proposed sales tax on fees charged for golf courses, bowling alleys, ski lifts, gyms, tennis, racquetball and arcade games. Specifies that the exemption from sales tax applies to fees charged by health & Fitness centers and lessons in dance, music, theater, arts and other athletic pursuits. Fiscal Note.)

Archived NO

Category Transportation

LD # 61

PUBLIC HEARING: 1/27/09 1:00 PM Rm126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-4

LAW # Public Law Ch. 7-EMERG

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor\*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Make Supplemental Allocations from the Highway Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal year Ending June 30, 2009. (Rep. Mazurek, Rockland) (Governor's Bill) (Emergency) (Transportation Comm) (Amendment makes allocations of funds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, and makes allocations of funds for approved reclassifications and range changes.)

Archived NO

Category Transportation

LD # 126

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/3/09 1:00 PM Rm126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority OTP-AM/Minority ONTP

AMENDMENT # H-477

LAW # Public Law Chapter 315

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend Certain Laws Affecting Transportation. (Rep. Hogan, Old Orchard Beach, for the MDOT) (Transportation Comm) (The bill (1) clarifies language pertaining to the responsibility of private culvert replacement and repair on a state right-of-way; (2)extends to all Maine roads a weight tolerance for vehicle auxiliary power unties that was previously authorized for interstate highways under the federal Energy Policy Act of 2005; (3) defines "auxiliary power unit," "combination vehicle" and "heavy duty vehicle"; and (4) clarifies that the exemption of the Maine Turnpike and Interstate 95 in Kittery from the definition of "interstate highway," "interstate system" and "interstate highway system" applies only to weight limits.)(Amendment further clarifies language pertaining to the responsibility of private culvert replacement and repair on state right-of-way.)

Archived NO

Category Transportation

LD # 333

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/15/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority OTP-AM/Minority ONTP

AMENDMENT # H-539, H-582

LAW # Public Law Chapter 413-EMERG

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Making Unified Highway Fund and Other Funds Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011. (Rep. Mazurek, Rockland) (Governor's Bill) **(Emergency)** (Transportation Comm) (A 67-page bill divided into 11 parts dealing with the State Budget Officer, Maine Municipal Bond Bank and State Controller. It requires the Chief Info Officer to review the current organizational structure and systems to improve efficiency and cost-effectiveness. And a section on employee health insurance premiums.) (Amendment requires that funding received by the DOT during 2010 -11 biennium through the 7.5% of fuel taxes that would otherwise be transferred to the MME Municipal Bond Bank TransCap Trust Fund must be transferred to the Highway and Bridge Light Capital program and others.)

Category Transportation

LD # 736

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/24/09 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-60, H-575

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Request Federal Funding for the Extension and Completion of Interstate 95. (Sen. Jackson, Aroostook) (Transportation Comm) (This resolve directs the DOT to request all available federal funding included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 or any successor or substantially similar legislation enacted by Congress for the purpose of extending and completing Interstate 95.) (Amended new title: **Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Request Federal Funding for the Extension and Completion of Interstate 95.** Removes emergency preamble and removes the requirement that the DOT secure full funding to complete the Aroostook North-South Highway and instead requires the DOT to secure funding for the projects listed as "significant new capacity projects of all modes and extraordinary bridge replacement, removal or rehab projects-includes N-S)

Category Transportation

LD # 767

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/17/09 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-213

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Promote Fairness and Protect Economic Development in Transportation Projects Undertaken by the State. (Sen. Damon, Hancock) (Transportation Comm) (This bill provides a mechanism for a property owner to sell land to the State that has been identified in a transportation planning process as likely to be taken in a pending eminent domain proceeding.) (The amendment provides that if the DOT is preparing an environmental impact statement as required by the federal National Environmental Protection Act of 1969 for permitting for the location of a new bypass highway project, and property will be affected by the limits of the final bypass right-of-way, and the property owner submits a request in writing that the dept acquire that portion of property determined necessary for the new bypass highway project, the dept is directed to acquire that property if certain conditions are met.)

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Category Transportation

LD # 846

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/3/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority OTP/Minority ONTP

AMENDMENT #

LAW # **Resolve Chapter 42**

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Study Ways To Reduce Energy Use and Promote Efficiency along Major Transportation Corridors. (Rep. Piotti, Unity) (Transportation Comm) (Directs the DOT to study ways to reduce energy use and promote efficiency along major transportation corridors. Evaluations must consider overlay zoning districts for corridors of regional economic significance for transportation; costs and benefits of purchasing land or easements; costs and benefits of urban compact designation; feasibility of developing so-called "complete streets; and other land use and transportation strategies designed to reduce growth in vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions, including transportation funding options.)

Archived NO

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Category Transportation

LD # 951

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/3/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-123

LAW # **Public Law Chapter 411-EMERG**

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Prioritize Funding in the TransCap Trust Fund. (Rep. Mazurek, Rockland) (Transportation Comm) (**Emergency**) (Current law requires, beginning July 1/09, that 7.5% of the net excise tax imposed on internal combustion engine fuel b deposited in the TransCap Trust Fund, the purpose of which is to provide financial assistance for the planning, design, acquisition, reconstruction and rehabilitation of transportation capital improvements. This bill requires that at least 20%, but not more than 35%, of the revenue be allocated for capital improvements to bridges and the balance to highways and prioritizes the use of the funds for the highway capital improvements.) (Amendments clarifies that any grants issued from the TransCap Trust Fund must be used for capital projects with a useful life of at least 10 years, and that bonds may be used only for capital projects that have an anticipated useful life of at least as long as the bond term.)

Archived NO

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Category Transportation

LD # 967

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/3/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW # **Public Law Chapter 130**

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Governor's Interagency Transportation Coordinating Committee. (Rep. Peoples for the Maine DOT) (Transportation Comm) (Establishes in statute the Interagency Transportation Coordinating Committee, which provides oversight and promotes efficiency, cooperative effort and strategic planning for public transportation among the DOT, Department of Labor and the Department of Health and Human Services.)

Archived NO

Category Transportation

LD # 1094

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/10/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-269

LAW # **Resolve Chapter 70**

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Enhance Safety at Construction Sites by Regulating Open Trenches, (Rep. Connor, Kennebunk) (Requires an excavator to mark and erect a barrier or other safeguard around an unattended excavation to prevent a person, animal or motor vehicle from unintentionally falling into the excavation.)The amendment replaces the bill with a resolve--**Resolve, To Study Safety Measures Relating to Open Trenches and Excavations**--directs the DOT, in conjunction with the Dept of Public Safety, to establish a working group to examine issues relating to unattended trenches and excavations on both public and private property. The working group is required to submit a report to Transportation Committee during February 2010. Fiscal Note includes minor costs)

Archived NO

Category Transportation

LD # 1487

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT # (DEAD)

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Provide Funding for the Highway Fund Biennial Budget. (Rep. Mazurek, Rockland ) (Transportation Committee( After Deadline) (**Emergency**) (The bill adds a surcharge of 5 cents per gallon on gasoline and special fuels, such as diesel , for a period of 2 years, beginning July 1, 2009 and ending July 1, 2011. The surcharge provides funding to the DOT for highway and bridge capital purposes. It also makes technical corrections to the Special Fuel Tax Act in the Maine Rev. Statutes, Title 36.)

Archived NO

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 44

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/30/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-369

LAW # **Public Law Chapter 309**

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor\*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor\*

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Require Transmission Lines To Be Placed Underground near Certain Facilities. (Rep. Valentino, Saco) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (Amendment replaces the bill. It adds specificity and additional requirements to the provisions of law governing a petition for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construction a transmission line and the determination of public need for the proposed line by the PUC. It requires that a petition for approval of a proposed transmission line provide information regarding the effects of the proposed line on public health and safety, scenic, historic, recreational and environmental values and the proximity of the proposed line to inhabited dwellings, as well as justification of the route selected and results of investigations of alternatives to construction of the proposed line including energy conservation, distributed generation or load management.)

Archived NO

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Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 147

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/5/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-23

LAW # Public Law Chapter 26

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Facilitate the Protection of Electric Utility Consumer Interests in Public Utility Commission Cases Involving the Construction, Rebuilding or Relocating of Transmission Lines. (Rep. Hinck, Portland) (Submitted by the Office of the Public Advocate) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (This bill provides the Office of the Public Advocate with authority similar to that of the PUC to receive from the applicant for a certificate of public convenience and necessity a filing fee.) (Amendments deals with the collection and expenditure of filing fees.)

Archived NO

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Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 220

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/24/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-90

LAW # Public Law Chapter 88-EMERG

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Increase the Availability of Solar and Wind Power. (Sen. Bartlett, Cumberland) (Utilities & Energy Comm)(**Emergency**) (This bill raises the upper limit of the assessments on transmission and distribution utilities for the solar and wind energy rebate program from 0.005 cent per kilowatt-hour to 0.01 cent per kilowatt-hour. The bill also repeals the provision abolishing the program on December 1, 2010.) (Amendment replaces the bill and delays the sunset on the solar and wind energy rebate program from D/2010 to Dec 1/2015. Directs the PUC to use federal stimulus funds to increase funding for the solar and wind energy rebate program by \$500,000 per year for a 2-year period. Also directs PUC to amend the rules governing the solar and wind energy rebate program to include performance standards as an educational tool for program applicants and to require applicants to complete a payback period calculation as part of

Archived NO

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Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 276

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/24/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-42, S-138

LAW # Public Law Chapter 200-EMERG

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Protect the Integrity of the State's Carbon Dioxide Budget Trading Program and Auction Process and To Provide Allocations to the Energy and Carbon Savings Trust Fund. (Sen. Bartlett, Cumberland) (**Emergency**)(Submitted by the DEP) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (This bill amends the definition of "public records" to exclude certain information submitted to the DEP or its agent by parties in order to participate in auctions held under the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, specifically for the purpose of improved prevention and protection of the carbon dioxide auction market from collusion and market manipulation.) (Amendment provides the allocation to the PUC rather than to the DEP)

Archived NO

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 650

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/29/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-455

LAW # Pubic Law Chapter 377

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Proponent

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Create a Sustainable Funding Mechanism for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure in the State. (Rep. Berry, Bowdoinham) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (A concept draft proposing to create a sustainable funding mech for water & wastewater infrastructure ME.) (Amendment replaces bill. It establishes a funding structure for capital investment in pubic water & wastewater infrastructure, but does not provide actual funds at this time. Funding structure consists of the State Water & Wastewater Infrastructure Fund within the Maine Municipal Bond Bank, Maine Drinking Water Fund with DHHS, which is designed for capital investment & improvement of public water systems, drinking water supplies & water treatment facilities, and the Maine Clean Water Fund with the DEP, which is designed for capital investment & improvement of public wastewater systems & treatment facilities and water pollution abatement systems. Est stakeholders group.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 845

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/24/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-158, S-328

LAW # Resolve Chapter 131-EMERG

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Expand Access to Efficiency Maine Rebate Programs. (Rep. Adams, Portland) (Utilities & Energy Comm)(**Emergency**) (Amends the solar and wind energy rebate program administered by the PUC to set aside 50% of the funds available for rebates to owners or tenants or residential or commercial property during the first 6 months of each fiscal year specifically for rebates to residential applicants whose household income is at or below the state median household income. During the remainder of the year, the bill authorizes the commission to distribute the remaining funds available for rebates without reference to the applicants income level or property type.)(Amended new title: **Resolve, To Expand Access to Renewable Energy Programs.** Directs the PUC w/the UM Co-op Ext Service to conduct a 2-year outreach and education program to provide info to Maine residents regarding renewable energy technology & systems for residential

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 935

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/7/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-155, S-329

LAW # Resolve Chapter 134

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor\*

ENG. POSITION:

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, Regarding Building Energy Efficiency and Carbon Performance Ratings. (Sen. Goodall, Sagadahoc) (Utilities & Energy Comm)(The amendment replaces the bill with a resole. It directs the PUC, in consultation with a stakeholder group, to develop or select a standardized rating system and reporting form for building energy efficiency and carbon performance, to take several steps to encourage the use of the selected rating system and reporting form and to develop a voluntary library of results. It requires the PUC to submit a report on these efforts to the U&E Comm and authorizes the PUC to use up to \$50,000 in federal funds for this resolve. Fiscal note.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 968

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/7/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-253

LAW # Public Law Chapter 69

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Regarding New Utility Line Extension Construction. (Rep. Fletcher, Winslow) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (This bill directs the PUC to establish standards by rule for estimating the cost of construction of a new line extension by a transmission and distribution utility. The rules must require that a transmission and distribution utility provide a detailed quote that includes all costs to each residential, commercial or industrial customer seeking the construction of a new line extension rather than relying on per-nit average costs.) (The amendment replaces the bill with a resolve: **Resolve, Regarding New Utility Line Extension Construction.** Directs the PUC to convene a stakeholder group to study the practices of investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities with respect to new utility line extension construction, and how these practices affect private line extension contractors.)

Archived NO

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1075

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-463

LAW # Public Law Chapter 329

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Promote Community-based Energy. (Rep. MacDonald, Boothbay) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (Amendment replaces the bill and is designed to encourage the development of community-based renewable energy in the State. Establishes the community-based renewable energy pilot program, administered by the PUC, to encourage the sustainable development of community-based renewable energy. Authorizes the PUC to direct investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to enter into long-term contracts with the program participants and authorizes consumer-owned transmission and distribution utilities, at their own option, to enter such contracts. Requires PUC to arrange for a green power offer that is composed of electricity or renewable energy credits for electricity generated from renewable resources including electrify generated by energy projects. Req PUC to admin a bid process to select.)

Archived NO

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1114

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/7/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-226

LAW # Public Law Chapter 197

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Facilitate the Marketing of Power Produced by Small Generators (Rep. Van Wie, New Gloucester) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (This bill allows a transmission and distribution utility to aggregate electric power from multiple small generators and administer on behalf of those generators the purchase and sale of electricity to a competitive electricity provider. The parties to any resulting sale must be the generators and the competitive electricity provider.) (The amendment replaces the bill. It clarifies the specific types of small generators whose power may be aggregated for sale to a competitive electricity provider by defining "eligible small generator" having a generating capacity of up to 5 megawatts and generates electricity using a renewable resource. It permits (rather than requires) the PUC to adopt rules to implement the sale of aggregated output of eligible small generators to cover reasonable costs incurred by the transmission and distribution utility.)

Archived NO

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1155

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/7/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW # Public Law Chapter 123

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Make Certain Changes to the Laws Governing Approval for Transmission Lines. (Sen. Hobbins, York) (Submitted by the PUC) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (Public Law 2007, Ch. 575, lowered the threshold for requiring a certificate of public convenience and necessity for a transmission line from 100 kilovolts to 69 kilovolts. This bill removes language rendered unnecessary in light of that change in the law.)

Archived NO

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1222

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/14/09 1:30 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Promote Geothermal Energy in the State. (Sen. Diamond, Cumberland) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (A concept draft proposing to create a tax incentive program for geothermal energy, similar to the state solar rebate or wind energy rebate programs and the federal Energy Improvement and Extension Act of 2008 to address the needs of residents who live in areas where solar or wind power are not viable options. Under this program, homeowners who install geothermal heating and cooling systems would be eligible for a one-time tax credit of a percentage of the total investment for residential ground loop or ground water geothermal heat pump installations, with a maximum credit for a single residence.)

Archived NO

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1348

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/14/09 1:30 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-227

LAW # Resolve Chapter 65-EMERG

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide Grants to Public Educational and Municipal Entities for Feasibility Studies of Renewable Energy Projects. (Rep. Adams, Portland) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (**Emergency**) (This bill requires the PUC to establish and administer a program to provide grants to public educational and municipal entities to conduct feasibility studies for the installation and operation of renewable energy projects on public property. (The amendment replaces the bill with a resolve and adds an emergency preamble and clause. It directs the PUC to utilize federal stimulus funds under the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 09 to provide grants to public educational and municipal entities to conduct feasibility studies for the installation & operation of cost-effective renewable energy projects on public property. (New Title: **Resolve, To Provide Grants to Public Educational and Municipal Entities for Feasibility Studies of Renewable Energy Projects.**)

Archived NO

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1350

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 4/30/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSPB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Carry Over Approved

**AMENDMENT #**

**LAW #**

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Establish the Maine Transmission Mitigation Trust Fund. (Rep. Martin, Eagle Lake) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (Emergency) (The bill imposes a state excise tax on certain high-voltage electric transmission property, It also creates the Maine Transmission Mitigation Trust, which manages the Maine Transmission Mitigation Trust Fund. The revenue from the imposition of the state excise tax on certain high-voltage electric transmission property is deposited in the trust fund. The trustees of the the trust shall distribute 20% of the fund, up to \$10,000,000, annually to municipalities that have submitted winning bids for projects to install underground utility infrastructure. The remainder of the trust fund must be paid to Maine electricity ratepayers in proportion to each customer's purchases of electricity transmitted over the State's transmission and distribution utilities.)

Archived NO

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1465

**PUBLIC HEARING:** 5/5/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSPB

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

**AMENDMENT #** S-249

**LAW #** Pubic Law Chapter 270-EMERG

**ARCH. POSITION:** Monitor

**ENG. POSITION:** Monitor

**TITLE & SPONSOR**

An Act To Facilitate Testing and Demonstration of Renewable Ocean Energy Technology. (Sen. Hobbins, York) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (Governor's Bill) (Bill contains several provision to facilitate R&D and demonstration of renewable ocean energy technologies. Part A streamlines state permitting of offshore wind energy demonstration projects by creating a general permit administered by the DEP for qualified projects located in specific offshore areas. Part B streamlines the process for issuance of a state submerged lands lease for an offshore wind energy demonstration project granted a general permit. Part C calls for a public process to identify up to 5 offshore areas for wind energy project. Part D streamlines state permitting of tidal energy demonstration projects by creating a general permit administered by the DEP for projects eligible for a pilot project license from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.)(**Emergency**)

Archived NO