

2019 LD List - 1st Session of the 129th Maine Legislature
Prepared by the Maine Municipal Association
6/14/19

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

June 6, 2019

LD 1837 – This emergency resolve provides for legislative review of Chapter 1: Adult Use Marijuana, a major substantive rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of marijuana policy that was filed outside the legislative rule acceptance period.

LD 1836 – This bill sends out to the voters a comprehensive bond package. Specifically, the bill includes: (1) \$100 million bond for reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities or equipment related to ports, harbors, marine transportation, railroads, aviation, transit and pedestrian trails, matching an estimated \$137 million in federal and other funds, \$4 million for a competitive grant program that matches local funding for the upgrade of municipal culverts at stream crossings in order to improve fish and wildlife habitats and to allow communities to better prepare for extreme storms and floods, and \$1 million to renovate a wharf and bulkhead at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute in Portland to bring the wharf back into operation for a fishing vessel berthing resource to support marine research at sea, for commercial fishing access and for continued long-term marine job development; (2) \$50 million to invest in community broadband infrastructure, economic development and job creation; (3) \$19 million to invest in Maine Community College training, in child care services, in Maine Army National Guard readiness centers and support facilities and in career and technical education centers; and (4) \$65 million to protect Maine's environment by investing in land conservation, water access, wildlife habitat, outdoor recreation opportunities, including hunting and fishing, farmland and working waterfronts and by supporting environmental clean-up efforts and promotion of renewable energy projects. Funds provided for the Efficiency Maine Trust, in the amount of \$15 million will be used to purchase solar arrays, high-efficiency ductless heat pumps and high-efficiency modern wood heating systems for buildings and property owned by municipalities and school administrative units and, if enacted by the voters, will fund the proposed Municipal Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program, designed to support municipalities and municipally authorized citizen committees and school administrative units across the state in reducing energy costs, reducing carbon emissions, facilitating the development of renewable energy resources and creating local jobs related to the building of renewable energy facilities and the installation of energy-efficient equipment.

June 4, 2019

LD 1833 - This bill establishes a process in statute by which the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business reviews all legislative measures with potential economic impact. The bill authorizes the committee to report out legislation regarding this provision in the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature pursuant to a sunset review. This provision is repealed 90 days following the adjournment of the

Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature. The bill directs the Department of Economic and Community Development to develop a plan to recommend strategies for increased economic prosperity in the state. The bill establishes goals for the plan and directs the department to include an analysis of gaps in funding and policy. The bill requires that the department establish a steering committee and a work team to guide the development of the plan. The bill requires the department to report on the plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business and provides the committee permission to report out related legislation in the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

LD 1832 - This bill increases the annual waste discharge license fees for certain categories of existing discharges and the annual discharge license general permit fee for certain categories of new discharges from the amount indicated in the Department of Environmental Protection fee schedule effective November 1, 2018 to October 31, 2019. **Carryover Approved**

June 3, 2019

LD 1830 - This bill eliminates the Governor's Office of Policy and Management and establishes the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future to support the creation of a coherent system of policy planning and coordinated implementation as one function and responsibility of the executive branch of state government, serve as a research, advisory, consultative, coordinating and administrative agency and advance policies that support a sustainable future for Maine's people, communities, natural resources, physical infrastructure, industries, businesses and institutions.

LD 1827 - This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to rename Bridge 3666 on Route 11 in T3 Indian Purchase Township, currently known as the West Branch Bridge, the Detective Benjamin Campbell Bridge. **Finally Passed**

LD 1824 - This bill amends certain laws governing snowmobiles and watercraft to make them consistent with laws governing all-terrain vehicles. Specifically, this bill: (1) Extends to operators of snowmobiles and watercraft certain penalties that apply to violations applicable to operation of all-terrain vehicles that result in the mandatory revocation of a license; (2) Updates the laws concerning operation of a recreational vehicle while under the influence to more closely mirror the laws governing operation of a motor vehicle while under the influence; (3) Extends the general prohibition against the fraudulent acquisition or possession of licenses and permits issued by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to also apply to registrations and repeals specific prohibitions that are therefore unnecessary; (4) Exempts from registration fees motorboats used for governmental purposes and owned and operated in the state by the federal government, the state or a political subdivision of the state; (5) Specifies that, for purposes of the laws governing recreational vehicles, a motor vehicle is not a snowmobile; and (6) Removes language that limits to on or adjacent to a snowmobile trail the location of a snowmobile collision that constitutes operating a snowmobile to endanger.

LD 1823 - This bill provides that a float haul-out or marine way is a functionally water dependent use allowed in the shoreland zone. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1821 - This resolve directs the Department of Economic and Community Development to work with the Northern Border Regional Commission in the establishment of a program to recruit working families to relocate to rural areas of the state. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1817 – Provisions of this bill make technical changes to the state’s property tax laws, including: (1) clarifying the use of the related terms “eligible business equipment” and “qualified property”; (2) eliminating the penalty for transfer of land from farmland to timberland to match current practice and all other transfers between current use programs; and (3) correcting the time period used for determine when cogeneration facility property is eligible for reimbursement to include the most current available cogeneration data. **Passed to be Engrossed**

LD 1815 - This bill provides ongoing funds to continue the statewide online advanced placement course program in partnership with the University of Maine at Fort Kent.

LD 1814 – This concept draft bill proposes to amend certain laws affecting the operations of the Legislature.

LD 1812 – This concept draft bill proposes to make necessary changes to state law.

May 30, 2019

LD 1811 - Current law authorizes law enforcement officers to take a person into protective custody for evaluation by a medical practitioner as protection from imminent threats of substantial self-inflicted harm or substantial harm to others. Part A of this bill requires that a medical practitioner evaluate the history, recent actions and behaviors of a person taken into protective custody and determine whether there is a reasonable likelihood that the person's mental health will deteriorate; whether the person will in the foreseeable future pose a likelihood of serious harm; and whether any such likelihood of harm is exacerbated by the person's immediate access to a firearm or other dangerous weapon. A medical practitioner must certify this evaluation and, if the evaluation is certified in the affirmative, the person is required to surrender any dangerous weapons possessed or controlled by that person to a law enforcement officer pending a judicial review hearing to be held within 14 days. A court then determines whether to dissolve or continue those restrictions for one year. When the person is determined by a court to no longer present a substantial threat, the restrictions end and the weapons are returned. Part B of this bill requires that a court make similar determinations for a person enrolled in the progressive treatment program. When a person in that program is no longer determined by a court to present a substantial threat, the restrictions end and the weapons are returned. Part C makes related changes to the laws governing the Extradition and Prosecution Expenses Account to in part pay for the cost of the required evaluation by a medical practitioner; possession of firearms by prohibited persons; law enforcement agency written policy requirements; and law enforcement agency training requirements.

LD 1803 - This bill makes changes to the laws governing marriage records and the filing, correction and amendment of death records, including removing language from the statutes that describes marriage as the union of a man and a woman to conform with the laws in the state. This bill also authorizes people to record their intentions to marry with the State Registrar of Vital Statistics. **Passed to be Enacted**

LD 1802 - This bill makes adjustments to laws administered by or that affect the Department of Environmental Protection. The bill authorizes laboratories operated by a waste discharge facility to analyze waste discharges for Enterococcus without being certified under a state laboratory certification or accreditation program. It changes the timelines regarding appeals under the laws governing uncontrolled hazardous substance sites. It also changes the rule-making authority from the Board of Environmental Protection to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection for certain rules regarding waste management. **DEAD**

LD 1800 - This bill makes changes to the emergency services communication laws to reflect that text messaging and other methods can be used to contact E-9-1-1 and replaces the term "E-9-1-1" with "9-1-1." **Passed to be Enacted**

LD 1798 - This bill makes the following changes to the tax laws. Of municipal interest, the bill: (1) Simplifies the notice and appeals processes for municipal valuations by repealing the provision that the notice to municipality be sent by certified mail; (2) Creates a process allowing the state to adjust prior years' state valuations for purposes of calculating current and ongoing state education payments to a municipality when the state assessor determines that the value was improperly excluded from the calculation of the three most recently certified state valuations and further allows municipalities to appeal adverse decisions to the State Board of Property Tax Review; (3) Requires that the municipal assessor be notified prior to the commitment of taxes for an owner of a partial interest in property to be assessed on the partial interest only; (4) Removes the requirement for benevolent and charitable institutions to be incorporated in Maine in order to qualify for property tax exemption; (5) Clarifies when the alternative municipal tax lien foreclosure sales process is required, by excluding the sale of acquired property back to the immediate former owner or owners; (6) Removes the provision allowing the \$4,000 exemption for the legally blind to be apportioned among multiple jurisdictions. Instead, the exemption may be claimed only in the taxpayer's place of residence; (7) Eliminates photocopiers and postage machines from property eligible for tax exemption under the business equipment tax exemption; (8) Removes the provision limiting the aggregate total acres that may be classified in the farm and open space tax program to 15,000 for a single person; (9) Clarifies the definitions of "mobile home" and "camper trailer" to align the definitions with those used in property tax and sales tax law; (10) Clarifies that the credit for excise tax previously paid and the model year adjustment for certain vehicles is limited to instances when the previously paid excise tax is the Maine excise tax; and (11) Defines nominal value as less than 20% of the assessed value for determining when the market value for a property should be used for the purposes of calculating the real estate transfer tax. The bill also allows the disclosure of confidential tax information to an authorized representative of the Public Utilities Commission for use in the administration and oversight of the E-9-1-1 funding, the state universal service fund and the telecommunications education access fund.

May 29, 2019

LD 1796 - This resolve directs the Governor's Energy Office to convene a stakeholder group, which includes a representative of municipal government in northern Maine, to identify and develop strategies to address the transmission grid reliability and electric rate stability for the northern Maine service territory. The office is directed to submit a report that includes its

findings, together with any proposed implementing legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology, which is authorized to report out a bill 2020.

LD 1791 - This bill amends the laws governing licensure for professional engineers and certification for engineer-interns, to in part: (1) Clarify language regarding the use of professional engineers in public works projects; (2) Repeal the temporary licensing provisions for nonresidents; (3) Clarify and update references to the building standards and eliminate references to standards that have been superseded; (4) Increase the maximum penalty for violations to \$10,000; and (5) Allow the Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers to maintain its roster of active licensed professional engineers on its publicly accessible website.

Passed to be Engrossed

LD 1790 - This bill amends the law governing the confidentiality of personal information of municipal employees to parallel the same protections provided for state employees and establishes as confidential any genetic information and information about the sexual orientation of employees contained in the records of the municipality. This bill also amends the state employee personnel records provisions to include confidentiality of genetic information and sexual orientation and amends the laws governing county and municipal employee personnel records to match.

LD 1789 –This bill amends the responsibilities and duties of the Board of Environmental Protection to: (1) Move all rulemaking authority of the Department of Environmental Protection to the board; (2) Add to the board's enforcement responsibilities the duty to approve administrative consent agreements and to advise the commissioner on enforcement priorities and activities and on the adequacy of penalties and enforcement activities; and (3) Include language to provide for the orderly transition of the rulemaking authority and for procedures pending before the department on the effective date of this legislation. **Passed to be Enacted**

May 28, 2019

LD 1788 - This bill eliminates online burn permit fees for all areas of the state. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1787 - This bill makes several changes to the state's fish and wildlife enforcement laws. Of interest to municipalities, the bill: (1) Makes it illegal for nonviolent juvenile offenders and persons convicted of domestic violence to possess a firearm hunting license. It also prohibits a person convicted of a domestic violence offense from owning or possessing a crossbow, a muzzleloader or archery or airbow equipment; (2) Provides that a person is guilty of aggravated trafficking in a scheduled drug if the person is convicted of trafficking while in an area open to fishing for only persons under 16 years of age or complimentary fishing license holders; (3) Clarifies that a person's hunting license will be revoked if the person is convicted of night hunting while in possession of a thermal imaging device; (4) Amends the definition of "owner" for the purpose of registration of a snowmobile, watercraft and ATV to include a person holding title or who has equitable interest in the recreational vehicle entitling the person to possession; (5) Strengthens the prohibition of abuse of another person's property by removing reference to

certain stated activities such as hunting, fishing or trapping to allow the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to enforce the law against persons who abuse another person's property but who may not be involved in an activity such as hunting, fishing or trapping; and (6) Replaces the prohibition on operating a motorboat that exceeds noise limits with a prohibition on operating a marine engine that exceeds noise limits.

LD 1786 - This bill amends the law restricting the sale of residential upholstered furniture treated with flame-retardant chemicals to prohibit manufacturer from selling, offering to sell or distributing for promotion purposes upholstered furniture that fails to meet the requirements established in the California Business and Professions Code, Division 8, Chapter 3, Article 505. The bill also specifies that the Department of Environmental Protection is authorized, rather than required, to adopt rules to implement the section of law governing residential upholstered furniture. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1785 - This bill makes several changes to the education laws. Of municipal significance, the bill: (1) Removes the so-called LD 1 limitation on the total cost of the components of essential programs and services; (2) Changes the amount of the adjustment for economically disadvantaged students to be the actual amount computed multiplied by the relevant special education costs percentage; (3) Removes a requirement that school construction project plans and specifications be approved by the state Bureau of General Services (BGS), Departments of Education and Health and Human Services, and the State Fire Marshal; (4) Removes BGS from the requirement to perform certain activities relating to school construction projects; (5) Includes psychometrically valid English language proficiency screening for potential English learners in the screening that local units may develop; (6) Amends the powers and duties of a cooperative board for a career and technical education region; (7) Amends the laws governing elementary and secondary tuition students and ; (8) Adds a definition of "rural school administrative unit" for purposes of allocating federal funds under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act.

LD 1784 - This bill increases the processing fee for a Board of Environmental Protection permit by rule application from \$50 to \$250.

LD 1783 - This bill is the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles' omnibus bill, which proposes several changes to the motor vehicle laws to facilitate program administration and to bring administrative fees more in line with actual costs. Of interest to municipalities, the bill: (1) Replaces the requirement that an applicant for an original motor vehicle registration submit a dealer's certificate with the requirement that the applicant submit a properly completed bill of sale; (2) Replaces the requirement that a municipal official retain from the vehicle use taxes collected a fee of \$1.25 for each vehicle with a requirement that the Secretary of State be reimbursed by the State Tax Assessor \$1.25 per use tax certificate processed; (3) Requires registration certificates to be forwarded to the Secretary of State as well as the State Tax Assessor; (3) Amends the law allowing the Secretary of State to refuse to issue or to recall a vanity plate having language that encourages violence or may result in an act of violence or other unlawful activity to remove express language stating that it is the Secretary of State who makes the finding regarding the language; (4) Removes the 10-year authorization period for recognition license plates; and (5) Repeals the moratorium on commemorative veteran decals, which ran from Oct.1, 2009 to Oct.1, 2014.

May 23, 2019

LD 1781- This bill allows the Board of Environmental Protection to make changes to its rules regarding federally based screening levels for the beneficial use of solid waste as routine technical rulemaking pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1780 - This bill increases opportunities for property owners to replace at-risk home heating oil tanks by authorizing money in the Maine Ground and Surface Waters Clean-up and Response Fund to be disbursed for loans and grants for department-approved rebate programs to retrofit, repair, replace or remove aboveground and underground oil storage tanks and associated piping at residential dwellings. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1779 - This bill authorizes the Department of Environmental Protection to establish standards through routine technical rulemaking for operation and maintenance and asset management for publicly owned treatment works and municipal satellite collection systems. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1777 - This bill adds rivers, streams and brooks to the list of protected natural resources for which the Department of Environmental Protection may develop a compensation fee program and removes a statutory requirement that the department, when developing a compensation fee program, to consult with the Departments of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1773 - This bill amends the law governing bonding authority of school management and leadership centers. The bill provides the provisions necessary to implement existing statutory authority of school management and leadership centers to issue bonds for school construction. These provisions are comparable to existing law for school construction bonds issued by school administrative units or by career and technical education regions. The bonding provisions include a debt limit of 4% of state-adjusted valuation; a debt limit exclusion for state-subsidized debt; a 25-year maximum bond term; a method for debt allocation, assessment and collection; and the rights of bondholders to enforce the payment of bonds to facilitate their sale.

May 21, 2019

LD 1766 - This bill establishes a goal to install 100,000 new high-performance air source heat pumps in the state to provide heating in residential and nonresidential spaces. It defines "high-performance air source heat pump" as an air source heat pump that satisfies minimum heating performance standards as determined by the Efficiency Maine Trust. The bill directs forward capacity market payments received by the trust to the Heating Fuels Efficiency and Weatherization Fund to promote high performance air source heat pumps. It directs the Maine State Housing Authority to share information with the trust board about the extent to which federal funding is available to meet the heat pump goal. It clarifies that in the construction, remodeling or renovation of a multifamily residential structure funded in whole or in part by

public funds, guarantees or bond proceeds, high performance air source heat pumps may be used as the primary heating system without requiring a waiver from the Public Utilities Commission.

LD 1762 - This resolve directs the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to transfer a parcel of land situated on Route 161 and Old Route 161 in the Town of Allagash to the Town of Allagash for community development purposes.

May 16, 2019

LD 1753 - This bill amends the charter of the Boothbay-Boothbay Harbor Community School District to require that bond issues in the principal amount of \$250,000 or greater go to a referendum vote, to add a competitive bidding requirement for district procurements of \$20,000 or greater and to remove the cap on contributions to the capital reserve fund.

LD 1752 - This bill updates Private and Special Law 1961, chapter 161, the Charter of the Boothbay Harbor Sewer District, to include language from the Standard Sewer District Enabling Act. It also provides for representation of the Town of Boothbay on the board of trustees of the district.

LD 1749 - This bill: (1) Defines "hemp" to match the definition of "hemp" in the federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 and defines "indoor square footage"; (2) Allows a person to plant and grow up to three hemp plants on no more than one acre of land area or indoor square footage and to harvest, possess and process that hemp for personal use without a license; (3) Clarifies that a person licensed to grow hemp may grow hemp from a clone that is produced from seeds acquired from a certified seed source or hemp propagated from tissue cultures that are removed from live plants grown from seeds acquired from a certified seed source; (4) Allows a person who holds a license to save seeds from hemp plants that the person has grown and harvested and, after having ensured through testing by an independent third-party tester that the plants that will grow from the seeds will meet the definition of hemp, to use those seeds for breeding and planting hemp. (5) Requires a person who holds a license, within 14 days after planting hemp seeds or clones, to provide to the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry a listing of the varieties of seeds or clones planted and a statement that the seeds or clones meet the definition of hemp. (6) Directs the commissioner to adopt rules to establish a certified hemp seed program based on international standards that includes a registry of seed varieties to allow a person desiring to grow hemp for commercial purposes to import hemp seeds through the department; (7) Allows for the indoor production of hemp; (8) Increases the period a hemp license is valid from one year to two years; (9) Requires a person who is licensed to plant, grow, harvest, possess, process, sell and buy hemp to provide the commissioner with a final legal description of the land area or indoor square footage to be used for the production of hemp and a map, an aerial photograph or global positioning coordinates sufficient for locating each field, site, building, enclosed structure, greenhouse, high tunnel structure or row cover where hemp is growing within 14 days of planting hemp; (10) Provides that the legal description of the land area or indoor square footage to be used for the production of hemp is confidential and may be shared with state, county and local government agencies only

for purposes of administration and enforcement of the law. However, the bill specifies that summary reports of information designated as confidential may be released to the public using aggregate data that does not reveal the location of a field, site, building, enclosed structure, greenhouse, high tunnel structure or row cover where hemp is grown, handled or stored; (10) Provides that hemp and hemp products may not be tracked as part of the medical use of marijuana program or the regulation of adult use marijuana. It state that the rules applicable to hemp, medical use of marijuana and adult use of marijuana may not prohibit or limit the sale of hemp or hemp products in medical marijuana dispensaries, by medical marijuana caregivers or in adult use marijuana establishments; (11) Requires the rules adopted by the commissioner to include rules regarding seed importation and a certified hemp seed program, testing and tracking hemp during cultivation, tracking hemp from harvest through processing to the point of sale, tracking hemp from processing to the manufacturing of hemp products and tracking and labeling for sale harvested hemp and hemp products; (13) Requires all state agencies to review the laws and rules applicable to their areas of jurisdiction that pertain to hemp seeds and crops, agricultural commodities and products derived from hemp, and topical or ingestible consumer products, including food, food additives and food products derived from hemp, and to identify laws and rules that require amendment to bring them into agreement with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 6 7, chapter 406-A and Title 22, section 2158-A; and requires those state agencies, by 7 Jan. 1, 2020, to submit to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry reports, including proposals for legislation to bring their laws and rules into agreement with Title 7, chapter 406-A and Title 22, section 2158-A.

LD 1748 - This bill allows the Efficiency Maine Trust or a municipality to establish a commercial property assessed clean energy program to finance energy savings improvements on qualifying property. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1747 - The federal Agricultural Act of 2014, also known as the 2014 Farm Bill, legalized the growth and cultivation of hemp in states that choose to establish agricultural pilot programs for research purposes. This bill requires the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to establish, by rule, the Maine Hemp Pilot Program, including the application process, licensing fees and reporting requirements, consistent with the 2014 Farm Bill. Under the pilot program, a licensee may plant, grow, harvest, possess, process, sell and buy hemp as long as the purpose of the program is to study the growth, cultivation or marketing of hemp. An institution of higher education is also authorized to establish a pilot program that complies with the 2014 Farm Bill as long as it provides notice of its intention to the department and local law enforcement and an annual report to the department regarding its research. This bill also expressly authorizes marijuana manufacturing facilities and testing facilities licensed under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act and the Marijuana Legalization Act to obtain a license to process and test hemp and hemp-derived products that are legal under state and federal law. Finally, this bill amends the recently enacted law that provides that food, food additives and food products containing hemp-derived cannabidiol are not considered to be "adulterated" under state law to require the Departments of Health and Human Services and Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to adopt routine technical rules regarding testing, labeling, packaging and record-keeping requirements for food, food additives or food products that contain hemp, including

cannabidiol derived from hemp, and to also provisionally adopt emergency major substantive rules doing the same. **DEAD**

LD 1743 - This bill updates classifications for certain waters based on water quality data.

LD 1742 - This bill facilitates the deployment of broadband infrastructure in unserved areas by establishing the Broadband Infrastructure Grant Program under the ConnectME Authority to award grants to applicants for the purpose of extending deployment of facilities used to provide broadband service to unserved areas of the state. The bill eliminates the Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access Fund. The bill removes the authority of the ConnectME Authority to require communications service providers to contribute to the ConnectME Fund. It allows the authority to issue bonds for the construction of advanced communications technology infrastructure. **DEAD**

May 14, 2019

LD 1738 – This concept draft bill proposes to amend the current law regarding medical marijuana.

LD 1736 - Under current law, compensation for incapacity to work is not payable for the first seven days of incapacity, except that firefighters receive compensation from the date of incapacity. This bill provides that, when incapacity results in the course of employment from an assault by a person under the employee's care or from an infectious disease transmitted to the employee by a person under the employee's care, compensation is payable from the date of incapacity for corrections officers, employees of state mental health institutes and employees of the Department of Health and Human Services who provide direct care to individuals through mental health and behavioral health services or developmental disability services.

LD 1735 - Public Law 2017, chapter 452 authorized registered dispensaries under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act operating as nonprofit entities to become for-profit entities, but did not outline a pathway to follow for such a transaction. This bill: (1) Specifies the possible pathways of merger, purchase and conversion for such a dispensary to become a for-profit entity; (2) Provides that a registered dispensary operating as a nonprofit entity that reorganizes as a for-profit entity retains its registration certificate; (3) Requires that a registered dispensary that reorganizes as a for-profit entity pay to the Medical Use of Marijuana Fund a percentage of the value of the sale or transfer of interest; and (4) Requires that a registered dispensary that reorganizes as a for-profit entity pay to the Medical Use of Marijuana Fund 2% of gross sales for discounts to certain qualified patients.

LD 1733 - This bill creates the position of Director of Aging in the Governor's Office of Policy and Management to oversee the planning and policy development for all functions and activities conducted or supported in the state that relate to aging, older adults and family care partners of older adults, including, but not limited to, promoting intergovernmental collaboration in meeting established aging policy objectives and managing the coordination of multiple-agency initiatives related to policy objectives. The bill amends the requirements for preparing and implementing a comprehensive state plan relating to Maine's aging population and incapacitated and dependent adults. The bill establishes a State Commission on Aging, which includes one municipal official,

to advise the governor, legislature and state agencies on planning, research and intergovernmental cooperation related to the needs of older adults in the state. The bill authorizes the revisor of statutes, in preparing legislation, to change any terms that refer to "elderly," "elder" or "senior" individuals to refer instead to "older" individuals. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1732 - This bill eliminates the drag size limitation of eight feet, six inches that is currently in place for Blue Hill Bay. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 230**

LD 1730 – This bill makes the following changes to the election laws that are of greatest municipal significance: (1) It clarifies that ballots are not public records, regardless of whether they are in a paper format or in an electronic or image format. (2) It reduces the retention period for the receipt for certified copies of the incoming voting list from one year to 6 months. (3) It adds a retention period of 6 months for test ballots and documentation of preelection testing of tabulating or accessible voting devices. (4) It adds a deadline for an aggrieved person to appeal a decision of the registrar of voters regarding the person's voter registration. (5) It provides that write-in spaces on a ballot are required to be provided only for offices in which candidates have declared their write-in candidacy according to the law. (6) It allows the warden at the voting place to open the packages of ballots up to two hours before the polls open. (7) It shortens the time that municipalities have to submit their official return of votes to the Secretary of State from three to two business days after the election. (8) It authorizes the use of a courier to retrieve ballots in the event of a recount and to deliver them to the recount facility. (9) It adds a new method for returning a voted absentee ballot to the municipal clerk. (10) It provides that municipalities may opt to process absentee ballots beginning on fourth day before election day, including on a Sunday. (11) It changes the manner by which the municipal clerk must give notice of the municipality's intent to process absentee ballots prior to election day. (11) It clarifies that the municipal treasurer's statement that must accompany a question for ratification of a municipal bond issue may either be printed on the ballot or printed as a separate document that is made available to voters. (12) It clarifies the election laws restricting certain activities at and around the polls on election day in order to comply with recent court decisions. It provides for an 8-foot-wide access corridor through which voters may pass without interference to the area behind the guardrail where voting takes place. It allows the warden to designate spaces inside the building, but outside the access corridor, where organizations may collect signatures on citizen initiative and people's veto petitions. It reduces the current protected zone from 250 feet to 100 feet outside the building and amends the list of campaign activities that are prohibited within that zone. Campaign activities related to a party or to a question or candidate for an office on the ballot for that election day are prohibited within that zone. It retains the current prohibitions on influencing or attempting to influence any voter but removes the criminal provisions and directs the Secretary of State to issue guidelines to assist local officials in interpreting and applying the law consistently and to inform candidates, campaigns and the public.

LD 1726 - This bill provides for penalties for violation of Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Forestry rules governing plant or wood products that may cause the introduction or spread of a dangerous forest insect or disease and rules governing the quarantine of forest or shade trees or part of a forest or shade tree capable of supporting a disease or insect infestation. The bill sets fines at \$100 to \$1,000 for each day of a violation and from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for each day of a violation by a violator that violated the rules within the

previous five-year period. It allows maximum fines to be increased to account for economic benefit and provides for the award of litigation costs in any action or proceeding brought by the attorney general. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1725 – This emergency bill sets the minimum age to hold a limited-purpose aquaculture license at 12 years of age. **Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 232 (6/07/19)**

LD 1722 - This resolve directs the Secretary of State to study the implementation of automatic voter registration. The Secretary of State is required to submit a report to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs by Feb.1, 2020. **DEAD**

LD 1720 - This bill requires excavators to call 9-1-1 if contact with or damage to an underground pipe or another underground facility results in the escape of any natural gas or other hazardous substance or material regulated by the United States Department of Transportation, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. **Passed to be Enacted**

LD 1719 - This bill moves the Maine Library of Geographic Information, the Geolibrary, from the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and establishes the Maine Library of Geographic Information Board in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to administer the Geolibrary. This bill adds a Geolibrarian and a GIS information officer, appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, to the staff of the Maine Library of Geographic Information, to collect, preserve and disseminate data, manage funds and direct the Geolibrary's activities. The bill repeals language allowing the administrator of the Office of Geographic Information Systems to enter into agreements with other agencies and to accept funds from public and private organizations, repeals language describing licensing agreement and fee requirements for geographic information system data and repeals language allowing the Maine Library of Geographic Information Board to hear and resolve disputes related to geographic information system data.

LD 1715 - Beginning in fiscal year 2019-20 for early adopters and over a five-year implementation phase-in beginning in fiscal year 2020-21 for other school administrative units, this bill moves responsibility for providing special education and related services for children who are at least three years of age and under six years of age from the Department of Education, Child Development Services System, the state intermediate educational unit, to the school administrative units of residence of the children. The bill also eliminates the Child Development Services System and moves the entire responsibility for providing services to children from birth to under three years of age to the Department of Education's office of special services. The funding plan continues the present arrangement of full responsibility for costs being shared among state funds, federal funds, the MaineCare program and private insurers.

May 9, 2019

LD 1713 - The Tax Relief Fund for Maine Residents, which is funded by the transfer of 20% of the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund after all required deductions of appropriations, budgeted financial commitments and adjustments considered necessary by the state controller have been made, was established to provide income tax relief by reducing income tax rates once

a certain level of funds in the fund is reached; to date, the required level of funding to provide income tax relief has not been reached. This bill renames the fund the Property Tax Relief Fund for Maine Residents and requires it to be used to provide property tax relief payments directly to residents that qualify for an exemption under the Maine homestead property tax exemption. The amount of the tax relief payment is determined annually by dividing the total amount of funds available in the fund by the total number of homesteads that qualify for the Maine homestead property tax exemption. If that amount is at least \$100, the Treasurer of State is required, by December 1st, to mail checks for the tax relief payment to each owner of a qualifying homestead. The bill also requires that by Oct. 1, 2019 and annually thereafter each municipal assessor provide the state treasurer with a list of the number of homesteads in the community as well as the name and address for each qualifying property taxpayer.

LD 1711 - This bill regards amendments and enactments of provisions regarding energy billing and the Maine Solar Energy Act, including: (1) Establishing parameters on the financial interest and limits of accounts for net energy billing; (2) Directing the Public Utilities Commission to establish a pilot program implementing a tariff rate for nonresidential customers of new distributed generation resources if the commission determines a tariff rate is the most cost-effective manner possible to promote the development of distributed generation resources; (3) Amending the Maine Solar Energy Act by: (A) Adding specific measures to support solar energy; (B) Establishing a standard buyer designation and detailing the standard buyer's obligations and cost allocation; (C) Directing the Public Utilities Commission to procure 125 megawatts for the output of distributed generation resources associated with commercial or institutional customer accounts through a bid solicitation process; (D) Directing the Public Utilities Commission to procure 250 megawatts for the output of large-scale shared distributed generation resources through a bid solicitation process; and (E) Detailing the process by which credits are applied to a customer's bill and how entities that own or operate a large-scale shared distributed generation resource on behalf of customers that own a proportional interest in the large-scale shared distributed generation resource may recover costs incurred on behalf of an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility; (4) Directing the Public Utilities Commission to report to the Legislature the results of the implemented tariff rates for distributed generation resources and the status of metering and billing system capabilities for investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities; (5) Directing the Public Utilities Commission to evaluate net energy billing when the total amount of generation capacity involved in net energy billing in the State reaches 8% of the total maximum load of transmission and distribution utilities in the state; (6) Directing the Public Utilities Commission to solicit bids for long-term contracts to supply up to 400 megawatts of electricity from solar energy projects; and (7) Directing the Executive Department, Governor's Energy Office to make recommendations to the Legislature regarding long-term contracts for installed capacity and associated renewable energy and renewable energy credits produced by solar energy projects.

LD 1710 - This bill establishes the Automated Driving Safety Act, which provides standards for the registration of automated vehicles, the licensure of automated vehicle operators and the liability of the operators and providers of automated vehicles, including: (1) Defining a provider for an automated vehicle as an individual, organization or joint enterprise that controls an automated driving system of an automated vehicle for testing or deployment of the automated vehicle on a public way; (2) Requiring the Secretary of State to record on the automated vehicle's

registration that the vehicle is an automated vehicle and the identity of the provider for the automated vehicle; (3) Requiring the Secretary of State to terminate the registration or refuse to register or renew a registration of an automated vehicle that has been modified or has had its automated driving system modified or that the Secretary of State determines is unsafe or unfit for operation on a public way; (4) Providing that the automated vehicle has 2 operators, an individual operator when the automated driving system is not engaged and the provider as the operator when the automated driving system is engaged, and, under most instances, that the applicable operator is responsible for the proper operation of the automated vehicle and is liable for an infraction, offense or negligence resulting in bodily injury, death or property damage; and (5) Requiring, if an automated vehicle is involved in an accident while the automated driving system is engaged, that pursuant to the provisions of law regarding motor vehicle accident reports, the automated vehicle not be moved and that the provider immediately contact the applicable law enforcement agency, inform the law enforcement agency that the automated driving system was engaged at the time of the accident and transmit electronically or by the fastest means available the financial responsibility information required for the vehicle. **DEAD**

LD 1708 - Private and Special Law 1973, chapter 76 created the charter for Hospital Administrative District No. 4, which is served by Mayo Regional Hospital. While the charter allows for the dissolution of the district, it does not provide for the merger. The effect of this bill is to authorize Mayo Regional Hospital to merge into a new entity known as MRH Corp., a Maine nonprofit, nonstock private corporation that has as its sole member Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems and, upon the effective date of the merger, dissolve the district. MRH Corp. is required to continue to serve the health care needs of the communities served by the district.

LD 1707 - This bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection to include in each license issued by the department a requirement that an independent entity perform testing to determine compliance with the license. **DEAD**

May 8, 2019

LD 1706 - This bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection to notify an affected municipality when the department issues a notice of violation or initiates an enforcement action relating to an air quality violation.

LD 1705 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$50 million bond to facilitate the growth of the commercial fishing and aquaculture sectors of the state's marine economy through research and development and workforce development with capital investments awarded after a competitive process administered by the Maine Technology Institute in consultation with the Department of Marine Resources and the Department of Economic and Community Development, to be matched by at least \$50 million in private and other funds.

LD 1703 - The purpose of this bill is to address inconsistencies in the protections provided in different areas of jurisdiction under the Maine Human Rights Act. The bill provides more inclusive protection by: (1) Including adult family members dependent for care in the definition of "familial status"; (2) Including familial status as a protected class in employment; (3) Including age as a protected class in public accommodations; (4) Providing that public entities cannot discriminate on the basis of protected class; and (5) Clarifying the scope of the Maine

Human Rights Act application in education. The bill also clarifies the protections provided to pregnant persons in employment and that the sexual orientation provisions already in the Maine Human Rights Act extend to gender identity.

LD 1701 - This bill makes changes to the Maine Human Rights Act in order to clarify its proper application and interpretation. In particular, the bill describes the behaviors that may constitute harassment in reference to unlawful discrimination; clarifies the Act's coverage of claims based on association and based on the perception that an individual belongs to a protected class; and provides a definition of "gender identity." The bill provides needed clarification related to several Maine Human Rights Act provisions highlighted by recent court decisions, including confirming that a leave of absence can be a reasonable accommodation for a disability in employment, and that individual employees may be liable for their discriminatory behavior in certain circumstances. The bill also makes grammatical changes and corrects cross-references.

May 7, 2019

LD 1695 - This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing vital records: (1) It provides that certificates and records of birth, marriage, intentions to marry, domestic partnerships and death, including fetal death, are open to the public without restriction. It allows any person to inspect and purchase noncertified copies of these vital records. Certified copies of these records may be purchased only by those persons specified in law. (2) It provides that inspection of certificates and records includes visual and physical access to the original certificate or record when no alternative method of inspection is available, subject to rules designed to protect the physical integrity and condition of the certificates and records. (3) It provides that indices to certificates and records of birth, marriage, intentions to marry, domestic partnerships and death, including fetal death, at the municipal and state levels are open to the public without restriction. (4) It directs the State Registrar of Vital Statistics to enter into a long-term nonexclusive contract with a private entity experienced in maintaining genealogical research databases to create, maintain and update at no direct cost to the state an online index to records of birth, marriage, intentions to marry, domestic partnerships and death, including fetal death, in exchange for allowing the private entity to also provide that index to its subscribers and customers. The online index must include the names of persons appearing on the certificate or record, the municipality in which the certificate or record was recorded, the date of the event and the certificate number for the certificate or record number for the record. **DEAD**

LD 1693 - This bill authorizes private persons, acting in the public interest, to enforce the laws governing employment practices and prohibiting unfair discrimination in the workplace. Under this bill: (1) private persons or whistleblowers, acting as relators, may bring public enforcement actions of employment laws on behalf of the state; (2) civic organizations may assist aggrieved persons in reporting violations of employment laws; and (3) Persons who are injured by violations of employment laws are protected from retaliation.

LD 1691 - This bill prohibits the use of aerial herbicide spraying for the purpose of deforestation.

LD 1688 - This bill repeals the law authorizing the creation of a new birth certificate for an adopted person and it removes the provision that requires the sealing of the original birth certificate. The bill allows a person born in this state to retain that person's original birth

certificate, even if that person is adopted. This change does not affect a person born in a foreign country who is adopted in this state. A person adopted before Oct. 1, 2019 will still need to follow the current statutory procedure to receive access to that person's original birth certificate upon attaining 18 years of age. This bill requires a certificate of birth for a child who is being adopted to be amended to include the adoptee's new name and the adoptive parent's name or parents' names and personal data. **DEAD**

LD 1687 - This bill provides that for the purposes of water quality certification under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act: (1) Graham Lake located in the Union River in the City of Ellsworth may be subject to drawdowns of lake levels of up to four feet and still be deemed to meet state water classification standards; (2) The Department of Environmental Protection may not waive water quality certification under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license for the Ellsworth Hydroelectric Project and failure of the department to file timely a water quality certification is deemed to be a denial of water quality certification; and (3) The Ellsworth Hydroelectric Project is subject to an involuntary water quality decertification if the project does not provide for a volitional upstream fish passage over both the Graham Lake Dam and Ellsworth Lake Dam within 10 years of the project's relicensure. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1685 - This bill establishes and provides funding for the Foreign Credentialing and Skills Recognition Revolving Loan Program to be administered by the Finance Authority of Maine. Under the program, the authority may provide interest-free loans to foreign-educated or foreign-trained, experienced immigrants who need assistance while awaiting federal employment authorization to pay the costs of certain actions and activities that will improve their work-readiness once they receive their work permits.

LD 1683 - This bill amends the definition of consumer-owned transmission and distribution utility to clarify that the utility must be wholly owned by consumers who reside in the service territory of the utility and that any municipal or quasi-municipal ownership must be of a municipality or quasi-municipal entity located in the state.

LD 1682 - This bill further restricts the placement of categorical signs by prohibiting their erection on trees, in control-of-access areas, within medians less than 6 feet in width and on islands within a rotary. The bill reduces the number of days the owner of a sign erected in violation of the law has to remove the sign from 30 days to 14 days after notice and clarifies that the notice may be sent by the agency having control of the public way in which the sign has been erected. The bill requires the Department of Transportation to remove any sign that has been placed in violation of the law if the public right-of-way is a state or state aid highway that is not within an urban compact municipality; the department may remove any sign on a public right-of-way for public safety purposes. A municipality may remove any sign that has been placed in violation of the law on a town way or state or state aid highway that is in an urban compact municipality within that municipality's jurisdiction. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 228**

LD 1681 - This bill requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish the statewide E-9-1-1 surcharge and the prepaid wireless E-9-1-1 surcharge and limits the surcharges to no more than

45¢ per month per line or number. The bill also requires the commission to establish the surcharges by routine technical rules or through other commission proceedings. **DEAD**

May 2, 2019

LD 1680 – This bill authorizes the issuance of auxiliary liquor licenses for the consumption of spirits, wine and malt liquor within entertainment districts authorized by and located within municipalities or unincorporated places.

LD 1679 – This bill establishes Governor Mills’ 38-member Maine Climate Change Council directed to assist the state with mitigating, preparing for and adapting to climate change. The council is made up of members of the legislature, state department commissioners, representatives from the Office of Policy and Management, Energy Office, Efficiency Maine Trust, Maine State Housing Authority and several other interested parties, including a representative of municipal government. The bill requires that 80% of the electricity consumed in Maine is generated from renewable resources by Jan. 1, 2030 and 100% from renewable sources by Jan. 1, 2050. The bill also requires the state climate action plan to be updated by Dec. 1, 2020 and every four years thereafter.

LD 1676 - This bill amends the laws governing the testing of breath, blood and urine samples for the presence of alcohol and drugs by: (1) Allowing such testing to occur at a laboratory licensed to do so under the laws of this state or any other state and also certified by the federal government; (2) Allowing, for the collection of blood and urine samples, the use of specimen collection tubes of the type normally used in such a laboratory; and (3) Changing the allocation in the statutes of a provision of law governing the liability of persons who draw blood at the request of a law enforcement officer.

LD 1675 - This bill requires all municipalities, regardless of population, to enforce the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC) as of July 1, 2020. It removes the option for municipalities to use third-party inspectors contracted and paid for by building owners and requires municipalities that use third-party inspectors to contract directly with the inspectors and to select them through a competitive bidding process. The bill also exempts a house constructed and occupied prior to Jan. 1, 2007 or any modification of or addition to a house constructed and occupied prior to Jan. 1, 2007 other than a complete demolition and rebuilding of the house from the requirements of the MUBEC. A municipality is prohibited from requiring architectural plans to be filed for such a modification or addition. **DEAD**

LD 1674 - This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program. (1) Requires a county or municipality that employs a law enforcement officer or municipal firefighter to notify employees in writing within 60 days of hire of the availability of the insurance program. The employee must choose in writing whether to enroll in the program and a copy of the form on which an employee declares a choice must be retained by the county or municipality. (2) Provides that, when the effective date of hire of the eligible person is on or after Oct.1, 2019, the eligible person must enroll in the program no later than five years following the effective date of hire. (3) Increases the amount of the premium subsidy from 45% to 55%. (4) Provides that enrollees retiring from counties or municipalities that do not participate in the

majority multiple-employer welfare arrangement and do not provide health insurance coverage for retirees may enroll in the group health plan available to state employees. (5) Provides that an enrollee may participate in the group health insurance plan in which the enrollee's spouse participates if that plan is offered in this state or in another group health insurance plan that is offered in this state. (6) Provides that an enrollee who is not receiving wages from a county or municipal employer on account of an absence from work due to an injury compensable under the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992, a disability for which the enrollee is receiving a disability retirement benefit from the Maine Public Employees Retirement System or a leave of absence must contribute to the Firefighters and Law Enforcement Officers Health Insurance Program Fund for the period of time of the absence from work based on the enrollee's gross wages immediately before the absence from work in order for the enrollee to be eligible for coverage under the program. (7) Provides that an enrollee who retires and is subsequently hired as a county or municipal law enforcement officer or municipal firefighter must contribute to the Firefighters and Law Enforcement Officers Health Insurance Program Fund while employed in order for the enrollee to be eligible for coverage under the program. (8) Provides that an enrollee who is not receiving wages from a county or municipal employer because the enrollee is a member of the United States Armed Forces or state military forces on active duty and deployed is not required to contribute to the fund while deployed. (9) Removes provisions governing persons who retire without making 60 months of contributions to the fund but who meet other eligibility criteria. (10) Establishes the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program Advisory Committee to review proposed rules for the program. (11) Provides a period of open enrollment in the program beginning Oct.1, 2019 and ending Dec. 31, 2021.

LD 1669 - This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine by requiring a person requesting a petition form for a direct initiative to submit a written application to the Office of the Secretary of State, Office of the Governor, Office of the Attorney General and Legislature. The secretary of state, governor, attorney general and the legislature are tasked with reviewing the proposed direct initiative and determining whether it is compatible with the Constitution of Maine and statutory law and if the initiative is found to be incompatible with the constitution or state law, the secretary of state is prohibited from furnishing or approving petition forms for the direct initiative.

April 30, 2019

LD 1668 - This bill implements the Department of Environmental Protection's recommendations regarding the state's mercury-added lamp law to: (1) Amend the scope of mercury-added lamp recycling programs to require acceptance by such programs of mercury-added lamps from covered entities, which are defined in the bill as households, elementary schools or secondary schools located in the state; businesses located in the state that employ 100 or fewer individuals; and nonprofit organizations located in the state that are exempt from taxation under the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, Section 501(c)(3). Under current law, recycling programs are required to accept mercury-added lamps, but only from households. (2) Revise the requirements for mercury-added lamp recycling programs, including provisions regarding collection sites and education and outreach efforts, and adds program performance goals.

LD 1665 - This bill requires the Secretary of State to review on a weekly basis changes of addresses for driver's licenses and, if a person who has changed an address is registered to vote in the Maine, to update the central voter registration system accordingly. **DEAD**

LD 1664 - This bill provides that funds held in connection with the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program are held in a trust fund. It renames the fund the Firefighters and Law Enforcement Officers Health Insurance Program Trust Fund and directs the Treasurer of State to invest the trust's funds accordance with the state-held trust investment policy.

LD 1663 - This bill clarifies that "elections determined by ranked-choice voting" only occur when there are three or more candidates for an office. This bill specifies additional layout requirements for ballots containing ranked-choice contests. This bill allows the Secretary of State to create a separate voter instruction poster for ranked-choice voting. This bill provides that municipalities count and report only the first choice votes cast for elections determined by ranked-choice voting. This bill substitutes the word "count" for the word "tabulate" in reference to ranked-choice voting. This bill removes an inconsistent provision regarding ties in ranked-choice contests and changes the permitted restriction on the number of rankings allowed on the ballot in a ranked-choice voting contest from 6 to 5. This bill limits who can request a recount of a ranked-choice voting contest to the candidates receiving the top three rankings in the penultimate round of ranked-choice counting.

LD 1662 - This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to establish the Low Barrier Opioid Treatment Response Program in Maine's federally qualified health centers to improve the availability of medication-assisted treatment and enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of acute care responses to persons in urgent need of treatment for substance use disorders, including opioid use disorder. The department is required to implement the program on a pilot basis initially and expand the program statewide after reviewing initial outcomes of the pilot. It also directs the department and representatives of federally qualified health centers to examine the extent to which existing structures for reimbursement and delivery of services by federally qualified health centers and other providers may hamper or facilitate access to opioid use disorder treatment and develop proposed changes to address identified barriers, reduce unnecessary costs and enhance coordination between federally qualified health centers and other providers serving persons at risk of opioid overdose. The department is required to report findings on these subjects and on initial pilot implementation of the Low Barrier Opioid Treatment Response Program to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 15, 2020. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1658 - This bill provides that for public works construction contracts that involve funding from the federal government the prevailing wage requirements in state law apply unless the prevailing wage requirements that would otherwise apply under the federal Davis-Bacon Act would result in higher total wages under the contract. An exception is provided for funds received under the United States Housing Act of 1937 if the application of a state prevailing wage is expressly preempted by federal law.

LD 1654 - This bill requires employers with 10 or more employees to allow a veteran to take paid leave, or unpaid leave if the employer does not provide paid leave, to attend a scheduled appointment at a medical facility operated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (U.S. DVA). Employers with fewer than 10 employees must allow a veteran to take paid leave, or unpaid leave if the employer does not provided paid leave, to attend a scheduled appointment at a medical facility operated by the U.S. DVA when the veteran provides the employer at least two weeks' notice of the appointment unless the veteran was provided less than two weeks' notice of an appointment, in which case the veteran shall provide the employer notice of the appointment as soon as reasonably possible.

LD 1652 - This bill: (1) Authorizes the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to deny, suspend or revoke an adult use marijuana establishment license for failure to cooperate with Maine Revenue Services in the payment of a final tax liability; (2) Excludes foods containing marijuana and marijuana products from the category of tax-exempt grocery staples; (3) Imposes the 10% tax rate on adult use marijuana on all related products sold to an individual who is not a qualifying medical marijuana patient; (4) Requires that applicants for an adult use marijuana license, except a testing facility license, register with the state tax assessor to collect and remit sales tax as a condition for obtaining the license; (5) Requires cultivation facilities to register with the state tax assessor to collect and remit the adult use marijuana excise tax as a condition for receiving a cultivation facility license; imposes penalties on cultivation facilities that sell marijuana without registering with the tax assessor; and allows for the suspension and revocation of the registration for failure to comply with the adult use marijuana excise tax laws; (6) Clarifies that the adult use marijuana excise tax is imposed when a person holding both a cultivation facility license and either a marijuana store license or products manufacturing facility license transfers marijuana from the cultivation facility to either the marijuana store or products manufacturing facility or otherwise undertakes an activity with the marijuana pursuant to the marijuana store license or products manufacturing facility license; and (7) Moves the adult use excise tax due date from the last day of the month to the 15th day of the month to coincide with the sales tax due date. **Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 231 (6/07/19)**

LD 1651 - This bill creates requirements that a municipality must meet in order to provide broadband service to its residents. It requires the completion of a feasibility study and requires the municipality to hold a referendum to decide whether the municipality may offer broadband service. It includes general operation limitations, including those related to the establishment of rates, the use of subsidization and the use of eminent domain. It requires the adoption of ordinances relating to service quality and enforcement by a municipality that elects to provide broadband service. It also removes antitrust liability protections from a municipality as those protections relate to the municipality's offering broadband service. The bill also requires that in order to receive any grants from the ConnectME Authority, the municipality must show evidence of compliance with the requirements proposed in the bill. **DEAD**

April 25, 2019

LD 1647 - For property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2020, this bill increases the homestead property tax exemption to \$25,000. For tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2020, the bill requires payment of a tax equalization assessment if a tax family has an expanded

income of at least \$250,000 for a tax family filing as a single individual, \$325,000 for a tax family filing as a head of a household or \$400,000 for a tax family filing a married joint return or filing a joint return as a surviving spouse, and an effective tax rate that is less than the average effective tax rate on state and local taxes paid by the bottom 99% of tax families. The tax equalization assessment is an amount equal to the difference in the average effective tax rate on state and local taxes paid, calculated by decile, and a tax family's individual effective tax rate on state and local taxes paid, the sum of which is multiplied by a tax family's expanded income. Finally, this bill increases the earned income tax credit from 5% of the federal earned income tax credit to 10% of the federal earned income tax credit and reduces the threshold amount from 6% to 5% to qualify for the property tax fairness credit. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1646 - This bill creates the Maine Power Delivery Authority as a consumer-owned utility to acquire and operate all transmission and distribution systems in the state currently operated by the investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities known as Central Maine Power Company and Emera Maine. The rates charged by the authority must include a sufficient amount to allow the authority to make payments in lieu of taxes and to the extent revenues exceed expenditures, the authority is required to make payments in lieu of taxes in the same amount as would have been assessed if the private entity continued to own the property.

LD 1645 - The purpose of this bill is to address Maine's shortage of safe, affordable housing by creating a state affordable housing tax credit. The tax credit is administered by the Maine State Housing Authority, which will allocate the state credit through a process similar to its current allocation of federal housing tax credits. Ten percent of the credit must be set aside for the preservation of affordable housing units that are constructed with financial assistance from the United States Department of Agriculture, Office of Rural Development, Rural Housing Service and at risk of losing their affordable status. In addition, 30% of the credit allocated to new housing units is targeted for seniors and 20% is targeted for rural areas. The credit is subject to reporting requirements and a process for tax expenditure review by the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability.

LD 1644 - This bill clarifies that a member of the Board of Environmental Protection may not participate in a review of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit or enforcement decision under the federal Clean Air Act if the member receives, or during the previous two years has received, a "significant portion of income" directly or indirectly from the licensee, permit holder or applicant. The bill also defines a "signification portion of income" as 10% or more of gross personal income for a calendar year, unless the board member is over 60 years of age and is receiving that portion under retirement, pension or similar arrangement, then the limit is 50% or more of gross personal income. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 180**

LD 1643 - This emergency Act establishes the "municipal cost components" for state and county services provided to the unorganized territory (UT). The municipal cost components form the basis of the property tax for the UT. After computing all the appropriations, identifying tax increment financing payments, and subtracting from total expenses anticipated general and educational revenue, the total UT tax assessment for FY 2020 is established at \$27,424,486 (not counting overlay or county taxes), representing a 5.87% increase over the assessment for FY 2019. **Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 212 (6/06/19)**

LD 1642 - This bill authorizes sports wagering regulated by the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Unit. The bill requires a person or entity offering sports wagering to hold an operator license. A gaming entity that offers sports wagering through mobile applications or digital platforms in any jurisdiction in the United States pursuant to a state regulatory structure and that meets certain requirements is eligible to receive an operator license. An operator license authorizes the operation of sports wagering through a mobile application or digital platform approved by the Gambling Control Unit. For the privilege of holding a license to operate sports wagering, the bill levies a tax of 10% of the licensee's adjusted gross sports wagering receipts and prohibits the assessment of any other state or local tax or fee on the operation or proceeds from sports wagering. The bill allows the director of the Gambling Control Unit to enter into a sports wagering agreement between the director and one or more other governments whereby persons who are physically located in a signatory jurisdiction may participate in sports wagering conducted by one or more operators licensed by the signatory governments. The bill also allows a fantasy contest operator to offer a fantasy contest based on the performances of participants in collegiate athletic events. **DEAD**

LD 1641 - This bill allows public school bus drivers to collect unemployment benefits over the summer. It also creates a nonlapsing fund to award grants to school administrative units for training for school bus drivers between academic years.

LD 1639 – Part A of the bill establishes contractor requirements for publicly funded construction projects that receive state funds and requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services to administer the certification process. The bill amends the method of determining the prevailing wage and benefits rate paid in the construction industry by requiring the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards to determine the applicable wage and benefits rates established in collective bargaining agreements in private construction, including the benefits and wages paid to apprentices in programs registered with the department. Part B requires the Executive Director of the Workers' Compensation Board to immediately issue a stop-work order to an employer who fails to procure workers' compensation insurance coverage, or knowingly misrepresented employees as independent contractors or provides false, incomplete or misleading information to an insurance company on the numbers of employees the employer has for the purpose of paying a lower payment. Part C encourages the state to use project labor agreements for large-scale state-funded construction projects of \$10 million or more. A project labor agreement is a prehire collective bargaining agreement with one or more labor unions that establishes the terms and conditions of employment for a specific construction project. Part D requires an employer with a public works contract with the state of \$50,000 or more to provide to all employees who will be on the construction work site a safety training program that uses a curriculum approved by the United States Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration and that is at least 10 hours in duration. Flaggers, security workers and certain other employees not considered to be on the work site are exempt from this requirement. A contractor that violates this safety training program requirement may be assessed a fine of up to \$2,500 and an additional fine of \$100 per employee for each day of noncompliance. Part E provides that for public works construction contracts that involve funding from the federal government the prevailing wage requirements in state law apply unless the prevailing wage requirements that would otherwise apply under the federal Davis-Bacon Act

would result in higher total wages under the contract. An exception is provided for funds received under the United States Housing Act of 1937 if the application of a state prevailing wage is expressly preempted by federal law. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1638 - This bill changes the appointing authority for four members of the Maine Charter School Commission from the State Board of Education to the governor and increases the terms of those members from three years to four years.

LD 1637 - This bill: (1) Prohibits the state, or any agency or instrumentality of the state, from seeking payment from an Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act of 2014 account or its proceeds for MaineCare benefits provided to a beneficiary, unless otherwise required by federal law; (2) Provides that funds held in an ABLE account must be disregarded when determining the designated beneficiary's eligibility for any means-tested public assistance program; and (3) Provides that earnings on funds held in an ABLE account are exempt from taxation by the state.

LD 1636 – In part, this bill: (1) Designates the Uniform Summons and Complaint as the form for use in criminal prosecutions and the Violation Summons and Complaint as the form for use in civil prosecutions and provides procedures for their use and for prosecutions; (2) Makes failure to sign a Violation Summons and Complaint form a Class E crime; and (3) makes improper disposal by a warden or other public employee of a Violation Summons and Complaint form a Class E crime, as well as for the improper disposal of a Uniform Summons and Complaint.

DEAD

LD 1634 - This bill creates the Maine Clean Energy Fund within and with oversight from the Efficiency Maine Trust to support the development of renewable and clean energy technologies and infrastructure by providing financing support including loans, loan guarantees and other financial and risk mitigation products. The fund is administered by a nine-member board of directors consisting of certain government officials and members of the public appointed by the governor. This bill also provides for a bond issue in the amount of \$100 million to be used to capitalize the Maine Clean Energy Fund. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1631 - This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to allow the Legislature to authorize a process allowing voting to occur in the same manner as on election day during a period immediately preceding an election. It also allows for voting by absentee ballot by citizens for reasons deemed sufficient without requiring in the Constitution of Maine that the citizens be absent or physically incapacitated. Additionally, this resolution allows the Legislature to authorize a process of voting by mail for all citizens of the state as an alternative to voting by absentee ballot. **DEAD**

April 23, 2019

LD 1627 - This bill defines an autocycle as a 3-wheeled motorcycle that has a steering wheel or handlebars, floor pedals for automotive-style controls and seating that does not require the operator to straddle or sit astride a seat and establishes provisions for registration and operator licensing.

LD 1626 - This bill implements a presidential primary election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March of the presidential election year, and provides a process for the parties to participate if they certify to the Secretary of State by November 1st of the year prior to the presidential election year that they have a contest among candidates for nomination.

LD 1621 - This bill amends the Marijuana Legalization Act to allow for the delivery of adult use marijuana products by a marijuana store if the municipality, town, plantation or township authorizes the operation of delivery services and the establishment's owner receives Department of Administrative and Financial Services approval to operate the delivery service. A marijuana store is allowed to maintain a separate storage facility, approved by the department to store the product or to conduct delivery service operations, which may be located in the same municipality as the retail facility or another municipality subject to the approval of the other municipality. Delivery services are subject to the same testing, tracking, labelling and packaging requirements as retail sales of adult use marijuana and marijuana products, delivery service drivers are subject to the same requirements as the employees of a marijuana store, delivery recipients are subject to the same customer restrictions regarding age and state of intoxication as marijuana store customers and delivery service vehicles are subject to the same inspection requirements as the marijuana store's licensed premises and may not have an occupant under 21 years of age during the course of a delivery. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1620 – This bill excludes bargained salary and wage increases or job promotion from the limitations used to calculate average final compensation under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

LD 1619 – This bill gives a municipality the option of conditioning its approval of a liquor license issued to a Class A lounge on the basis of the type of liquor (e.g., spirits, wine and malt liquor) sold by the licensee.

The amendment replaces the printed bill and clarifies that a municipality may impose a condition limiting the types of liquor that may be sold for consumption on the premises of a particular Class X licensee when the municipality considers an application for a new or a renewed Class X license. **Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 167 (5/30/19)**

LD 1610 - This resolve amends the deed transferring land from the state to the Town of Carrabassett Valley to remove the prohibition on camping in motor vehicles.

LD 1606 - This bill provides an additional \$1.5 million per year for the cost of career and technical education. The bill also removes the so-called hold harmless provision that limits the amount of any decrease or increase in the total allocation for a career and technical education center or career and technical education region, effective January 1, 2020. **Carryover Approved**

April 18, 2019

LD 1604 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$100 million bond issue in both 2019 and 2020 to be used for reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities or equipment related to ports, harbors, marine transportation, freight and passenger railroads,

aviation, transit and bicycle and pedestrian trails, matching an estimated \$137 million per year in federal and other funds.

LD 1600 - This bill adds corrections officers and E-9-1-1 dispatchers to the list of employees for whom there is a rebuttable presumption under the laws governing workers' compensation that when the employee is diagnosed by a licensed psychiatrist or psychologist as having post-traumatic stress disorder resulting from work stress that was extraordinary and unusual, the post-traumatic stress disorder is presumed to have arisen out of and in the course of the worker's employment. **DEAD**

LD 1594 - This bill provides for the establishment of a stewardship program for consumer batteries, including both single-use and rechargeable batteries, and certain products containing these batteries. Under the bill, a producer of consumer batteries or an organization composed of one or more producers of such batteries must submit a plan for the establishment of a battery stewardship program to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection for approval. Once approved, the program must operate to provide convenient, free statewide collection opportunities for discarded batteries, and the batteries collected through the program must be recycled or otherwise responsibly managed. The bill also amends and repeals existing laws relating to certain battery types to avoid statutory conflict with the stewardship program for consumer batteries. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1593 - This bill makes changes to the laws governing energy conservation improvements at school administrative unit facilities, including amending the definition of "energy services company" and removing the requirement that an agreement with an energy services company must have a total contract cost of less than \$2.5 million in order for the agreement to be deemed a professional service and not subject to competitive bidding requirements.

LD 1592 - This bill provides the steps necessary to dissolve a regional school unit composed of only one municipality.

LD 1589 - This bill establishes the Maine Liberty Act, which governs the relationship of state and local law enforcement agencies, including correctional facilities, with federal immigration authorities, including: (1) Prohibiting a law enforcement agency from stopping, investigating, interrogating, arresting or detaining a person solely for immigration enforcement purposes, including in response to a hold request, immigration detainer or administrative warrant issued by the United States Department of Homeland Security, or allowing the federal agency to access inmates, inmate information or law enforcement agency facilities or providing law enforcement agency resources or personnel to assist immigration enforcement activities; (2) Clarifying that a law enforcement agency upon a request from the federal agency may arrest and detain a person and perform other law enforcement duties due to suspected criminal activity or other reasons not solely based on the person's immigration status; (3) Establishing the permissible scope of collaboration of a law enforcement agency with a joint law enforcement task force and requiring reporting to the attorney general on all arrests made by the task force, including all arrests made for immigration enforcement purposes; (4) Requiring a law enforcement agency to release as soon as possible and detain no longer than 48 hours a person determined to be held solely for immigration enforcement purposes; (5) Establishing duties and prohibitions for law enforcement

agencies regarding immigration issues of inmates, including requiring the agency to inform an inmate of the inmate's rights prior to interview by an immigration authority and whether the agency intends to comply with a hold request and prohibiting an agency from restricting access to educational programming and good conduct credits or determining an inmate's custodial status based upon the inmate's immigration status; (6) Requiring the attorney general to publish a model policy regarding limiting assistance to immigration authorities in public facilities and publish guidance, audit criteria and training recommendations to ensure that a database operated by a state or local law enforcement agency limits the availability of database information to immigration authorities; and (7) Requiring a law enforcement agency to record certain information regarding hold requests and certain other information from immigration authorities received by the agency and to report quarterly to the attorney general on this information.

LD 1587 - This bill amends the provisions regarding the election and appointment of county commissioners in the following ways: (1) It requires that, in the case when a party is eligible to choose a candidate or nominee for a primary, general or special election for county commissioner by political committee, the members of the county political committee who reside within the boundaries of the district subject to the election make the choice of candidate or nominee; (2) It clarifies that, in the case of a vacancy during the term of office of a county commissioner that occurs prior to the general election held in the second year of the term, a special election must be held to elect a new county commissioner for that district for the last two years of the term, and requires that the election be held within the boundaries that existed at the time of the original election for that term; (3) It requires that when a county commissioner appointed by the governor to fill a vacancy must be enrolled in the same political party as the commissioner whose term is vacant, the governor is required to choose from any recommendations submitted by the members of the county committee of the political party from which the appointment is to be made who reside within the boundaries of the district with the vacancy that existed at the time of the initial election for that term; (4) It requires that, for the apportionment plan of county districts after a decennial census, the plan take effect on the second year after the decennial census for the year 2020 and every 20 years thereafter and the plan take effect on the fourth year after the decennial census for the year 2030 and every 20 years thereafter; and (5) It amends the provisions creating each county's commissioner districts to eliminate staggered terms of commissioners so that, beginning in 2022, each four-year commissioner term expires in a year in which there is a gubernatorial election. **DEAD**

April 16, 2019

LD 1585 - This bill authorizes the City of Augusta to adjust the definition of "original assessed value" for the City of Augusta's Performance Food Group municipal tax increment financing district and to validate the assessment, commitment and collection of property taxes dedicated for the Performance Food Group municipal tax increment financing district for the fiscal years 2018-19 and 2019-20. **Emergency Enacted; P & SL 2019, c. 7 (5/30/19)**

LD 1583 - This bill establishes the Maine Citizens' Initiatives Clean Election Act. It provides a public financing mechanism for committees that are Maine-chartered nonprofits or groups whose principal officers are Maine citizens and are formed to support or oppose a direct initiative of legislation or a people's veto or to support a competing measure to a direct initiative. The funding process is similar to that provided for clean election candidates. It provides for limits on the

amount of funds that committees seeking public funding may raise and spend prior to qualifying for public funding and the amount of qualifying contributions that a committee must raise to be certified to receive public funding, and it establishes the amounts that certified committees may receive. It also establishes procedures governing financial reporting and accounting, appeals of decisions, penalties for violations and other procedural matters to ensure the integrity of the process. In addition to other available funds, including qualifying contributions raised by committees and voluntary contributions through a tax checkoff program, funding for certified committees is provided by an annual appropriation of \$3 million. **DEAD**

LD 1581 - This bill provides specificity for the use and expenditure of funds by county governments by: (1) Limiting the payment of expenditures for the priority-designated social service of transportation for access to health care services; (2) Limiting grants that are paid to agencies outside of the regular county departments to those that have been statutorily authorized; (3) Requiring the Office of the State Auditor, when conducting an audit of a county, to report any transaction not authorized by statute to the district attorney for that county; (4) Specifying that the ability of county commissioners to approve county expenditures is limited to those expenditures that are statutorily authorized. **DEAD**

LD 1579 - This bill allows a municipality to stock fish in an inland water of the municipality, subject to a determination by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Bureau of Resource Management that the species of fish is appropriate to be stocked in that inland water and to the public notification requirements that apply when the bureau proposes to stock an inland water with fish.

LD 1575 - The purpose of this bill is to enhance access to public records without imposing undue burdens on the efficient and effective functioning of government. This bill makes the following changes to the Freedom of Access Act: (1) Current law defines public records that are subject to the Freedom of Access Act as matter in the possession or custody of an agency or public official that has been received or prepared for use in connection with, or that contains information relating to, the transaction of public or governmental business. This bill defines "public or governmental business" as the administration of public policy and the exercise of governmental power through laws, rules, ordinances, regulations and the equivalent. (2) The bill requires that, when requesting to inspect or to receive a copy of a public record, a person must provide to the agency or official with custody of the record sufficient information to identify the record sought. Under the bill, a request for a public record must include, at a minimum, the specific subject matter contained in the record and the date or dates upon which the record was created or a range of dates within which the record may have been created. (3) Current law requires that, within "a reasonable time" of receiving a request for information, the agency or official must provide a good faith, nonbinding estimate of the time within which the agency or official will comply. This bill instead requires that the agency or official, within 30 days of receiving the request, provide to the requester an update on progress on the request and, within 30 days of providing the update, fulfill the request. If the agency or official is unable to fulfill the entirety of the request within the specified time period, the agency or official must provide to the requester an explanation of the reason or reasons it was unable to comply, fulfill those portions of the request that it can fulfill and provide a written estimate of the expected date of compliance with the remainder of the request. (4) The bill directs the Right To Know Advisory Committee to examine the specific

challenges of ensuring public access to public records in the face of new and emerging technologies and to develop recommendations that are designed to preserve communications that can be accessed by the public. The Right To Know Advisory Committee is directed to report its findings and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, which is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

Carryover Approved

LD 1574 - This bill allows a seaplane to land on and take off from Katahdin Lake in Baxter State Park. **DEAD**

LD 1572 - This bill establishes the Maine Fair Chance Housing Act, the purpose of which is to ensure that a person is not denied housing based solely on the existence of a history of criminal convictions. This bill prohibits a housing provider from considering an applicant's criminal history until after the housing provider determines that the applicant meets all other qualifications for tenancy. A person who is aggrieved by a violation of the Maine Fair Chance Housing Act by a housing provider may file a grievance with the Maine Human Rights Commission and, if it is a violation by a private housing provider, may bring a civil action in court. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1570 - This bill allows online application for voter registration by an eligible resident of Maine through the Secretary of State's publicly accessible website. The information required to be submitted to the secretary includes the applicant's legal name, residence, date of birth, most recent prior residence, choice of political party, identification number on a state issued driver's license or non-driver's card, affirmation by the applicant that the information provided is valid and any other information the secretary determines necessary. After verifying the information, the secretary must notify the register of the voting district in which the applicant resides, revise the central voter registration system and send conformation of the registration to the applicant either electronically or by mail. **DEAD**

LD 1569 - This bill regulates the manufacture, distribution and possession of so-called ghost guns and so-called 3-D printed guns or 3-D guns, which are fully functioning firearms that can be made at home by unlicensed firearm manufacturers, sellers and distributors either by purchasing the necessary parts separately, or as part of mail order gun kits, and then assembling them at home or by downloading a computer code from the internet that allows the user to manufacture the gun using a 3-D printer. This bill provides definitions of "undetectable firearm" and "untraceable firearm" and prohibits the manufacture, import, sale, transfer and possession of such firearms with certain exceptions. This bill also prohibits, with certain exceptions, the dissemination of downloadable gun code from which untraceable firearms can be manufactured. **DEAD**

LD 1568 - This bill provides for the deorganization of Magalloway Plantation in Oxford County, subject to approval at local referendum and execution of a withdrawal agreement from Regional School Unit No. 78. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 1565 - This resolution proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Maine to allow the Legislature to change a direct initiative approved by the voters at referendum if the change

clarifies or further advances the original intent of the direct initiative. A change to such a direct initiative made by the Legislature no later than one year after the direct initiative takes effect that frustrates the effectuation or implementation of the direct initiative does not go into effect until submitted to the voters at referendum and approved by a majority of those voting on the question. The resolution also authorizes the Legislature to provide a process for the review of a direct initiative before petition forms are furnished or approved by the Secretary of State. **DEAD**

LD 1564 - This bill allows a public authority, defined as the Maine Turnpike Authority or any officer, board, commission or agency of the state authorized by law to enter into contracts for the construction of public works, to require a project labor agreement when the authority determines that it is in the public's interest to require such an agreement.

LD 1563 – This concept bill draft proposes to establish the Maine Broadband Initiative to encourage, promote, stimulate, invest in and support universal high-speed broadband service to unserved and underserved areas of the state. The bill will also establish the Maine Broadband Initiative Fund to provide ongoing funding for high-speed broadband through funding sources to be identified in the bill. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1562 - This bill: (1) Establishes as a goal for the Renewable Energy Program requiring that by January 1, 2050, 100% of the energy consumed in this state must be supplied by renewable resources; (2) Directs that, no later than January 1, 2030, all electricity purchased by state agencies must be supplied by renewable resources and that, no later than January 1, 2050, all heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems in state-owned or state-leased buildings must be electrical and the electricity supplied by renewable resources; (3) Directs that, no later than January 1, 2050, all vehicles acquired for the state vehicle fleet must be electric vehicles. **DEAD**

LD 1561 - This bill amends the laws governing the Maine Land Use Planning Commission (LUPC) by removing the existing locally-led process for regional planning and mandating the commission to start regional planning activities at the request of two municipalities in a region, adds four gubernatorial appointments to the LUPC causing four counties with the least Unorganized Territory (UT) acreage to lose their representation, and limits the types of municipal expertise for the appointments to experience only in communities next to the UT, favoring expertise in conservation and forest economy over municipal perspectives. The bill also directs the LUPC to conduct a land use structure inventory by July 1, 2020 and drive future development into organized communities when possible. **DEAD**

LD 1555 - This bill amends current law to allow vehicles engaged in highway maintenance or in emergency rescue operations by emergency management and public safety agencies and public service vehicles to be equipped with auxiliary lights that emit a combination of amber and white lights or any shade between amber and white. It also allows the use of green lighting for any highway maintenance vehicle that is operating under the direction of the Department of Transportation or the Maine Turnpike Authority. This bill also amends current law to allow the Maine Turnpike Authority to remove a vehicle from the Maine Turnpike if it is improperly parked, abandoned or interfering with snow removal in the same manner that the Department of Transportation may remove such a vehicle on a road under its jurisdiction. It also clarifies that a third-party agent such as an independent contractor working for the Department of

Transportation or the Maine Turnpike Authority is entitled to the same immunity from liability for these removals as employees of the department or authority.

April 11, 2019

LD 1553 - This bill requires that, notwithstanding any applicable notice requirements, each of the towns of Abbot, Atkinson, Bradford, Cambridge, Dexter, Dover-Foxcroft, Guilford, Milo, Monson, Parkman, Sangerville, Sebec and Willimantic hold an advisory vote no later than April 30, 2019 on the proposed merger of Hospital Administrative District No. 4 with Northern Light Health. Unless a town's charter otherwise provides, the vote must be taken at a town meeting. The results of the vote in each town must be declared by the municipal officers of the town and transmitted to the board of directors of Hospital Administrative District No. 4.

The amendment to the bill adds a mandate preamble, changes the date for the advisory vote to May 7, 2019 and corrects the date of the merger agreement. **Emergency Enacted; P & SL 2019, c. 5 (4/25/19)**

LD 1549 - This bill increases, from \$3,000 to \$9,000, the supplement paid to a teacher who has attained certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and who is employed in a school in which at least 50% of students qualify for a free or reduced-price lunch during the year that the supplement is provided.

LD 1547 - This bill directs the Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communication Bureau to use 10% of the statewide E-9-1-1 surcharges to fund certain staff positions and capital equipment projects of public safety answering points operated by county governments or other local units of government. **DEAD**

LD 1545 - This bill amends the provisions regarding the testing of adult use marijuana and products by: (1) Requiring that testing conform to any applicable state or federal process, protocol or standard for the testing of tobacco; and (2) Providing that if a testing facility does not test adult use marijuana or products within five days of receiving the marijuana or product, the licensee may sell or distribute the marijuana or product if the it is labeled "untested." If upon testing, a facility determines that the marijuana or product exceeds the maximum level of allowable contaminant for which testing is required, the facility must immediately notify the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and the licensee. The licensee is required to recover, document, quarantine and hold the marijuana or product for either remediation and retesting or destruction by the department. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1543 - This bill amends provisions regarding the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code by requiring the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board to adopt and maintain an appendix to the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code that contains energy conservation and efficiency requirements that exceed the requirements in the code, to make the appendix available for voluntary adoption by municipalities and to maintain a list of those municipalities on the board's publicly accessible website.

LD 1542 - This bill provides a process to allow a municipality to choose a single transmission and distribution utility via a referendum when that municipality is served by more than one

utility. The decision to hold a referendum must be made by a majority vote of the municipal officials. A referendum to choose a single utility must occur during a gubernatorial or presidential election in November and must be called, advertised and conducted according to the law relating to municipal elections. The bill also requires the choice of a single utility to be approved by the Public Utilities Commission. The commission is required to approve the choice if the commission finds that the chosen utility is willing to furnish service to the entire municipality, has the financial ability to meet its obligations and is willing and able to pay a fair and reasonable price, as determined by the commission, for the assets of the second utility needed to furnish service to the entire municipality. Upon approval, the commission is directed to order the second utility to sell its assets used to serve the municipality to the chosen transmission and distribution utility. This bill also allows the commission to adopt routine technical rules to implement these provisions. **DEAD**

LD 1537 - This bill increases the portion of retired state employees, teachers and beneficiaries, to which the cost-of-living adjustment applies, from \$20,000 to \$30,000 effective July 1, 2020.

LD 1536 – This bill makes several changes to the laws regulating the discontinuance and abandonment of municipal roads. The bill: (1) Further amends the discontinuation process. Under existing statutes, municipalities may not discontinue a town way that is abutted by property not otherwise accessible by a public way, unless the municipal officers have provided the abutters one year to work out private easements allowing for abutter travel along the way. If after a year, the abutters have not worked out private easements, the municipality may proceed with the discontinuance, provided a public easement is retained. The bill would continue to allow a municipality to discontinue a road and retain a public easement, but on the condition that the municipality specifies the allowable uses on the public easement and provides sufficient public maintenance of the easement to allow the specified use; (2) Modifies the road abandonment law to provide that the presumption of abandonment is removed if: (a) the municipality received Local Road Assistance Program funds on any mile of the way during any portion of the 30 or more consecutive years of apparent discontinuance; or (b) intentionally ceases to maintain a way as a means of creating a presumption of abandonment. A municipal is also prevented from asserting a presumption of abandonment for any way that was discontinued prior to Sept. 3, 1965 that resulted in a public easement; (3) Requires a municipality to maintain a town public right-of-way used as part of a United States postal route in passable condition for postal service delivery. If the postal service route is seasonal, the right-of-way must be maintained for the applicable season and, if the mail route is year-round, it must be maintained year-round; and (4) Provides that a failure of a town to meet the snow removal and other maintenance requirements of state statutes is deemed a failure to maintain a way, for which “those (municipal officials) liable may be indicted, convicted and a reasonable fine imposed therefor.” **DEAD**

April 9, 2019

LD 1532 - This bill prohibits a retail establishment from using single-use carry-out bags to bag products at the point of sale or otherwise make single-use carry-out bags available to customers, with exemptions for certain types and uses of plastic and paper bags. Retail establishments may provide recyclable paper bags to bag products at the point of sale for at least 5¢ per bag, with

exceptions to the fee requirement for certain types of retail establishments. The prohibition is effective April 22, 2020.

LD 1530 - This bill provides an income tax credit of up to \$1,000 for individuals for certain student loan payments made during the tax year if the individuals were first employed in Maine on or after January 1, 2020. The credit is equal to the lesser of 50% of the loan payments actually made and 50% of income tax liability in the first year in which the credit is claimed declining to 10% of income tax liability in the fifth and final year in which the credit is claimed. The credit may not exceed 50% of the individual's outstanding student loan debt and may not be claimed if the individual claims the credit for educational opportunity. **DEAD**

LD 1529 - This bill prohibits employers from requiring agreements preventing an employee or prospective employee from disclosing or discussing discrimination, including harassment, occurring between employees or between an employer and an employee. The bill prohibits settlement agreements, unless requested by the employee, prospective employee or former employee, from including a provision that prevents the disclosure of factual information relating to a claim of discrimination, including harassment. Agreements may not explicitly or implicitly limit an individual's ability to provide testimony or evidence, file claims or make reports to any federal or state agency that enforces employment or discrimination laws, including, but not limited to, the Maine Human Rights Commission and the Department of Labor. An employee, prospective employee or former employee is not liable for damages for breaching a prohibited nondisclosure agreement or a settlement agreement.

LD 1528 - This bill: (1) Increases the one-time fee for an out-of-rotation registration plate and for a reserved registration number from \$15 to \$25, the same as for a vanity registration plate fee; (2) Increases the registration transfer fee for a trailer under 2,000 pounds from \$5 to \$8, making the fee the same as for other registration transfers; (3) Increases the motorcycle rider education school and instructor license fees to match fees for other business licenses issued by the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, such as certain dealer licenses; (4) Increases driver education school and instructor license fees to match other business license fees; (5) Increases the fee for a duplicate registration certificate from \$2 to \$5; and (6) Reduces the driver's license fees for persons 65 years of age and over by \$1 to provide equity in the fees assessed on driver's licenses issued to this demographic. **Passed to be Enacted**

LD 1527 - This bill prohibits the operation of a motor vehicle at a speed of 40 miles per hour or more on a public way with a load of solid precipitation, including snow, ice, hail and sleet, on the motor vehicle. Failure to clear a motor vehicle is a traffic infraction subject to a \$250 fine for a first offense and \$500 for a second or subsequent offense. Commercial trucks are exempted from the provision. **DEAD**

LD 1525 - This bill prohibits the owner of a motorboat of more than 75 horsepower from operating or allowing operation of the motorboat in the inland or tidal waters of the state without insurance on the motorboat similar to the financial responsibility provisions regarding motor vehicles. The bill requires the operator of the motorboat to provide proof of insurance, which may be in an acceptable electronic format, to a law enforcement officer upon request or, if the motorboat is in an accident, to all persons involved in the accident. An operator of a motorboat

who fails to provide proof of insurance commits a civil penalty unless proof of insurance is produced before adjudication of the violation, and an owner who fails to insure a motorboat that is then involved in an accident commits a Class D crime. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1524 - This bill addresses wage theft by an employer by creating additional remedies, including injunctive relief, treble damages to be paid to affected employees and a stop-work order against an employer who is engaging in wage theft. These remedies are in addition to any existing penalties, and the actions may be combined. "Wage theft" is defined as a violation of specific statutes that include the requirements of timely and full payment of wages, payment of wages upon cessation of employment, payments defined as "unfair agreements" and fringe benefits.

LD 1520 - This bill supports employee-owned businesses and cooperatives in the following ways. (1) It excludes from Maine income tax the amount of gain, up to a maximum of \$750,000, recognized by a business owner in transferring the business to an employee stock ownership plan, eligible worker-owned cooperative, consumer cooperative or affordable housing cooperative. (2) It excludes from Maine income tax interest from loans that finance transfers of ownership from a business to an employee stock ownership plan, eligible worker-owned cooperative, consumer cooperative or affordable housing cooperative. (3) It requires the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), Office of Business Development to encourage and assist employee-owned businesses by requiring the office to: develop educational programs, including convening an annual conference on employee ownership issues; provide information about employee ownership and technical assistance to retiring business owners, employees of plants threatened with closure and entrepreneurs interested in creating businesses with broadly shared ownership; link Maine businesses interested in implementing employee partnership to available financial, technical and legal resources; and help businesses interested in implementing some form of employee ownership to obtain financing, as well as undertake other duties. (4) It requires the DECD commissioner to give priority to employee-owned businesses, either established or in the process of becoming employee-owned, when providing loans or grants from funds or programs maintained by the department. (5) It requires the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to conduct a study to determine how funds held by the system may be invested responsibly in employee-owned businesses in this state and to report its findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business, which is authorized to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature based on the study and recommendations of the system.

LD 1519 - This bill creates a statutory framework that allows a corporation to elect to become a benefit corporation by explicitly stating in its articles of incorporation that it has a purpose of creating general public benefit and allows such a corporation to state in its articles of incorporation one or more specific public benefit purposes, which are other than maximizing shareholder value. "General public benefit" means a material positive impact on society and the environment, taken as a whole, assessed against a third-party standard, from the business and operations of the benefit corporation. A specific public benefit can be providing goods and services to underserved individuals and communities, the promotion of economic opportunities, protecting the environment, improving human health or other particular benefits to society or the

environment. A benefit corporation may be subject to a benefit enforcement proceeding for failing to pursue or create general public benefit or a specific public benefit as set forth in its articles of incorporation, or for a violation of any obligation, duty or standard of conduct imposed. A benefit corporation must make its annual benefit report available publicly. **Passed to be Enacted**

LD 1518 – Of greatest municipal significance, this bill requires a political subdivision seeking to ban the use of a pesticide registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to submit a request to the Board of Pesticides Control for review and determination of whether the pesticide should be further regulated. The board’s review must include participation from the officers of the political subdivision, board staff, and experts and other interested parties the board determines appropriate. The board is also required to investigate complaints of violations of local, state and federal pesticide laws. This bill also establishes the Tick Laboratory and Pest Management Fund administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension to fund the tick laboratory and other pest management research and projects and directs the extension's pest management unit to study browntail moths as the first of a series of pest research projects to be determined every three years by a committee designated by the University of Maine. The fund is capitalized by a fee of 20¢ per pesticide container administered by the state tax assessor.

LD 1517 - This bill provides that a small wireless facility must be a permitted use within the public right-of-way, subject to any duly adopted, nondiscriminatory conditions otherwise applicable to permitted uses within the municipality and consistent with state and federal law, including, without limitation, any permitting requirements in the statutes regulating the placement of utility facilities in the right of way.

LD 1513 - This bill changes from August 1 to November 1 the annual date by which an applicant for funds under the Local Road Assistance Program must provide certification to the Department of Transportation. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 173**

April 4, 2019

LD 1511 - This bill implements statutory changes recommended by the Right To Know Advisory Committee pursuant to its responsibility to review existing public records exceptions. The bill eliminates specific protection for social security numbers in the context of constituent communications because social security numbers are designated as not public records for all contexts. Current law provides that personally identifying information concerning minors that is obtained or maintained by a municipality in providing recreational or nonmandatory educational programs or services is not a public record as long as the municipality has adopted an ordinance that protects the information from disclosure. The bill repeals the requirement that a municipality adopt such an ordinance in order to protect the information about minors. Current law provides a public record exception for records or information describing the architecture, design, access authentication, encryption or security of information technology infrastructure, systems and software. The bill amends the provision to specifically include records or information maintained to ensure government operations and technology continuity and to enable disaster recovery. The bill amends the statutes governing the confidentiality of the working papers of the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability to clarify that the working papers, whether

in the possession of the office or an entity with which the office director has contracted, remain confidential even after the report is released to the public. The bill amends the Maine Human Rights Act to update and clarify the language describing medical history and information about disabilities, as well as to update a reference to employee health and wellness programs.

LD 1509 - Beginning July 1, 2020, this bill repeals provisions of exiting law requiring the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC) to be enforced in municipalities with more than 4,000 and instead requires that any municipality that has adopted a building or energy code by July 1, 2020 must adopt and enforce MUBEC. This bill also adds the executive director of the Efficiency Maine Trust to the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal, Technical Building Codes and Standards Board. The bill requires the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board to amend the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code so as to be consistent with the most recent edition of the International Energy Conservation Code published by the International Code Council, as well as the most recent edition of the International Mechanical Code published by the International Code Council.

LD 1508 - This bill restores provisions of an initiated bill that established the Fund to Advance Public Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education for the purpose of improving the ability of the state to reach the its targeted 55% share of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 and for increasing direct support for student learning, but not for administrative costs. Revenue for the fund is generated by a 3% surcharge on Maine income tax over \$200,000, beginning with tax years commencing on or after Jan.1, 2020.

LD 1506 - This resolve directs the Department of Economic and Community Development to facilitate the creation of a 10-year strategic economic plan that recommends breakthrough strategies for increased economic prosperity for all citizens of the state in all regions, ultimately measured by increased household income, a growing workforce and sustainable business development. The resolve directs the department to provide a report on the strategic plan to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business by Dec. 31, 2019. The joint standing committees are authorized to report out legislation based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

LD 1505 – This concept draft emergency bill proposes to make technical changes to and correct errors in the adult use marijuana and medical marijuana laws.

LD 1501 - This bill amends the law governing occupational disease claims under the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 by: (1) Repealing the "Occupational Disease Law" chapter; (2) Defining "personal injury" to include any condition or disease contributed to by an employee's occupational cumulative trauma or exposure that arises out of and in the course of employment; (3) Specifying that the employer in whose employment the employee was last injuriously exposed is fully liable for all incapacity resulting from the occupational trauma or exposure, and the date of injury is the date that the employee becomes incapacitated from the occupational cumulative trauma or exposure; (4) Providing a method for calculating the amount of the employee's compensation if, on the date of incapacity resulting from occupational cumulative trauma or exposure, the injured employee no longer works in the same occupation in which the employee worked; and (5) Specifying that, with respect to a personal injury that

involves a condition or disease contributed to by the employee's occupational cumulative trauma or exposure that arises out of and in the course of employment, the employer in whose employment the employee was last injuriously exposed is fully liable for all incapacity resulting from the occupational trauma or exposure. **DEAD**

LD 1500 - This bill amends the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 to create protections for injured workers whose employers have not secured workers' compensation insurance in accordance with current law. The bill creates liability for situations when an employee is injured while working for an uninsured subcontractor. In such situations, the prime contractor will be responsible for payment of workers' compensation benefits as if it were the direct employer of the injured employee, unless there is an intermediate subcontractor with workers' compensation insurance coverage, in which case, the intermediate subcontractor is responsible for payment of all benefits due under the Act. These provisions take effect January 1, 2020 and are repealed July 1, 2022. The bill also amends the laws governing the Employment Rehabilitation Fund. Until July 1, 2022, the fund will be used to pay workers' compensation benefits to injured employees working for illegally uninsured employers when there is no other prime contractor or subcontractor liable for payment of benefits. Until July 1, 2022, the fund will not transfer a portion of its funds to the General Fund and penalties recovered for violations of the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 will be directed to this fund exclusively, instead of being shared with the Workers' Compensation Board Administrative Fund or the General Fund. **DEAD**

LD 1498 - Current law allows certain commercial vehicles at Canadian weight limits that are higher than those in this state to travel from the United States-Canada border to certain points in this state. This bill repeals that law and allows certain commercial vehicles to be operated in this state at those higher weight limits. A combination vehicle consisting of a three-axle truck tractor with a tri-axle semitrailer may be operated with a maximum gross vehicle weight of 108,900 pounds. A combination vehicle consisting of a three-axle truck tractor with a semitrailer-semitrailer combination configured as a B-train double with eight axles total may be operated with a gross vehicle weight of 137,700 pounds. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1497 - Under current law, for the 2019-20 fiscal year, a system administration allocation of \$141 per pupil is established, with \$47 being allocated to each school administrative unit and an additional \$94 being allocated as a targeted amount to school administrative units that have established regionalized administrative services. This bill maintains the \$141 allocation for fiscal year 2019-20, but provides \$94 to each school administrative unit and an additional \$47 to school administrative units that have established regionalized administrative services and to those school administrative units that have been identified as high-performing, efficient school administrative units. **DEAD**

LD 1494 - This bill increases the percentage of supply sources for retail electricity sales in the state that must be accounted for by new renewable capacity resources from 10% to 50% by 2030, makes several changes to resource eligibility to meet these requirements and creates a renewable portfolio standard for thermal energy resources. The bill also directs the Public Utilities Commission to procure long-term contracts for an amount of renewable capacity resources that

is equal to 1/2 the amount of the portfolio requirements for these resources. The bill requires the commission to conduct annual competitive solicitations for the long-term contracts.

LD 1492 - This bill amends the Maine Criminal Code provisions regarding scheduled drugs by relaxing or eliminating provisions regarding trafficking and furnishing, unlawful possession of scheduled drugs, trafficking, furnishing or possession of hypodermic apparatuses, use of drug paraphernalia and trafficking or furnishing of imitation drugs. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1489 - This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to reduce the size of the Senate from no more than 35 members to 32 members as a result of reapportioning to two senators per county. The resolution also requires the redrawing of district lines in 2022 and increases the Senate term from two to four years. **DEAD**

LD 1488 - This bill allows the holder of a registration certificate and a set of gold star family registration plates to be issued a complimentary license to hunt, trap and fish, including permits, stamps and other permissions needed to hunt.

LD 1487 - This bill exempts a person possessing or applying for a registration certificate and a set of gold star family registration plates from the annual motor vehicle registration fee.

LD 1485 - This bill creates the at-risk persons program to provide law enforcement officers with the contact information for a person designated by an at-risk person or that person's legal guardian. The program also provides access to information that may aid in maximizing the safety of the at-risk person during an encounter with a law enforcement officer.

LD 1484 - This bill changes the requirements for persons responsible for public burying grounds by changing the documentation of cremated remains buried in a burying ground from a permissive function to a mandated duty to be performed by the responsible person within seven days of the cremated remains being buried. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 257**

LD 1481 – This bill establishes the Big Moose Mountain Regional Development Authority to carry out the state’s public-interest objectives related to the ski area and resort and other related recreational facilities on Big Moose Mountain. The authority is governed by a 10 member board of trustees appointed by the governor, subject to review by the legislative committee having jurisdiction over economic development matters and confirmed by the Senate. Members appointed to the authority may not hold an elected municipal, county or state office. The authority is a public municipal corporation that can sue and be sued, adopt bylaws, exercise the power of eminent domain, charge and collect fees for use of the authority’s properties and services, borrow money and issue bonds. The authority is also allowed to create special utility districts and provide services within its jurisdiction, provide revenue-producing services, pursuant to the Revenue Producing Municipal Facilities Act, and raise and appropriate funds for operating expenses and public works services. The authority must also submit an annual report to the governor and the Legislature describing the authority’s operations, property transactions, accounting of revenues and expenditures, property acquired by eminent domain, bonds issued,

and proposed activities for the ensuing year. The bill provides the authority startup funds of \$400,000 in FY 2020 and \$250,000 in FY 2021 and subsequent years. **Carryover Approved**

April 2, 2019

LD 1477 - This resolution proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Maine to allow the Legislature, or the people by using the direct initiative, to determine whether the Governor, State Senators and State Representatives are elected by a plurality or majority of the votes.

LD 1476 - This bill repeals the law governing a candidate's inspection of ballots and incoming voting lists and amends the law governing the referendum recount procedure to provide for establishing official representatives of both sides of a referendum issue, determining the date of the recount, the hand recount of votes, the availability of election materials for inspection, the resolution of disputed ballots, the resealing of recounted ballots and certification of the election results.

LD 1475 - This bill creates the Act To Eliminate Profiling in Maine, which establishes policies and procedures for law enforcement officers and law enforcement agencies to prohibit and eliminate profiling. The bill defines profiling as the discriminatory practice of a law enforcement officer or law enforcement agency relying, to any degree, on actual or perceived race, gender, ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic status, ancestry or national origin in targeting an individual for routine or spontaneous investigatory activities or in deciding upon the scope and substance of law enforcement activity following the initial investigatory procedure, except when there is trustworthy information, relevant to the locality and time frame, that links a person with a particular characteristic to an identified criminal incident or scheme. Specifically, the bill directs the Board of Trustees of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy to establish policies and procedures to eliminate profiling and require mandatory training and anti-profiling education by all law enforcement agencies in the state. All law enforcement agencies must adopt written policies on profiling. The bill requires law enforcement agencies to implement procedures for receiving, investigating and responding to complaints of profiling. The bill also directs the attorney general to adopt rules and guidelines for collecting and reporting data regarding profiling. Rules must define what data must be collected, how it must be collected and how the data may be reported and used to eliminate profiling and inform law enforcement, the public and the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters and criminal justice and public safety matters.

LD 1474 - This bill requires governmental entities, including municipal and quasi-municipal water utilities, that issue permits or licenses or set rates to evaluate the negative externalities associated with the bulk exportation of water out of a region. The rates assessed and contracts established for bulk water exports that result in the inability to provide public health, safety, and comfort to the residents of a municipality or quasi-municipal district must be approved by the local legislative bodies located within the impacted watershed. The bill also requires assessors, in the determination of the assessed value of a property, to consider any economic benefit or inequity resulting from restrictions placed on the use of the land that are associated with bulk water withdrawal and transport. **DEAD**

LD 1473 - This bill makes the cost of replacing a culvert the expense of the abutter. **DEAD**

LD 1472 - This bill establishes the State Bank and Tax Reduction Commission, which is charged with making recommendations and suggesting legislation for a legal and organizational framework for the establishment and oversight of a state-owned bank and tax rate reduction policy. The commission is required to maintain active communications and submit an annual report to several interested parties, including the Maine Municipal Association. **DEAD**

LD 1471 - This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to rename the Corinna Bridge in the Town of Corinna the PFC Paul Earl Sudsbury Bridge. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 38**

LD 1470 - This bill allows a political subdivision to prohibit the carrying of dangerous weapons at public proceedings and at voting places. It provides an exception to allow the carrying of a handgun by an on-duty law enforcement officer. It defines "political subdivision" as any municipality, plantation, county, quasi-municipal corporation and special purpose district, including, but not limited to, any water district, sanitary district, hospital district, municipal transmission and distribution utility and school administrative unit. **DEAD**

LD 1469 - This bill updates and clarifies provisions of the charter of the Rumford-Mexico Sewerage District regarding the determination of actual apportionable costs, the apportionment of annual costs and rate charges.

LD 1466 - This bill amends the Substance Use Disorder Assistance Program, which is a program that provides grants to municipalities, counties and regional jails to carry out projects designed to reduce substance use, substance use-related crimes and recidivism, to include community-based organizations as entities eligible for grants under the program. "Community-based organization" is defined as a nonprofit community organization that provides substance use disorder services to individuals, including, without limitation, substance use assessment, treatment, education or support group service. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1465 - This bill does the following: (1) Increases the portfolio requirement for new renewable resources from 10% to 50% by 2030 and makes several changes to resource eligibility for the requirement to encourage solar generation and highly productive hydropower resources and to provide minimum efficiency standards for biomass resources. (2) Directs the Public Utilities Commission to procure long-term contracts over a 5-year period for 800 megawatts of grid-scale renewable resources, 90 megawatts of community-based renewable resources and 135 megawatts of renewable resources owned by commercial and industrial electricity customers. For each of these three types of renewable resources, the bill requires the commission to conduct annual solicitations for the long-term contracts and specifies requirements for the procurement process, resulting contracts and resource qualification. (3) Requires that the Public Utilities Commission rules governing net energy billing allow up to 200 customers to share ownership of an electricity generating facility for net energy billing, allow electricity generating facilities of up to one megawatt installed capacity to qualify for net energy billing and require the commission to review net energy billing when the cumulative capacity of electricity generating facilities that participate in net energy billing in the service territory of a transmission and distribution utility

reaches 10% of the utility's peak demand. (4) Directs the Public Utilities Commission to develop a plan for implementing a thermal renewable resource portfolio standard to encourage commercial and industrial pellet and wood heating systems, residential biomass systems and combined heat and power systems fueled by biomass. It requires the commission to submit a plan for the thermal renewable resource portfolio standard by January 1, 2020. (5) Directs the Public Utilities Commission to develop, implement and evaluate a distributed generation pilot program to encourage on-site renewable energy generation. It requires the commission to evaluate the pilot program after three years of operation and report its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters by April 15, 2023. **DEAD**

LD 1463 - This bill establishes, beginning January 1, 2022, a method of automatically registering eligible individuals to vote. The Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, when receiving any documentation from an individual doing business with the bureau, including applying for or renewing a driver's license or nondriver identification card, is required to scan and electronically store the documentation provided by the individual. If the documentation provides proof of eligibility to vote, including citizenship, age and residency, that individual is added to the central voter registration system and relevant information is transmitted to election officials unless the individual, at the time of the collection of the documentation, chooses not to be registered to vote, which the Secretary of State is required to ensure that an individual is given the opportunity to do. An application or document used to collect information that may be used to register an individual must contain a notice that the individual's information may be used to register that individual to vote, meaning that the information would be available by persons other than the state or election officials. An election official must provide the same notice to an individual upon receipt of the registration record from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles and also must inform the individual of the ability to choose not to be registered to vote and to pick a party affiliation. If the individual fails to respond within 21 days, the individual is considered a registered voter if that individual meets the qualifications to be registered as a voter. The Secretary of State and the governor are allowed to designate other state agencies and departments and public and private entities, such as colleges and municipal clerk offices, as so-called source agencies that are allowed to submit registration information to the bureau for inclusion in the central voter registration system, but only if those agencies, as part of their normal course of business, collect information that provides proof of eligibility to vote, including an entity that, as of Jan. 1, 2022, is designated under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 as a voter registration agency that collects information that provides proof of voter eligibility. A source agency is required to comply with the same restrictions regarding sharing and use of documentation as the bureau. Information from a source agency may also be used to update an individual's voter registration. This bill exempts from liability an individual who is not qualified to be a registered voter but who becomes a registered voter by operation of the automatic registration, as long as that individual has not knowingly or willfully provided false information. This bill also requires the Secretary of State to adopt major substantive rules to implement the new automatic voter registration system and submit those rules, along with any proposed legislation necessary for the proper implementation of the new system, to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. Finally, this bill lowers the age at which a person may submit a conditional registration to vote and enrollment in a political party from 17 years of age to 16 years of age.

LD 1462 - This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to change the term of office for State Senators from two years to four years and change the number of consecutive years members of the State Senate and House of Representatives may serve from eight years to 12 years. **DEAD**

LD 1460 – The bill provides for establishment of a drug take-back stewardship program.
Carryover Approved

LD 1455 - This bill authorizes the Aroostook County Board of Commissioners to seek approval from the residents of Township 17, Range 3, WELS, to rename the township to Van Buren Cove.
Passed to be Enacted

LD 1454 - This bill provides that the voters of a congressional district must determine by referendum vote the method used in that congressional district to elect their Representative to Congress. The voters of a congressional district may choose to elect their Representative to Congress by plurality voting or by ranked-choice voting. The bill requires that such a referendum be held in each congressional district on a date established by the Secretary of State, but not later than 180 days after the effective date of the legislation. **DEAD**

LD 1451 - This bill makes changes to the laws governing collective bargaining for municipal, state, judicial and University of Maine System, Maine Maritime Academy and Maine Community College System employees. As proposed, public employers would be required to allow bargaining agents to: (1) meet with individual employees during the work day to investigate grievances and work-related complaints and issues; (2) conduct workplace meetings during lunch and other breaks; (3) meet with newly hired employees, during the workday, without charge to the pay or leave of the employee, for a minimum of 30 minutes within 10 calendar days of employment; and (4) use the e-mail system of a public employer to communicate with bargaining unit members on official matters. Within 10 days of hire, a public employer would be required to provide the bargaining agent information on the new employee, including name, job title, workplace location, home address, work phone number and email address, home email address and home or cellphone numbers (if known), and date of hire. It also provides a collective bargaining agent with the right to use any government building or facility to conduct meetings with its members, as long as that use does not interfere with governmental operations. The government entity may charge the collective bargaining agent for any additional costs that use may incur.

LD 1449 - This bill establishes prohibitions concerning restricting the sharing and use of immigration and citizenship information. It prohibits restricting the enforcement of federal immigration law. It establishes a complaint process and a duty to report. This bill also provides that if the attorney general, upon investigation, determines that a government entity is violating these prohibitions, the attorney general must issue an opinion stating that finding. The government entity has 30 days to appeal the finding to the Superior Court. If the Superior Court agrees with the attorney general, the court must immediately enjoin the policy or practice. The government entity that continues the policy or practice is subject to a \$500 fine for each day the policy or practice remains in effect. If the Superior Court disagrees with the attorney general, the

attorney general must immediately certify that the government entity is in compliance with the law.

LD 1448 - This bill permits a veteran with a service-connected disability rated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to choose to receive a homestead exemption equal to the just value of the homestead multiplied by the veteran's disability rating percentage instead of the current homestead exemption and exemptions for veterans and legally blind persons. **DEAD**

LD 1447 - This bill suspends the use of ranked-choice voting until elections held after Dec. 1, 2023. The bill provides that the laws governing ranked-choice voting are repealed Dec. 1, 2023 unless the Constitution of Maine is amended to authorize the Legislature to determine the method by which the Governor and members of the Legislature are elected. **DEAD**

LD 1445 - This bill establishes the Debt-free Educational Opportunities for Maine Residents program. The bill requires, beginning in fiscal year 2019-20, the Finance Authority of Maine to provide eligible Maine residents a grant in the amount of the cost of tuition and other expenses related to attendance at an eligible school, including the cost of room and board, books, supplies and fees, charged to a student enrolled in courses leading to completion of an eligible program of study on at least a part-time basis at a public institution of higher education in the state in which the student is enrolled, less all other financial aid. An eligible program of study means a curriculum leading to a baccalaureate degree, associate degree or certificate. An eligible full-time or part-time student may receive a grant for one academic year and may receive grants for the equivalent of a four-year baccalaureate program at the eligible school the student is attending.

LD 1444 - This bill changes the distance requirements under the adult use marijuana provisions from 1,000 feet to 300 feet for a marijuana establishment to a preexisting public or private school and makes the method by which the distance is measured consistent with liquor law requirements. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1443 - This bill provides state reimbursement to eligible individuals for the portion of property taxes on their homesteads for a tax year that exceeds the property taxes for the year in which they reached retirement age as defined under the federal Social Security Act. For an individual to be eligible, the individual must be receiving a homestead exemption, have a household income of less than \$40,000 and, if filing individually, have liquid assets of less than \$50,000 or, if household members are filing jointly, have liquid assets of less than \$75,000. **DEAD**

LD 1440 - This bill requires that the name of applicants and the amount of assistance requested from the Department of Economic and Community Development or municipalities for the improvement and development of housing, community and economic development opportunities not be withheld as confidential, but be subject to disclosure. **DEAD**

LD 1439 - This bill encourages the state to use project labor agreements for large-scale state-funded construction projects of \$10 million or more. A project labor agreement is a pre-hire collective bargaining agreement with one or more labor unions that establishes the terms and conditions of employment for a specific construction project.

LD 1438 - This bill requires the secretary of state, with the assistance of the attorney general and the revisor of statutes, to prepare a summary that explains the referendum question to the voter and to place this summary on the ballot after the corresponding referendum question. This summary may not exceed 250 words, except that additional words may be used if the secretary of state considers it necessary and space on the ballot permits. **DEAD**

LD 1437 –This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to allow alternative signatures for persons with disabilities signing a petition for a people's veto and for a direct initiative as authorized by proper enactment by the Legislature. **On Appropriations Table**

March 28, 2019

LD 1435 - This resolve directs the Transportation Committee to study how to reform and adequately supplement funding for the state's transportation infrastructure to promote equity, sustainability and predictability in a manner that allows the state to responsibly provide a safe and reliable transportation system. The committee is authorized to meet for this purpose up to four times when the legislature is not in session, and the committee's report must be submitted by Dec. 4, 2019. The committee may submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature relating to the subject matter of the report. **DEAD**

LD 1432 - This bill amends the adult use marijuana law in several ways. First, it repeals all residency requirements regarding licensure and operations as of June 1, 2021. Second, the bill clarifies that, during the first two years after the first active cultivation facility license is issued, a dispensary or caregiver may transfer both harvested marijuana and marijuana products to an adult use marijuana establishment controlled by that dispensary or caregiver during the first year of that marijuana establishment's operation. Third, this bill allows a marijuana store licensee that is also a registered caregiver or a registered dispensary to sell or offer for sale both adult use marijuana and adult use marijuana products within the same facility or building in which the licensee also sells or offers for sale marijuana or marijuana products to qualifying patients. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1431 - This resolve requires the Department of Environmental Protection to develop proposed legislation to establish a new product stewardship program requiring producers of packaging to assist Maine municipalities in managing and financing packaging waste disposal and recycling programs in the state. The proposed legislation is required also to incentivize producers of packaging to design packaging to be recycled or made of recycled content to strengthen the recycling markets. The resolve requires the department to submit the proposed legislation to the Environment and Natural Resources Committee no later than Dec.16, 2019.

The amendment to the bill removes the emergency preamble and clarifies the scope of the new packaging stewardship program to be developed by the department, which includes per capita reimbursement to help municipalities cover the cost disposing of nonrecyclable packaging. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 42**

LD 1430 - This bill provides clarification related to the eligibility of business investments in renewable energy facilities for purposes of the business equipment tax exemption and provides personal property tax and real estate tax exemptions for renewable energy facilities installed for noncommercial use. Additionally, the bill directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to provide guidance documents to assist municipalities with the assessment of renewable energy facilities.

LD 1428 - This bill requires the state to fund a minimum of 50% of the costs of an approved public preschool program for each year a school administrative unit operates the program, other than the year in which the school administrative unit receives start-up funds for the program. If funds for essential programs and services do not provide the funding necessary to fund a minimum of 50% of approved public preschool programs, the state is directed to use other funding sources and the Commissioner of Education is directed to include the funding levels necessary in the Department of Education's request to the legislature for appropriations from the General Fund. **DEAD**

LD 1423 - This bill changes the standards of conduct for directors under the Maine Nonprofit Corporation Act and for directors and officers under the Maine Business Corporation Act to add compliance with the laws governing monopolies and profiteering and acting in accordance with the purpose for which the corporation is organized and not in a manner that facilitates bias and partiality in governance. It specifies that officers and directors of business corporations may not act to cause a detrimental effect on the purpose of nonprofit corporations. It requires a corporation under the Maine Nonprofit Corporation Act to include a list of private contributions received in its annual report. It requires a corporation under the Maine Business Corporation Act that receives a business equipment tax exemption or participates in a tax increment financing or credit enhancement program to include a list of all donations distributed to nonprofit corporations or public entities in its annual report. **DEAD**

LD 1422 – This concept draft bill proposes to enact measures designed to ensure the fair treatment of women who are incarcerated. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1421- This bill amends the Maine Bail Code in the following ways: (1) Clarifies the rebuttable presumption that, except for formerly capital offenses, a defendant must be released on personal recognizance with no conditions; (2) Increases the burden of proof for justifying not releasing a defendant on personal recognizance or upon execution of an unsecured appearance bond;(3) Removes from the list of authorized bail conditions refraining from the possession, use or excessive use of alcohol or use of illegal drugs, the condition of reporting on a regular basis to the defendant's attorney and returning to custody for specified hours after work release, schooling or other purposes; (4) Removes from bail conditions requirements that the defendant refrain from criminal conduct and that the integrity of the judicial system be ensured; (5) Makes changes to the information that must be taken into account when determining bail for the defendant; (6) Requires a judicial officer when determining bail to find by clear and convincing evidence that imposing a financial condition on a defendant will not cause excessive financial hardship on the defendant and requires that judicial officer to state on the record or in writing the findings upon which the determination is made; and (7) Adds to the list of facts a judicial officer must consider when determining bail whether the defendant is the primary person responsible for

the care of another, has a health care need including a mental health care need that is being met or would be better met outside of custody or has employment that would be affected if the defendant is placed in custody. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1420 - This resolve establishes the Task Force To Study the Current Status and Future Sustainability of Aquaculture in the State. The task force membership consists of legislators, representatives of entities knowledgeable about or involved in aquaculture and representatives of state agencies, associations and commercial fisheries, including a representatives from the Maine Harbor Masters Association, Maine Municipal Association and a municipality with interest and experience in aquaculture. The task force's duties include a review of the report from the Governor's Task Force on the Planning and Development of Marine Aquaculture in Maine dated Jan. 30, 2004 and an assessment of the current status of aquaculture in the state, current production levels and production capacity and environmental effects and the carrying capacity of the coastal marine environment, as well as an examination of aquaculture best practices, relationships with other fisheries, current economic and workforce effects, future opportunities and current and proposed community outreach and education. The task force is required to submit an interim report no later than Sept. 1, 2019 and a final report no later than Dec. 11, 2019 to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources and the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, which may each submit legislation based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. **DEAD**

LD 1419 - This bill allows a municipality in its municipal shellfish conservation ordinance to establish active municipal shellfish management areas where a person licensed under the ordinance may employ and develop methods that enhance commercial production of shellfish, which include but are not limited to protective netting, traps, cages and boxes. This bill requires that: (1) Active municipal shellfish management areas do not encompass more than 10% of the intertidal zone; (2) Only a person authorized by the municipality to engage in permitted activities in an active municipal shellfish management area may harvest any marine organisms; (3) Each person authorized to engage in permitted activities in an active municipal shellfish management area is limited to engage in those activities on no more than two acres of the intertidal zone; (4) An active municipal shellfish management area may not be established in areas closed by the Commissioner of Marine Resources; (5) Any shellfish harvested in an active municipal shellfish management area must comply with minimum size requirements; (6) An active municipal shellfish management area is clearly marked with signs that identify that it has been designated as an active municipal shellfish management area and that harvesting of marine organisms is restricted to only those persons that have been authorized by the municipality; (7) Any gear used in an active municipal shellfish management area is no more than 18 inches above the sediment; and (8) A person engaged in permitted activities in an active municipal shellfish management area report any findings and landing data to the Department of Marine Resources. This bill specifies that a person that harvests any marine organisms from an active municipal shellfish management area in a manner that is not in accordance with law or a municipal shellfish conservation ordinance commits a Class D crime and the fines that are to be applied are the same as those imposed on a person that harvested shellfish from an area closed for conservation purposes that is in current law. **DEAD**

LD 1416 - Current law requires public officials elected to certain positions to complete training on the requirements of the Freedom of Access Act. This bill implements the recommendation of the Right To Know Advisory Committee that officials appointed to those same positions also be required to complete the training, which includes municipal clerks, treasurers, assessors and budget committee members.

March 26, 2019

LD 1415 - Under current law, a presumption of abandonment exists if a municipality fails for a period of 30 or more years to keep a way passable for the use of motor vehicles at the expense of the municipality. This bill eliminates that presumption for ways that have not met that statutory requirement by Jan. 1, 2020 and instead specifies that the only process that a municipality may use to terminate its interests in a public way is through the discontinuance process. This bill also amends the filing required by the clerk of a municipality following the determination of discontinuance by abandonment of a town way to require that the record filed with the registry of deeds include the evidence used by the municipality to make the determination of abandonment and the effective date of that determination of abandonment. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1414 – Under existing law, if an officer or employee of a state government agency or local government entity willfully commits a violation of the Freedom of Access Act, a fine of not more than \$500 may be adjudged. This bill replaces the current penalty provision with a tiered schedule of fines, which includes an up to \$500 fine for a first violation, up to \$1,000 fine for a second violation committed within four years of the initial violation, and up to \$2,000 fine for a third or subsequent violation committed within four years of second violation. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 247**

LD 1412 - This bill provides that employees of school management and leadership centers established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 123 are eligible to participate in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System. It also establishes collective bargaining obligations, duties, liabilities and rights for a school management and leadership center pursuant to the laws governing municipal public employers and includes provisions for the merging of bargaining units of employees of a school administrative unit that also are employed by a school management and leadership center.

LD 1410 - This bill establishes a paid family and medical leave benefits program administered by the Department of Labor. The program provides up to 12 weeks of family leave and up to 20 weeks of medical leave to eligible covered individuals. No more than 20 weeks of family leave and medical leave in the aggregate may be taken in a 12-month period. An individual is eligible for leave under the program after working 26 weeks or more for any employer in the 12 months prior to submitting an application or if the individual is self-employed and has elected to be part of the program. The maximum weekly benefit amount is capped at 100% of the state average weekly wage. The weekly benefit amount is 90% of the portion of the covered individual's average weekly wage that is equal to or less than 50% of the state average weekly wage and 67% of the portion of the covered individual's average weekly wage that is more than 50% of the state average weekly wage. Covered individuals are required to file claims for benefits in accordance with rules adopted by the department and to provide certification that they qualify for family

leave or medical leave. This bill establishes the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Fund to support the program. The funds for administrative costs and payment of benefits will come from payroll contributions by employees. The bill requires payroll contributions to begin Jan. 1, 2021, and benefits will be paid out beginning Jan. 1, 2022. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1408 - This bill allows a state, county or municipal law enforcement officer to wear insignia on the law enforcement officer's uniform to indicate that the officer is a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States. It directs the Department of Public Safety to adopt routine technical rules to implement the change in law.

LD 1404 – This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to apply to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for a waiver from the requirements of federal law and regulations to allow Maine to provide Medicaid-funded direct support services to individuals experiencing homelessness. In addition, the bill provides ongoing funds to the Housing First Assistance Program established within the Maine State Housing Authority to be distributed to community action agencies to assist individuals on the verge of becoming homeless.

LD 1403 - This bill establishes presumptive eligibility for general assistance for persons who are provided shelter at emergency shelters for the homeless. It also reestablishes the 90% reimbursement rate for municipalities that incur net general assistance costs in any fiscal year in excess of .0003% of that municipality's most recent state valuation. It retains the 70% reimbursement rate for other municipalities and Indian tribes for costs below the .0003% of all state valuation amount.

LD 1401 – This concept draft bill proposes to establish a study of transmission solutions to help enable more renewable energy investment in the state. The study would examine areas of clean energy potential; review possible funding mechanisms for advancing renewable energy initiatives, including bonding and public-private partnerships; and recommend measures to increase the pace of renewable energy investment in the state.

LD 1400 - This bill allows, in part, a member of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program or the Participating Local District Retirement Program to purchase up to four years of service credit for time served as a full-time law enforcement officer prior to membership.

LD 1396 - This bill makes administrative updates to the laws governing regional library systems. It promotes cooperation between library systems by replacing library districts with library regions; consolidates district councils by establishing the Maine Library Advisory Council to serve as an advisory body to the library regions; and directs staff of the Maine State Library holding the position of consultant or specialist to provide services to library regions as appointed by the state librarian. The bill also revises the membership and terms of the Maine Library Commission.

The amendment to the bill revises the membership of the Maine Library Commission to reduce from three to two the number of at-large members and provides for the appointment of

one member representing a small college library and one member representing a community college library. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 150**

LD 1395 - This bill adds dispatchers to the categories of participating local district employees for which a special retirement plan is available. Participating local districts that elect to cover their dispatchers by a more favorable special plan are responsible for the payment of any increased employer costs associated with such an election. Depending upon the plan that is elected, dispatchers may also pay an increased member contribution rate for participation in the more favorable special plan.

LD 1394 - This resolve directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to conduct an inventory of surplus state-owned land and structures and to work with the Maine State Housing Authority to determine suitability of identified surplus land and structures for development of affordable housing. It directs the department to report to the Committee on Labor and Housing regarding the inventory and to make recommendations regarding affordable housing by Feb.1, 2020.

LD 1393 – Under current law, plans filed with the county registry of deeds must be drawn on strong linen cloth or polyester film with archival photographic image. This bill requires that all plans dated after Jan. 1, 2020 be submitted on white 20 pound weight paper. The bill also directs the register to maintain a copy, rather than the original and a copy, for public inspection either in paper or digital image format.

LD 1391 - This bill amends the laws governing growth management programs to require that a municipality or multimunicipal region ensure that the language and requirements in charters, ordinances, policies, codes, regulations, bylaws and documents setting out or assessing fees align with each other and meet the overall intent of a comprehensive plan approved by the municipality or multimunicipal region. It also amends the law to encourage the consideration of economic effects by municipalities in their planning. **DEAD**

LD 1390 - This bill, based on the recommendations of the study conducted jointly by the Department of Transportation, the Maine Turnpike Authority and the City of Saco, provides 40% of the estimated cost of the construction of a new exit and spur from the Maine Turnpike to serve communities near Exit 36, including Saco, Old Orchard Beach and Hollis. In addition to the 40% contributed by the department, the study recommended that the Maine Turnpike Authority and the City of Saco contribute 40% and 20% of the total costs, respectively. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1388 - Pending before the Law Court are cases addressing the state's title to intertidal lands. This resolve directs the attorney general to seek review in the United States Supreme Court of any decision by the Law Court that does not fully vindicate the state's title to intertidal lands. If there is no Law Court decision to appeal within two years, the attorney general shall bring a declaratory judgment action in federal court to declare the state's title to intertidal lands, pursuing the case through to an appeal to the Supreme Court if necessary. **DEAD**

LD 1386 - This bill directs the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards, when determining prevailing hourly wages and benefits, to collect one set of data through a survey of

wages and benefits and a second set of data through certified payroll submissions on state construction projects during two weeks in July of each year and to use the higher wage and benefit information of the two data sets to determine the prevailing hourly wage and benefit rate. This bill also increases from \$50 to \$250 the penalty for failing to provide requested information to the bureau.

LD 1385 - This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing corrections officers. It provides a supplemental benefit paid to a corrections officer who is injured by the acts of a patient or prisoner of the jail, prison or state correctional facility where the corrections officer works if the injury qualifies the corrections officer for workers' compensation benefits. It amends the workers' compensation laws by including a rebuttable presumption that a condition of impairment of health caused by an infectious disease resulting in total or partial disability or death of a corrections officer is presumed to have been suffered in the line of duty, unless it is shown otherwise. It amends the workers' compensation laws by including a rebuttable presumption that heart disease or hypertension suffered by a corrections officer was caused in the course of employment as a corrections officer. **DEAD**

LD 1383 - This bill requires a transmission and distribution utility, prior to taking land or an easement by eminent domain, to obtain the approval of the body of government having jurisdiction over the land or easement. Following approval by the body of government, the transmission and distribution utility is still required to obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Public Utilities Commission. The bill makes explicit that the exemption from municipal zoning ordinances regarding real estate used by public utilities does not apply to an elective transmission upgrade, which is a transmission line for which a person developing the transmission line has agreed to pay all of the costs of developing the transmission line without passing those costs on to ratepayers. **DEAD**

LD 1382 - This bill provides the necessary resources and support for kindergarten to grade 12 schools to adopt computer science into their courses and curriculums. The bill establishes a grant program for computer science professional development, including costs of transportation, mentoring and coaching. The bill also requires the Department of Education to develop a statewide plan as well as computer science standards for kindergarten to grade 12 schools. The bill creates a full-time regional education representative position in the Department of Education to support the creation and implementation of the plan and the standards. The bill establishes a grant program for computer devices and instructional materials to provide the tools necessary for schools to implement computer science courses and content. The bill also establishes a computer science teacher certification program for students who are majoring in education in the University of Maine System. Finally, the bill authorizes the Department of Education to adopt rules as necessary to implement the provisions of the bill.

LD 1381 - This bill provides for a comprehensive post-judgment method of relief for a person for whom one or more criminal convictions in which a final judgment has been entered were the result of the person's sexual exploitation or being subjected to sex trafficking. This method of relief is similar to that provided in law to a person whose identity has been stolen and falsely used by another person in a criminal, civil violation or traffic infraction proceeding. The relief

offered is the court's vacating the conviction and the correction of the court records and related criminal justice agency records. **DEAD**

LD 1377 – This bill, in part, establishes the Panel To Review Deaths of and Serious Injuries to Persons with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism. The panel consists of 14 members, one of whom is a law enforcement officer, including a panel coordinator who is an employee of the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention and is a registered nurse. The panel coordinator must review all cases of death of and serious injury to persons with intellectual disabilities or autism receiving adult developmental services and determine those that require further review by the panel. Other individuals may refer cases to the panel, and the panel may choose additional cases from the list of cases provided by the panel coordinator. The panel has access to records necessary for the review. The panel must provide reports to the Commissioner of Health and Human Services and the Maine Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board with findings and recommendations. The panel is required to provide reports to the legislature on an annual basis and may provide trend analyses to the legislature as necessary. Legislative reports are public documents.

March 21, 2019

LD 1375 - This bill makes sexual contact between a law enforcement officer and a person who is not the law enforcement officer's spouse while the person is under arrest, in custody, being interrogated or temporarily detained, including during a traffic stop or questioning pursuant to an investigation of a crime a Class D crime. If the sexual contact involves penetration, the sexual contact is a Class C crime.

LD 1374 - This bill prohibits delivery of medical marijuana except from a registered caregiver with an approved retail store or from a registered dispensary. This bill does not prohibit a caregiver from delivery to patients from the caregiver's 30-plant limit. **DEAD**

LD 1372 - This resolution proposes to amend Maine's Constitution to specify that only a person who is a citizen of the United States may vote in a municipal or other local election. **DEAD**

LD 1371 - This bill extends cable television service to rural areas by requiring all cable television franchises to provide line extensions with a minimum homes-per-mile requirement not to exceed 15 homes per mile. The bill prohibits automatic franchise renewals beyond the initial term of the franchise renewal period, except for automatic franchise renewals in effect on the effective date of this legislation, which require advance notification of expiration from the cable system operator to the municipality. A cable system operator may not refuse to provide the municipality with required information to complete the renewal process. The bill prohibits a cable system operator from modifying or amending the state's model franchise agreement without the consent of the municipality as arrived at during negotiations. The bill includes provisions for the use and support of public, educational and governmental access channels and requires that these channels be placed in the same numerical sequence location as the local commercial network broadcast channels. The bill also requires all cable system operators in the state to carry public, educational and governmental access channels on the basic cable or video service offerings or tiers and specifies that the channels may not be separated or moved

numerically from other channels carried on the basic cable or video service offerings or tiers without the agreement of the local unit of government or the entity to which the local unit of government has assigned responsibility for managing public, educational and governmental access channels, unless the change is required by federal law. In the event of transfer of the franchise license, the same channel numbers used by the incumbent cable system operator must be retained. The bill provides that any public, educational or governmental access channel that has been moved within the 24 months preceding the effective date of this legislation and without the consent of the originator must be restored within 60 days to its original location and number. The bill requires all cable system operators in the state to work with the local unit of government or the entity to which the local unit of government has assigned responsibility for managing public, educational and governmental access channels to ensure that the signal sent from the point of origination to the cable system operator and delivered to the cable subscriber is of the same quality and format as originally created. A cable system operator is required to set up a toll-free telephone number for requests to resolve a signal quality problem. The bill requires all cable system operators in the state to provide the local unit of government or the entity to which the local unit of government has assigned responsibility for managing public, educational and governmental access channels access to the entity that controls the electronic program guides in the same manner as the local broadcast channels if requested by the local unit of government or the entity to which the local unit of government has assigned responsibility for managing public, educational and governmental access channels. In addition, if channels are selected through a menu system, public, educational and governmental access channel designations must be displayed in a similar manner as local broadcast channel designations on the electronic program guide are displayed. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 245**

LD 1369 - This bill directs the State Board of Education to adopt rules to amend the credentialing of education personnel to create a pathway for a teacher to obtain an endorsement on a teaching certificate for a component of industrial arts with an experiential lab that includes, but is not limited to: automotive body repair, diagnostics and mechanics; welding; electrical; carpentry; and computer-aided design. Rules must include at least the following qualifications for a teacher to be eligible for an endorsement: a completed apprenticeship registered with a statewide or national apprenticeship and training organization; a completed two-year degree or certificate from a technical institution accredited by a national association of career and technical schools or similar organization; completion of a minimum number of hours of paid applied employment or teaching in the endorsement area being sought; and completion of a minimum number of hours of experience learning the trade or craft for which the endorsement is sought. **DEAD**

LD 1367 - This bill directs the Department of Transportation to preserve and protect the rail corridors of the state for future railroad use and maintain all rail corridors in a condition that allows for their resuming railroad service. The bill prohibits a rail corridor from being converted into or operated as a trail, used as a pathway or space for walking or biking, used for any other form of non-motorized travel or recreation or used as a bus line without first being evaluated for passenger railroad service. **DEAD**

LD 1364 - This bill prohibits a state agency or instrumentality from committing state funds in a manner that the agency or instrumentality knows would result in a direct payment to an internet

service provider unless the service provider agrees in writing to conform to the net neutrality requirements of the Federal Communications Commission order, FCC 15-24, adopted on February 26, 2015, known as the Open Internet Order.

LD 1363 – This bill establishes two conditions for the issuing of a “certificate of public convenience and necessity” by the Public Utilities Commission for a high-impact electric transmission line (i.e., the type that is being negotiated to bring hydroelectric power from Canada to Massachusetts). The first condition is that the commission find that significant tangible public benefits will result from the construction and use of the line. The second condition is that all municipalities through which the high-impact electric transmission line will pass hold a referendum and certify to the commission that a majority of votes cast were in favor of the construction of the line through that municipality. **DEAD**

LD 1358 - This bill explicitly claims the state's authority and responsibility over all waters in the Maine, whether above or below ground, and directs the state to protect, conserve and manage the water in the interest of present and future generations. **DEAD**

LD 1357 - This bill amends the law regarding the number of agency liquor stores allowed in a municipality from the number being determined based upon the population of the municipality to being determined by the municipality, with existing agency liquor store licenses grandfathered if the municipality authorizes a number of agency liquor stores less than the number of operating liquor stores previously licensed by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations or the municipality does not make a determination. This bill also requires an applicant for an agency liquor store license to be a business licensed in the municipality in which the agency liquor store will be located that has been in existence for at least the three years immediately prior to application and that has been in good standing with every agency of the state for the three years immediately prior to application. **DEAD**

LD 1347 - This concept draft bill proposes to amend the provisions in law regarding high-quality after-school programs. Currently, the High-Quality After-School Programs Fund receives a substantial amount of revenue from federal government. This bill proposes to identify new sources of revenue and increase the quality of the programs offered by requiring matching funds from recipients, making grants competitive (e.g., leveraging existing community resources, involving local government, etc.) and requiring measurable student outcomes, including academic improvement, social emotional learning and family engagement. **DEAD**

LD 1346 – Beginning Jan. 1, 2020, this bill provides for up to 12 days of deduction per month from a sentence of imprisonment for any person sentenced for a crime on or after Oct. 1, 1983 and for any person who commits a crime on or after Jan. 1, 2020 and is subsequently sentenced for that crime as follows: (1) up to six days per month may be deducted if the person's conduct and fulfillment of assigned responsibilities is determined to warrant those deductions; (2) up to four additional days per month may be deducted if the person's participation in educational programming, participation in assigned work, compliance with the person's case plan or fulfillment of other responsibilities is determined to warrant those deductions; and (3) up to two additional days per month may be deducted if the person's participation in minimum security or

community programs in the person's transition plan for community work, education or rehabilitation programs is determined to warrant those deductions. Awarding of these deductions is determined by the chief administrative officer of the state correctional facility or the sheriff of the county jail in which the person has been detained. The bill caps at 12 the total days of deduction per month a person may receive under the state's good time laws. **DEAD**

LD 1345 - This bill requires employers, excluding nonprofit corporation and governmental entities, who employ five or more employees in the state to provide hourly employees at least two weeks' prior notice of the employees' work schedules, with compensation owed for schedule changes under certain circumstances. The bill also requires these employers to keep certain business records for at least three years. The bill provides that the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards may investigate possible violations and receive complaints of possible violations from the public. A fine of \$50 per day is due for any noncompliance. The attorney general may also file a civil action seeking additional remedies. The department may adopt rules regarding compliance with and enforcement of these provisions, and the bureau is required to report to the Legislature periodically on violations of the law and the bureau's efforts. **DEAD**

LD 1342 - This bill establishes the Maine Workforce, Research, Development and Student Achievement Institute and a related steering committee to advise the legislature on matters related to workforce training, research and development, student debt and economic advancement in the state. The bill describes the eight required steering committee members, which includes the Maine Municipal Association, establishes that each member serves a two-year term and requires the steering committee to meet at least four times per year. The bill directs the legislature to contract with the University of Maine System to establish the steering committee.

LD 1341 - This bill amends the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 123, regarding school management and leadership centers, and related laws to change the term "school management and leadership center" to the term "regional service center." It amends the law governing the geographic boundaries of centers to remove the requirement that the Commissioner of Education must determine 9 to 12 geographic areas for the establishment of centers with the requirement that the commissioner must determine the geographic areas for the establishment of centers. It also amends the law governing school management and leadership centers to allow a center to contract for leadership services and hire a fiscal agent. It changes the law allowing a center to borrow funds by removing language requiring debts to be repaid within one year and limiting amounts borrowed to 3/4 of a center's annual approved budget. It amends the law governing the withdrawal of a member school administrative unit from a center to replace the requirement that the member school administrative unit must demonstrate there will be no increases in costs or decrease in student programs or services with the requirement that the member school administrative unit must demonstrate that the withdrawal is in the best interests of the withdrawing school administrative unit and of any of the remaining member school administrative units. It amends the law governing dissolution of centers to replace the requirement that member school administrative units must demonstrate to
3 the Commissioner of Education that there will be no increase in costs or decrease in student programs and services for any of the member school administrative units of a center with the requirement that the school administrative units must demonstrate that it is in the best interests of

the member school administrative units to dissolve the center. It amends the law governing application for and approval of a center to replace voter approval with school board approval. It amends the law governing state funding of a center that provides at least 2 different services to its members to include 55% funding support for contracted leadership services and financial software.

LD 1336 - This resolve directs the Governor to renominate Penobscot Bay for inclusion in the United States Environmental Protection Agency National Estuary Program. **DEAD**

LD 1335 - This bill directs the Department of Transportation to place 3 official business directional signs directing persons to a retail establishment engaged in the business of selling ice cream in the Town of Surry. **DEAD**

March 19, 2019

LD 1332 - This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to provide that a primary election for State Representative, State Senator or Governor must be decided by a plurality of votes cast. It also provides that a primary, general or special election for United States Representative or United States Senator must be decided by a plurality of votes cast. **DEAD**

LD 1330 - This bill requires the Department of Transportation to install whenever practicable a crosswalk at a high-use roundabout on a state highway at least 150 feet from the edge of the roundabout. **DEAD**

LD 1329 - This bill allows, for a period not to exceed 180 days, the placement of a roadside memorial on a public way marking the site of the death of a person and provides penalties for tampering with or the unauthorized removal of a roadside memorial. The person placing the roadside memorial must inform the state or municipality of the location of the memorial within seven days. Memorials cannot interfere with the use of the public way, display a political or commercial message or use reflective materials. While tampering or unauthorized removal of a roadside memorial is a civil violation, municipalities or the state can remove the memorials at any time. **DEAD**

LD 1326 - This bill allows persons who served in the Armed Forces of the United States during the period from February 1, 1955 to February 27, 1961 to qualify for the veterans' property tax exemption based on dates of service. **DEAD**

LD 1323 - This bill addresses public uses of intertidal land by substantially amending the existing laws on intertidal land. It revises the headnote of the chapter to reflect the recognition of expanded uses of intertidal land. The bill replaces most of the legislative findings and purpose language to recite historic uses and note that the evolving public uses of intertidal land confer both economic and general welfare benefits to the citizens of this State. It specifies that there is no difference in whether the state is acting to discharge its public trust duties with respect to intertidal land or exercising its police power to protect the public health, safety and general welfare. The bill defines "intertidal land," which is consistent with the definition in statute, and "submerged land." The bill delineates permitted uses of intertidal land, identifying historic,

recreational and commercial uses. All are subject to state laws and rules, and commercial uses may be subject to licensing, as well. The bill also limits some activities on intertidal land. The bill recognizes the power of the state and municipal police powers that may be used to improve and facilitate uses of intertidal land. **DEAD**

LD 1321 - This bill eliminates the 4% growth limitation cap on county assessments to municipalities to fund county correctional services. **DEAD**

LD 1320 - This bill requires that when the Department of Environmental Protection issues a permit under the Natural Resources Protection Act the department must provide a copy of the entire permit to each municipality in which the proposed activity is to occur.

The amendment replaces the printed bill and clarifies that the department must provide to each municipality in which a proposed activity is to occur a copy of the permitting decision or other authorization or denial when a Natural Resources Protection Act permit is issued or denied or a Natural Resources Protection Act permit by rule is approved or denied. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 181**

LD 1319 - Current law protects a firefighter from disciplinary action by an employer when the firefighter is absent from work at the beginning of the work day because the firefighter is responding to an emergency. This bill extends the protection to a firefighter who leaves work during regular working hours to respond to an emergency and provides the same protections to an emergency medical services person. The bill revises provisions regarding employer notification regarding absences and employee status as a firefighter or emergency medical services person and removes an employer's ability to designate an employee as essential.

LD 1318 - This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to apply for waivers to provide housing-related services, including housing transition and tenancy sustaining services, to individuals with disabilities, older adults needing long-term services and supports and persons experiencing chronic homelessness under the Medicaid waiver provisions. It also directs the department to amend MaineCare rules to implement the waivers once approved. The resolve also directs the department to review any waivers or state plan amendments available under Title XIX of the United States Social Security Act to stabilize access to safe and affordable housing for individuals with disabilities, older adults, individuals needing long-term services and supports and persons experiencing chronic homelessness through the provision of housing transition, tenancy sustainment and case management services and to collaborate with the Maine State Housing Authority to determine how resources may be leveraged more effectively to address housing needs. As part of its review, the department is required to convene a stakeholder group to solicit input regarding methods to improve health outcomes through greater housing stability.

LD 1316 - This bill states that the State owns title to intertidal land not already filled to facilitate marine commerce. The State's ownership is based on federal laws and United States Supreme Court cases that establish and substantiate each state's sovereignty over its intertidal and submerged land, as well as state law, which were not adhered to when the Supreme Judicial

Court decided a pre-statehood colonial ordinance applicable to Massachusetts governs the state's ownership interest in intertidal land. **DEAD**

LD 1312 - This bill creates an extreme risk protection order to authorize a court to order a person to surrender that person's firearms temporarily for 14 days or on an extended basis for 365 days when it is proven that the person poses a danger of causing personal injury to that person or another person. The bill provides that: (1) A law enforcement officer, a law enforcement agency or a family or household member may file a petition for a temporary extreme risk protection order, which may be granted if the court finds probable cause exists to issue the order. The temporary extreme risk protection order expires in 14 days or when a hearing to determine whether to issue an extended extreme risk protection order is held, whichever occurs sooner. A temporary extreme risk protection order may be issued on an ex parte basis; (2) Whether or not the court issues a temporary extreme risk protection order, the court is required to hold a hearing within 14 days to determine whether the person poses a danger of causing personal injury to that person or another person. If the court, based on clear and convincing evidence, finds that an extended extreme risk protection order should be issued, the extended extreme risk protection order must be issued, and it expires 365 days after the issuance of the order unless extended after another hearing; (3) Following the issuance of a temporary or extended extreme risk protection order, the court is required to order law enforcement to serve the order and is required to issue a search warrant if the court finds probable cause that the person who is the subject of the order is in possession of a firearm; (4) A person who is the subject of a temporary or extended extreme risk protection order is required to surrender all firearms in the person's possession to a law enforcement officer or law enforcement agency. The firearms must be returned to the person at the expiration of the extreme risk protection order unless an extended extreme risk protection order is issued; (5) A person against whom an extended extreme risk protection order is issued may request that the order be dissolved and be granted a hearing once during the term of the extended extreme risk protection order; and (6) A person who possesses firearms in violation of an extreme risk protection order commits a Class D crime.

LD 1302 - Current law provides that vacancies in county offices that had originally been filled by nomination by primary election before the general election must be filled by the Governor with a successor from the same political party. This bill repeals those provisions. **DEAD**

LD 1301 - This bill makes all complaints and investigative records of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (ACF) related to violations of the forestry laws confidential during the pendency of an investigation. The bill provides exceptions to allow disclosures to department employees and other agencies and otherwise as determined warranted by the Commissioner of ACF. The provision or disclosure of investigative records of the Department of the Attorney General to a Department of ACF employee designated by the commissioner does not constitute a waiver of the confidentiality of those records. A person who knowingly or intentionally makes a disclosure in violation of this provision commits a civil violation for which a fine not to exceed \$1,000 may be adjudged.

LD 1300 - This resolve authorizes the State to transfer ownership of the Guilford Butler School property in South Thomaston to the Town of South Thomaston. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 1299 - This bill requires the Efficiency Maine Trust to develop a program to provide grants to municipalities, state agencies, colleges and universities to support the purchase of charging stations for electric vehicles and the purchase of electric vehicles. **DEAD**

LD 1297 - This bill: (1) prohibits a tanning facility from allowing an individual who has not attained 18 years of age to use a tanning device; (2) requires that the owner of a tanning facility or the lessee of a tanning device post a conspicuous notice regarding the laws governing tanning and the health risks associated with tanning; (3) requires that each customer, prior to that customer's first use in that calendar year of that tanning device, sign an acknowledgment that the customer understands the posted notice and agrees to use protective eyewear; and (4) authorizes municipalities to adopt more restrictive regulations than required in this bill.

LD 1295 - This concept draft bill proposes to direct the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Corrections to determine the current need for forensic emergency and crisis beds to ensure the prompt and humane treatment of arrested individuals who are suffering from mental illness and awaiting trial. In making this determination, the departments shall consider: (1) the number of currently available forensic emergency and crisis beds; (2) the number of individuals currently awaiting placement pretrial; (3) the annual average number of individuals needing forensic services pretrial; (4) proposals to address unmet needs and associated costs; and (5) other factors that would lessen wait times for placements and provide needed mental health services to individuals pretrial. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1290 - Current law requires pawnbrokers to provide before the 15th day of every month to the law enforcement agency of jurisdiction a summary of the pawn transactions entered into during the preceding month. This bill requires pawnbrokers within 10 days of a pawn transaction to submit a report of the transaction to the law enforcement agency of jurisdiction and to a regional property and recovery tracking system administered by a regional law enforcement agency, currently the Regional Information Sharing Systems Program administered by the New England State Police Information Network, listing information concerning the consumer or seller in the transaction and of every item pawned or sold in the transaction. This bill makes a violation of the reporting requirements a Class E crime.

March 14, 2019

LD 1287 - This bill requires dredging in the Penobscot River south of the former HoltraChem Manufacturing Company site in the Town of Orrington and in Penobscot Bay north of the southern tip of Islesboro Island to comply with certain sampling requirements prior to being permitted under the Natural Resources Protection Act. **DEAD**

LD 1285 – This bill authorizes the Department of Marine Resources to establish criteria for a permit to conduct research in the intertidal zone. **DEAD**

LD 1284 - This bill establishes the Science and Policy Advisory Council on the Impact of Climate Change on Maine's Marine Species to examine the effects of climate change on Maine's marine ecosystems as habitat for the State's valuable commercial marine species and the direct and indirect effects of climate change on those commercial marine species. The council will

identify, study and make recommendations to remediate and mitigate the direct and indirect effects of climate change on marine species that are commercially harvested and grown in the State's coastal and ocean environments. **DEAD**

LD 1282 – This bill does the following: Part A requires competitive electricity providers to demonstrate, by 2040, that their portfolios of supply sources for retail electricity sales in this State are 80% accounted for by renewable resources. It also amends the State's goals for long-term reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Part B creates the Task Force for a Green New Deal, which consists of 11 members including representatives of State Government, climate science, renewable energy, youth, labor and business. The task force is charged with creating a plan to advance environmental sustainability, renewable energy and economic growth for the State. The plan must include, but is not limited to, a renewable resources strategy to achieve 80% reliance on renewable resources for electricity supply by 2040; a job training strategy, including a training program to prepare workers for green jobs; and a residential energy strategy that provides incentives for installation of solar energy systems and heat pumps. The task force is required to submit a report on its plan by January 15, 2020 to the Governor, the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business, the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology and the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. Part C requires the Public Utilities Commission and the Efficiency Maine Trust to submit a report by January 1, 2020 that includes draft legislation to establish a virtual net metering program to encourage installation of solar photovoltaic energy systems on public school buildings. Part D creates the Commission on a Just Transition to a Low-carbon Economy. The commission includes 13 members. The purpose of the commission is to ensure that the State's transition to a low-carbon economy benefits all residents fairly and equitably. The commission is required to submit an annual report to the Legislature.

LD 1280 - This bill establishes the Maine Buy American and Build Maine Act and requires that all contracts for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, improvement or maintenance of a public building or public work made by a state agency, board, commission or institution contain a provision that the manufactured goods, including iron, cement and steel, used or supplied in the performance of the contract or any subcontract to the contract must be manufactured in the United States. This requirement does not apply to counties, municipalities or school administrative units. The bill requires that, in the case of a manufactured good other than an iron, cement or steel product, all of the manufacturing processes take place in the United States and the origin of the manufactured good's components or subcomponents meet a minimum level of domestic content as established by rule. Under the Act, a public agency may apply to the Governor or the Governor's designee for a waiver of the requirement if the executive head of the public agency finds that the application of the requirement would be inconsistent with the public interest, that the necessary manufactured goods are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities and of a satisfactory quality or that inclusion of manufactured goods made in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project contract by an unreasonable amount. The Department of Administrative and Financial Services is directed to develop rules to implement the Act. The bill requires that, if the department has reason to believe that any person, business or other entity has intentionally made fraudulent representations about the domestic content of a manufactured good or has intentionally violated any provision of the Act, the department must, after a hearing, debar that person, business or

other entity from contracts or subcontracts with the State for two years. The bill provides that the provisions of this legislation must be applied in a manner consistent with the State's obligations under any applicable international agreements pertaining to government procurement. The bill also requires that, in the award of a bid for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair, improvement or maintenance of a public building or public work or for services to be provided to or on behalf of the State, if two or more bids are submitted that are substantially similar, preference must be given to the bid submitted by an in-state contractor, which includes a business at which at least 60% of the employees are residents of Maine. If the bid submitted by an in-state contractor is higher than the lowest bid submitted by a contractor that is not an in-state contractor, the in-state contractor must be given the opportunity to match the lowest bid submitted. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1278 - For the purpose of reducing the burden placed on the property tax to finance municipal services, this resolution proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Maine to require that not less than 5% of state sales and income tax revenue be distributed to municipalities. **DEAD**

LD 1271 – This bill provides a complete property tax exemption in the municipality of residence for a veteran receiving benefits based on a rating of 100% for a service-connected disability. **DEAD**

LD 1266 - This bill provides for the formation of transportation corridor districts within the current law relating to transit districts and regional transportation corporations. The bill provides that a municipality may, by itself or in cooperation with one or more other municipalities, form a transportation corridor district for the purposes of providing an environment to fund public transportation and serve accessibility needs, including passenger rail, ferry, bus, bicycle and pedestrian facilities and routes, and promoting economic development at transportation station areas and in downtown areas. The bill requires a municipality or group of municipalities to select the borders of the transportation corridor district. The bill requires that the formation of a transportation corridor district be approved by voter referendum in each participating municipality. The bill authorizes a district's board of directors, with approval from all municipalities in the district, to change the borders of the district. The bill also provides that a transportation corridor district, if approved by voter referendum in each municipality participating in the district, may borrow money temporarily and issue its negotiable notes for that money and issue securities of the district. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 242**

LD 1265 - This bill creates a tax credit for owners of low-income housing developments that qualify for tax credits under federal law and are financed with tax-exempt bonds, located in the state and determined by the Maine State Housing Authority to be eligible for a federal tax credit whether or not a federal tax credit is allocated to the development. A taxpayer that receives the credit must agree to enter a restrictive covenant to maintain and operate the development as low-income housing and follow various federal requirements for 15 years. The state tax credit is for 6 years and has a recapture provision if the basis, as determined under federal law, of the development goes below a certain amount. An insurance company is allowed to apply the credit against the company's insurance premium tax. The Maine State Housing Authority is required

annually to report various details of the qualified developments that received a credit for the prior tax year. **DEAD**

LD 1262 - This concept draft bill proposes to enact measures to ensure that preschools in Maine are eligible for federal E-rate program funding.

LD 1258 - This bill requires the five-year locally coordinated plan for regional transit submitted by each regional public transportation agency to focus on meeting workforce needs. This bill also provides funding to the Department of Transportation to support and expand local volunteer driver networks; to create a pilot purchase of service program in a selected region of the State to provide senior citizens and persons with disabilities vouchers to purchase their own transportation services; and for regional transportation providers throughout the State, split evenly between rural and urban areas, to expand their services, including addressing regional workforce needs.

LD 1257 - This bill authorizes the Secretary of State to require the owner of an electric vehicle to pay an electric vehicle registration surcharge of \$25 per year when at least 3,000 electric vehicles are annually registered in the State. The amount of the surcharge increases to \$50 per year when at least 10,000 electric vehicles are annually registered in the State. The municipality that collects the annual electric vehicle registration surcharge is required to expend no less than 50% of the surcharge to construct or modify public infrastructure that facilitates the charging of electric vehicles for use by the general public or for other purposes that encourage or support the purchase and use by the general public of electric vehicles. The bill also directs the Governor's Energy Office to convene an electric vehicle task force, which is charged with reviewing a number of matters relating to electric vehicles and electric vehicle infrastructure. The director of the office is required to report by February 15, 2020 to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology and the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation regarding any recommendations of the task force, including proposed legislation. After reviewing the report, the committees may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. The bill also directs the Commissioner of Transportation to take a number of actions regarding short-term and long-term planning for road infrastructure and highway funding, including a review of potential new vehicle or road use fees. The commissioner is directed to report by February 15, 2021 to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy, utilities and technology matters and transportation matters regarding those actions and including any findings and recommendations and proposed legislation necessary to implement those recommendations. After reviewing the report, the committees may report out legislation to the First Regular Session of the 130th Legislature. **DEAD**

LD 1255 - This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that a direct initiative of legislation or a competing measure receive at least 60% of the votes cast to become law. **DEAD**

LD 1254 - This bill allows a municipality to impose a local option sales tax, which may be seasonal, on prepared food, not including marijuana or marijuana products, and short-term lodging of no more than 1% if approved by referendum of the voters in that municipality. Revenue from the local option sales tax is distributed 85% to the municipality and 15% to all

other municipalities. The 15% distributed to a municipality must be used by that municipality for the purposes of preventing and treating opioid use disorder in that municipality. Revenue received by a municipality may not be used to reduce or eliminate funding otherwise due the municipality under other provisions of law.

LD 1253 - Current law limits to 500 weeks the duration of death benefits under the laws governing workers' compensation. This bill removes the 500-week cap.

LD 1252 - This bill requires an annual additional \$30 snowmobile registration fee, unless the registrant can show proof of membership in a snowmobile club in the State. It specifies that for a resident family residing in the same household the additional fee is \$30 for up to 4 snowmobiles. Lastly, it requires the transfer of \$20 collected from this additional fee to the Snowmobile Trail Fund and the transfer of \$10 collected from this additional fee to the Snowmobile Enforcement Fund. **DEAD**

LD 1251 - This bill provides that agricultural employees and seasonal employees are subject to the laws that place limits on mandatory overtime. It also provides that agricultural employees are subject to the laws that set a minimum wage and overtime rate. It provides that the laws that set an overtime rate apply to certain activities related to agricultural produce, meat and fish products and perishable foods. **DEAD**

LD 1250 - This bill prohibits an employment contract entered into after the effective date of this legislation from including a clause that requires arbitration of a sexual harassment allegation or claim and makes any such clause void. The bill does not affect the ability of an employer to include any other arbitration clause in a contract or to enforce the provisions of a contract other than the prohibited clause. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1248 - This resolve directs the ConnectME Authority to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy, utilities and technology matters by Jan. 19 in 2020, 2021 and 2022 outlining the progress of the authority in meeting the goals of its Detailed 2019-2021 Strategic Plan for Broadband Service in Maine.

The amendment to the bill incorporates and aligns the reporting requirement in the resolve with the ConnectME Authority annual report, instead of requiring a separate report to the Legislature on the progress on the strategic plan. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 33**

LD 1242 - This bill reinstates the property tax deferral program for seniors which, until April 1, 1991, provided a mechanism allowing qualifying senior homeowners to defer property tax payments and required the State to pay the property taxes on behalf of the homeowners. The bill makes the existing abatement and appeal processes available in cases in which the State Tax Assessor disagrees with the municipal assessment of a property eligible for enrollment in the program and makes other technical changes to the program to bring it into conformity with current law. **DEAD**

LD 1241 – This bill directs the Commissioner of Marine Resources to establish a smoltification success research program to investigate the external influences on smoltification success and

metamorphosis success of nonsalmonid anadromous species and smolt migration success. Specific attention must be given to evaluating the effects of industrial and sewage treatment plant effluents and other pollutants on the timing of smoltification. The program must include the capacity to systematically analyze the effect of a variety of chemicals found in effluents on the timing of the development of and physical health of smolts and recommendations for conservation and management options. The analysis must include the effluence of biological substances such as pheromones from land-based aquaculture. Analysis of these effects must be conducted cooperatively with the industries and communities that discharge into rivers that are significant for Atlantic salmon and other diadromous fish species. **DEAD**

LD 1239 – This bill requires employers with one to 49 employees, explicitly including municipalities, to provide two weeks of paid maternity leave, including existing benefits, to an employee who gives birth and one week of paid parental leave to an employee whose spouse or domestic partner gives birth. Employers with more than 49 employees, explicitly including municipalities, are required to provide four weeks of paid maternity leave, including existing benefits, to an employee who gives birth and two weeks of paid parental leave to an employee whose spouse or domestic partner gives birth. The bill also includes provisions regarding the protection of existing benefits, position restoration, denial of rights and judicial enforcement similar to the provisions of the family medical leave laws. **DEAD**

LD 1237 - This bill repeals the requirement that a bargaining agent for municipal public employees submit a written request for collective bargaining to the public employer of those municipal public employees at least 120 days before the conclusion of the current fiscal operating budget. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 240**

LD 1236 - This bill defines paramedic and paramedic emergency medical treatment in the laws governing the provision of emergency medical treatment. It also authorizes the Emergency Medical Services' Board to establish by rule appropriate licensure levels for paramedics and the qualifications for persons to hold those licenses. **DEAD**

LD 1234 - For property tax years beginning April 1, 2020, this bill increases the value of the homestead exemption benefit under the Maine resident homestead property tax exemption from \$20,000 to \$25,000 and increases the state reimbursement for the lost property tax revenue from 62.5 percent to 100 percent. The bill also provides that the property tax assessed on a homestead eligible for the homestead exemption may not be less than \$100.

LD 1232 - This bill prohibits a person, either in the public or private sector, from being required to join a labor organization or pay any labor organization dues or fees as a condition of employment or continuation of employment, notwithstanding any state law to the contrary. A violation is a Class D crime and is also subject to civil damages and injunctive relief. The Attorney General is responsible for enforcement and is required to prosecute all violations. **DEAD**

LD 1230 – Of greatest municipal significance, this bill requires animal control officers to seize, impound or restrain stray livestock. The municipality is responsible for retaining custody of stray livestock for a period of ten days. The municipality is also responsible for ensuring the

proper care of the livestock while confined, including providing proper sustenance, shelter and necessary medical care. After 10 days, ownership of the livestock vests with the municipality or an animal shelter designated by the municipality, and the municipality or designated animal shelter may sell, adopt, give away or humanely euthanize the stray livestock. This bill also amends the civil animal welfare laws in the following ways: 1) it removes the provision regarding registering a dog as a service dog and issuing a tag identifying the dog as a service dog; 2) it clarifies that the dog licensing fee is waived for an owner who produces documentation that the dog is a service dog; 3) it provides for euthanasia of severely sick or severely injured stray livestock authorized by a veterinarian, humane agent, animal control officer or animal shelter; 4) it provides for immunity for a municipality, veterinarian, humane agent, animal control officer and animal shelter in instances involving handling of stray, severely sick or severely injured livestock; 5) it adds to the animal cruelty provisions the violation of intentionally giving an animal a scheduled drug; 6) it increases the penalties for civil violations involving animal cruelty; 7) it makes the violation of a court order involving a civil animal welfare matter a Class D crime; and 8) it repeals provisions related to stray beasts.

LD 1227 - Current law allows the superintendent of a school administrative unit that neither maintains a school nor contracts for school privileges to request the Commissioner of Education to designate a school administrative unit as the receiving school administrative unit for a student who is unable to find a school administrative unit willing to enroll the student in one of its schools. This bill allows any student's parent or guardian to make a request for any reason to the Commissioner of Education for the student to be transferred. Upon the commissioner's approval, the student must be enrolled in the receiving school administrative unit. **DEAD**

LD 1224 - This bill authorizes the issuance of bonds in the following amounts and for the following purposes: 1) in the amount of \$5 million to be used to support improvements to sea level prediction models by providing more detailed mapping of coastal zones and monitoring sea level changes in order to mitigate the impact of and help prepare for rising sea levels; 2) in the amount of \$6 million to be used to provide partnership funds and matching grants for geospatial data acquisition to communities that are creating or improving digital parcel maps to accurately identify existing boundaries and land use, identify potential community development areas and protect environmental resources; and 3) in the amount of \$3 million to be used to collect data, monitor waterways and perform tests related to the known increasing ocean acidity along the Maine coast and its impact on natural wildlife and commercially important species in Maine waters, such as lobsters and clams.

LD 1223 - This bill amends the requirements for a traffic movement permit for a project by requiring the Department of Transportation to require all reasonable traffic mitigation measures that could avoid the expansion of a roadway. This bill requires an analysis of all modes of transportation affected by the project and a design to ensure that the project does not promote one mode of transportation in a way that negatively impacts another. This bill also requires the department to include within the scope of impact evaluation an analysis estimating the amount of vehicle, pedestrian, bicycle, transit and trail use that could be generated by the project.

LD 1222 - This bill defines and regulates the use of electric bicycles, which are bicycles with a motor and which fall into one of 3 classes, depending on the top speed attainable and whether the

operator needs to pedal while the motor is propelling the electric bicycle. The bill provides that an operator of an electric bicycle has generally the same rights and obligations as the operator of a bicycle, except that the use of an electric bicycle on bicycle paths and bikeways may be restricted by the entity having jurisdiction over the bicycle path or bikeway. An electric bicycle is considered a vehicle for purposes of the state's open container law and, as with bicycles, any person under 16 years of age who is operating or riding as a passenger on an electric bicycle must wear a helmet.

LD 1221 - This bill allows, in addition to existing deductions in time from a prison or jail sentence, a deduction in time of up to 7.5 days per calendar month for a person's satisfactory performance, while in custody or on probation, in the completion of an educational program leading to a high school equivalency diploma, completion of another educational or vocational training program or a work release program or work for a county or state facility industry that leads directly to the rehabilitation of that person.

LD 1219 - This bill establishes the Independent Board To Review Law Enforcement Officer-involved Deaths to review investigations by law enforcement agencies concerning deaths involving law enforcement officers and to issue recommendations to the prosecuting attorneys or Attorney General. The board consists of 7 members appointed to 3-year terms, and members of the board are conferred immunity in performing their duties on the board, except when the plaintiff is the state. The bill requires the board to issue a public report of its findings and conclusions for every officer-involved death in the state. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1218 - This bill amends the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act provision governing how much medical marijuana caregivers may cultivate. It defines the term "plant canopy" and adds language allowing caregivers to cultivate up to 30 mature marijuana plants or 500 square feet of plant canopy, 60 immature marijuana plants and unlimited seedlings. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 256**

LD 1216 - This bill makes the Department of Education's community school pilot project permanent. The department is authorized to designate five community schools in the 2020- 2021 school year and 10 additional schools biannually beginning in the 2021-2022 school year. The Commissioner of Education is required to apply for available federal funds in support of community school implementation and expansion. Community schools are defined as a public elementary or secondary school that: (1) participates in a community-based effort to coordinate and integrate educational, developmental, family, health and other comprehensive services through community-based organizations and public and private partnerships; and (2) provides access to services to students, families and the community, such as access during the school year to services before school hours, after school hours and during the weekend, as well as access to such services during the summer.

March 12, 2019

LD 1213 - This bill repeals the laws governing ranked-choice voting. **DEAD**

LD 1210 - This resolve directs the Commissioner of Corrections to establish a working group to study changes in corrections practices and reinvestment of corrections resources in various ways

to reduce recidivism and control correctional facility costs, including upstream interventions, diversion and alternative sentencing, prevention and harm reduction and mental health and substance use disorder treatment. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1209 - This bill requires a petition for the direct initiative of legislation, once it has been certified by the Secretary of State to be submitted to the Legislature for consideration by the Legislature to receive a public hearing before a joint standing committee of the Legislature or a special legislative committee established by the Legislative Council. The public hearing must be conducted in the same manner as other public hearings.

The amendment to the bill permits the Legislature to waive the public hearing requirement by a two-thirds vote of those present in each House of the Legislature. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 152**

LD 1206 - This bill provides specific authority to a municipality or other applicable licensing authority to manage public rights-of-way, to issue licenses or permits for the use of those rights-of-way by utilities such as wireless telecommunications service providers and cable television systems and to charge a fee for the license or permit. A municipality or applicable licensing authority may order a utility to alter, remove or relocate its facilities. A utility that fails to comply with a written order of a municipality to alter, remove or relocate the utility's facilities is subject to a fine of up to \$1,000 per day for each day the utility remains in violation of the order of the municipality.

The amendment replaces the printed bill and in order to relieve municipal officials from liability for utility poles and facilities in the public way adds language to the existing law specifying that utility poles and facilities are not defects in the public way. The amendment directs the Public Utilities Commission to report to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology in January 2020 regarding actions the commission has taken to address issues related to abandoned utility poles and any associated facilities in the public right-of-way. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 128**

LD 1205 - This bill strikes the provisions of law that require an employer to offset an individual's workers' compensation benefits based on retirement or pension benefits being received by that individual. It also clarifies the law to avoid the interpretation of the Maine Supreme Court in *Urrutia v. Interstate Brands International*, 2018 ME 24, 179 A.3d 312, which allowed an employer to take a credit for past overpayments, due to the employer's failure to take an allowable offset of benefits, by reducing the employer's ongoing payments of workers' compensation benefits. **DEAD**

LD 1204 - Current law caps the weekly benefit payable under the laws governing workers' compensation to a maximum amount set in statute or a percentage of the state average weekly wage, whichever is higher. This bill eliminates the cap on the weekly benefits. **DEAD**

LD 1203 - Once an individual receiving workers' compensation benefits retires and is receiving retirement benefits, there is a presumption that the individual is no longer eligible for workers' compensation benefits related to loss of earnings or earning capacity. Under current law, this

presumption may be rebutted by evidence that the individual is unable to perform suitable work because of the work-related disability. This bill lowers the evidentiary burden on the retired individual collecting workers' compensation benefits by providing that evidence that the individual's retirement was due at least in part to a work-related disability is sufficient to continue eligibility for workers' compensation benefits related to loss of earnings or earning capacity. **DEAD**

LD 1201 - This bill establishes a rental subsidy program within the Maine State Housing Authority for persons experiencing long-term homelessness. The rental subsidy program provides a rental subsidy and housing retention services to a person eligible for the program. **DEAD**

LD 1198 - This bill removes from the laws governing water districts and standard water districts language referencing the appointment of standard district trustees pursuant to standard district charters. It amends the law regarding appointments of trustees to provide that, if sufficient and appropriate nominations for the election of trustees have not occurred, trustees may be appointed. **DEAD**

LD 1196 - This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require candidates for the political offices of Governor, State Senator and State Representative to be elected by a majority of the votes cast for that office. **DEAD**

LD 1195 - This bill requires that a temporary sign, which includes a campaign sign, placed within the public right-of-way that advertises or announces an event must be removed from the right-of-way within 4 weeks after the event and, if the sign is not removed within that 4-week period, the municipality in which the sign is located may remove the sign and assess the individual, entity or organization that placed the sign a fee of \$10. **DEAD**

LD 1194 - This bill increases the property tax exemption beginning on or after April 1, 2020 from \$6,000 to \$10,000 of the just value of a home of a veteran who served in the Armed Forces of the United States during specified periods or who is receiving compensation from the United States Government for total, service-connected disability.

LD 1193 - This resolve directs the Maine Community College System to evaluate the unmet need and capacity for expanding workforce training options in Waldo County with the goal of providing additional capacity for training in industries with identified employee shortages. The Maine Community College System is required to submit a report with suggested legislation by Dec. 4, 2019 to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business, which may submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1192 - This bill amends the utilities laws to provide access by municipalities to facilities located in the municipal right-of-way in the interest of public health, safety and welfare. The bill also establishes the preservation of space for municipal attachments to shared-use poles by exempting municipalities from expenses assessed by joint use entities when the attachment is made for any purpose.

This amendment replaces the printed bill and exempts municipalities from expenses assessed for make-ready work to accommodate the attaching facilities to a shared-use pole for a governmental purpose consistent with the police power of the municipality or for the purpose of providing broadband service to an unserved or underserved area. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 127**

LD 1191 - This bill provides a property tax exemption for solar energy equipment installed on residential property on or after Sept. 1, 2019 to generate electricity or provide hot water to be used in a structure. A person who wishes to claim this exemption shall file with the assessor a written application in the manner prescribed by the assessor within 30 days following the annual assessment date of the municipality. **DEAD**

LD 1188 - This bill requires that firefighter training include preventive and post-trauma counseling, at which a licensed counseling professional or the fire department chaplain must be available to work with the firefighters, as required by the fire chief. The bill provides that, with advice from and in consultation with each regional council and its medical control committee and with the statewide emergency medical services' medical director, the Emergency Medical Services' Board may adopt routine technical rules setting mandatory requirements for preventive and post-trauma counseling for basic and advanced training for emergency medical services' persons for initial licensing and relicensing. The requirements may include the services of a licensed counseling professional or a chaplain to be provided by ambulance services and non-transporting emergency medical services. **DEAD**

LD 1183 - This resolve establishes the Study Committee on Remote Participation to explore the use of remote participation by members of public bodies in this state and other jurisdictions and determine the best way to guarantee government transparency and accountability, goals of the Freedom of Access Act, when considering the use of remote participation. The study committee consists of three members of the Senate and four members of the House of Representatives. The study committee may hold a public hearing to collect public testimony on the use of remote participation. The study committee is required to make recommendations, which may include prohibition of or limitations on the use of remote participation. The study committee is required to submit a report, including any legislative recommendations, to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary no later than Dec. 4, 2019. **DEAD**

LD 1182 - This bill requires that a public school be visited at least two times per week by a law enforcement officer from the State Police, a county sheriff's office or a municipal law enforcement agency when that public school is in session. Visits by law enforcement officers must be unannounced and occur at varying times of the day and week at each public school. The county sheriff's office is responsible for coordinating these visits. **DEAD**

LD 1177 - The municipally relevant elements of the bill amends the labor relations laws governing municipal public employees to provide that determinations by arbitrators with respect to controversies over all subjects, including salaries, pensions and insurance, are final and binding on the parties.

LD 1176 - This bill allows a descendant of an individual or a veteran buried in an ancient or public burying ground to appoint a caretaker to maintain the burying ground when the municipality is unable to care for the burying ground or to appoint a caretaker. **DEAD**

LD 1172 - This bill increases the total exemption amount under the Maine resident homestead property tax exemption program from the current \$20,000 to \$30,000 for the property tax year beginning April 1, 2020 and to \$40,000 for property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2021. This bill also increases the reimbursement rate by the state for the revenue lost by a municipality due to the exemption from 62.5% to 75%, beginning with the 2020-2021 property tax year. **DEAD**

March 7, 2019

LD 1170 - This bill changes the formula for determining the minimum state allocation for a school administrative unit to be the unit's total cost of education, as adjusted, multiplied by 15% or the unit's special education costs, as adjusted, whichever is greater. This bill also guarantees a member municipality a minimum state contribution of 15% of the municipality's total cost of education, as adjusted, and requires the funds to be paid to the school administrative unit and deducted from the municipality's required contribution. **DEAD**

LD 1169 - This bill requires the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board to amend the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code to require that commercial buildings built or renovated on or after January 1, 2020 with occupancy exceeding 200 individuals have an operational automated external defibrillator on the premises. The bill also requires that retail pharmacies, rural health center pharmacies and free clinic pharmacies have an automated external defibrillator on the premises, and that an individual trained in the use of the defibrillator be present at all times the pharmacy is open to the public.

LD 1166 - This bill requires that all state and municipal vehicles that operate on a fixed route system for the purpose of public transportation must be equipped with an automated announcement system that delivers audible messages to passengers regarding transit route, current and next stop and destination of the vehicle. The bill provides an exemption for vehicles that cannot reasonably be equipped with an automated announcement system. **DEAD**

LD 1163 – This concept draft bill proposes to amend the laws regarding energy, utilities and technology. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1159 - This resolve directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF), in consultation and collaboration with interested parties and stakeholders, to collaborate with the Departments of Marine Resources, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Health and Human Services, Labor, Economic and Community Development, Education, Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Bureau of Maine Veterans' Services and the University of Maine Cooperative Extension to develop a comprehensive strategic plan to eliminate hunger in the State by 2030. DADF is required to submit an initial design for the plan by Feb. 10, 2020 to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, which may submit legislation

based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 32**

LD 1158 - This bill amends the property tax fairness credit under the income tax laws for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2020 by changing the formula for calculation of benefits to reflect the calculation that applied under the Maine Residents Property Tax Program, referred to as "the circuitbreaker program," which was in effect prior to enactment of the property tax fairness credit.

LD 1157 - This bill adjusts the tax imposed on gasoline on a seasonal basis, so that the tax is 27¢ per gallon from November 1st to May 31st and 37¢ per gallon from June 1st to October 31st annually. The current tax rate on gasoline is 30¢ per gallon. This bill also repeals the requirement that an inventory tax be paid on gasoline on hand whenever there is an increase in the tax. **DEAD**

LD 1151 - This bill repeals the requirement that a seller of nonresidential real estate provide the purchaser a property disclosure statement that includes information about any abandoned or discontinued roads, public easements or private roads on or abutting the property, if known by the seller, and who is responsible for maintenance of such roads or easements, including any responsible road association, if known by the seller. **DEAD**

LD 1150 - This bill excludes from benefits under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law a parcel of land to which public access for recreational use is limited or prohibited. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1148 - This bill allows a municipality to charge a reasonable fee to a person granted a Department of Marine Resources aquaculture lease on or under coastal waters to pay for the municipality's administrative costs associated with the lease.

The amendment replaces the printed bill and specifies that when a municipality provides the Department of Marine Services with information necessary to complete an aquaculture lease or license application, the municipality may not charge a person applying for the lease or license a fee of more than \$50 for the municipality's administrative costs. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 112**

LD 1147 - This bill limits, by definition, the size of an all-terrain vehicle to 65 inches in width and 2,000 pounds in weight, prohibits operation of motor vehicles on a designated all-terrain vehicle trail that is not on a gravel road system and prohibits operation of all-terrain vehicles on trails posted with size or weight limitations unless that use has been authorized by the landowner or the landowner's agent. It also increases all-terrain vehicle registration fees by \$12, which must be transferred to the ATV Recreational Management Fund.

The amendment replaces the printed bill with a resolve. It directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to review, in consultation with interested parties, the current registration fees for all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles to consider alternatives to the current fee structure and the potential effects on revenue. It requires the commissioner to submit a report to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife detailing the alternatives considered and any

recommendations. It gives the committee the authority to report out a bill based on the commissioner's report. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 35**

LD 1145 - This bill lowers from 70 years of age to 65 years of age the age of eligibility for municipal property tax deferral programs for homesteads of low-income seniors and requires the State to reimburse municipalities for the taxes deferred. The state acquires a lien on the property for the amount of taxes deferred plus interest. **DEAD**

LD 1141 - This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to construct a recreational trail, to be known as the Merrymeeting Trail, along the existing railroad corridor owned by the department from the Town of Topsham to the City of Gardiner. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1140 - This bill requires a law enforcement agency, within 60 days of receiving a complaint for an alleged sexual assault, to inform the appropriate prosecutor of any evidence and submit the complaint to the appropriate prosecutor for review and a decision by the prosecutor regarding further investigation and commencement of prosecution. Failure of a law enforcement agency to do so does not affect the validity of a later submission and prosecution. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 80**

LD 1139 - This bill provides that the Public Utilities Commission may not limit the installed capacity of an eligible facility or the number of accounts or meters a customer or shared ownership customer may designate for net energy billing. Current commission rules limit the capacity to 660 kilowatts and the number of meters or accounts to 10. **DEAD**

LD 1134 - This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to annually set aside 20% of each federal block grant it receives for the most vulnerable communities in the state and 10% of each federal block grant it receives for federally recognized Indian nations, tribes and bands in the state. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1129 - This bill clarifies the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act by standardizing the term "caregiver retail store" by creating a definition of the term and replacing other variations of "retail store" in the Act with "caregiver retail store". The bill also defines "municipal approval" in the provisions regarding marijuana for medical use caregiver retail stores, dispensaries and facilities operating before the effective date of the Act as a specific examination and approval of the underlying use of the store, dispensary or facility, including a conditional use approval, site plan approval or issuance of a marijuana-specific business license and not including the issuance of a building, electrical or other similar permit that does not address the use of the structure or facility for which the permit was issued.

LD 1128 - This bill clarifies that a petition to form a charter commission to establish a new municipal charter must use different language than a petition to revise an existing charter. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 149**

LD 1127 - This bill requires the Public Utilities Commission to direct investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to enter into long-term contracts with community-based solar photovoltaic energy generating facilities. The total amount of resources procured through these long-term contracts may not exceed 100 megawatts, and 20% of resources procured must come from generators with a capacity of less than 2 megawatts. The bill requires the

commission to establish provisions to protect the interests of utility customers over the term of the contracts. The bill sets forth eligibility requirements for community-based solar resources to enter into long-term contracts. To be eligible, a resource must have a capacity of no more than 10 megawatts, have an in-service date between June 30, 2020 and Dec. 31, 2021 and meet local ownership requirements. In addition, to be eligible, the owners of the resource must: (1) demonstrate to the commission completion of an interconnection agreement application with the local transmission and distribution utility; (2) include a plan to obtain all required federal, state and local permits and approvals; (3) demonstrate financial capability to operate the resource over the term of the contract; (4) include a letter or resolution of support from the local community in which the resource is located; and (5) outline expected economic benefits from the long-term contract to the local community in which the resource is located. The bill establishes a minimum contract length of 20 years and requires the contract rate to be less than 9 cents per kilowatt-hour and fixed for a period of at least 20 years. Contracts may be for energy or capacity. The contracts may also include renewable energy credits, or the owners of the resource may retain the renewable energy credits associated with the resource, as determined by the owners. Finally, the bill specifies that available energy contracted for under the provisions of this bill must be sold into the wholesale electricity market in conjunction with solicitations for standard-offer supply bids. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1123 - This bill amends the laws governing development districts designated by a municipality or plantation to provide that costs associated with broadband and fiber optics expansion projects, including preparation, planning, engineering and other related costs in addition to the construction costs of such projects, whether or not such expansion projects serve residential or business areas within the municipality or plantation are authorized project costs. **DEAD**

LD 1122 - This bill expands the types of projects eligible for tax increment financing for municipalities and plantations by including public safety facilities instead of just fire stations, as in the current law.

The amendment to the bill adds public safety facilities to the list of tax increment financing eligible projects, defines a public safety facility and caps the percentage of tax increment financing funds per development district that may be used for public safety facilities located outside the district. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 148**

LD 1121 - This bill adds potable water to lists of necessities in the laws governing profiteering in necessities, municipal general assistance and supplies for jails. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 126**

LD 1119 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$10 million bond issue to provide funds to purchase solar arrays, high-efficiency ductless heat pumps and high-efficiency modern wood heating systems for buildings and property owned by municipalities and school administrative units. The bill also directs the Efficiency Maine Trust to use funds from the bond issue to fund the Municipal Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program (program). Finally, the bill establishes the program within the Efficiency Maine Trust to support municipalities and municipally authorized citizen committees and school administrative units across the state in reducing energy costs, reducing carbon emissions, facilitating the development of renewable

energy resources and creating local jobs related to the building of renewable energy facilities and the installation of energy-efficient equipment. It funds the program with the proceeds of bonds, including bonds issued pursuant to Part A, any other funds allocated by the trust and matching funds from participating municipalities. The program is created only if the voters approve the bond issue.

LD 1116 - This bill: (1) changes the year for the State's goal to eradicate childhood lead poisoning from 2010 to 2030 and requires that a report on progress toward meeting that goal be submitted to the Legislature by January 1, 2025; (2) requires that all Maine children be tested for unsafe exposure to lead at one year of age and 2 years of age; (3) increases the lead poisoning prevention fee from 25¢ to 50¢ per gallon of paint and allows up to 50% of the fee to be used for mandated dwelling inspections and mandated orders to remove lead hazards; and (4) makes permanent five Environmental Specialist III positions created in 2015 and necessary to the operation of the lead poisoning risk assessment and blood lead level testing program.

LD 1114 - This bill adds to the duties assigned the requirement that an animal control officer or law enforcement officer who responds to a report of an animal trapped in a building to attempt to capture and release the animal unharmed unless doing so would pose a threat to public health or safety. **DEAD**

March 5, 2019

LD 1113 - This bill requires a board, commission or panel established to provide the Governor a recommendation on a pardon, clemency or commutation of a sentence to grant a hearing to a petitioner who has been convicted of a nonviolent crime and to consider certain personal criteria of the petitioner, including serving on a municipal organization or board, and allows an appeal of a recommendation of denial to the Secretary of State. This bill also seals criminal history record information regarding convictions for crimes and civil violations relating to personal adult use of marijuana by making the information confidential. **DEAD**

LD 1110 - This bill allows a municipality to impose a local option sales tax if approved by referendum of the voters in that municipality. The referendum question must identify the rate of the local option sales tax, the categories of taxable items the local option sales tax will apply to and the purposes for which the revenue will be used. The local option sales tax would be collected and administered by the State in the same manner as the sales and use tax. Revenue from the local option sales tax is distributed to the municipality imposing the local option sales tax. Revenue received by a municipality may not be used to reduce or eliminate funding otherwise due the municipality under other provisions of law. **DEAD**

LD 1107 - This bill directs the Department of Labor to establish an immigrant workforce development council and, after consultation with the council, to distribute funds through a competitive process to entities that promote integration of immigrants into the workforce and community. The bill also provides funds to support integration of immigrants into the workforce and community. **DEAD**

LD 1101 - This bill amends the shoreland zoning laws to authorize a municipality to adopt an ordinance that exempts pedestrian walkways or trails within the shoreland zone from otherwise applicable setback requirements so long as use of motorized vehicles, other than motorized assistive devices, is prohibited on the walkway or trail and the ordinance maintains certain other protective standards. Any allowed walkway or trail must meet all other state and local permit requirements and comply with all other applicable rules. **DEAD**

LD 1098 - This bill creates an alternative minimum hourly wage that applies to certain designated nonurban areas starting on January 1, 2020. Under this bill the minimum hourly wage rate for those areas is \$11 per hour and increases by 50¢ each Jan.1 until it reaches \$12 per hour on Jan. 1, 2022. The minimum hourly wage stays the same as in current law for Cumberland County, except for the towns of Baldwin, Bridgton, Harrison and Naples. The bill also freezes any scheduled increase in the current minimum wage or the new alternative minimum wage if there is in effect an extended benefit period for unemployment compensation benefits, as determined by the Commissioner of Labor. The scheduled increase or increases will resume once there is no longer an extended benefit period in effect as of January 1st of a given year. It also delays the cost-of-living adjustment for the current minimum wage to Jan.1, 2024, changes the calculation to be the average cost-of-living increase over the prior three years and changes the timing of the cost-of-living adjustment to be every three years instead of every year. It also requires the Department of Labor to submit an annual report analyzing job creation and job loss trends in urban and nonurban areas since the initiation of minimum wage increases established by Initiated Bill 2015, chapter 2, section 1. **DEAD**

LD 1096 - This bill requires the Commissioner of Corrections to establish and maintain a substance use disorder treatment program in the correctional facilities, which must provide for an assessment on intake, provide a variety of behavioral and medication- assisted treatment options and offer peer support and comprehensive treatment options after release. The bill also provides \$2 million in both FY 2020 and FY 2021 to fund the establishment of the substance use disorder treatment program. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1093 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$50 million bond issue to provide funds for investments in railroad infrastructure to expand passenger rail service, with a priority for railroad track corridors that could support passenger and freight intermodal operations and enhance the movement of agricultural products.

LD 1092 - This bill clarifies the qualifications and duties of members of critical incident stress management teams and provides that the services of critical incident stress management teams are provided to employees of state, county or municipal government entities that provide or have the authority to provide fire, emergency medical or police services.

The amendment to the bill expands the list of persons who may be served by a critical incident stress management team and changes the description of the employing entity from "a criminal justice agency" to a "public safety agency" and adds an organization involved in emergency care or response or a county jail or a correctional facility operated by the Department of Corrections. The amendment removes reference to cumulative exposure to stress and traumatic incidents added by the bill. The amendment removes from the bill specific types of

training, instead requiring training in accordance with national best practices and standards established by the Commissioner of Public Safety and providing routine technical rulemaking authority to the commissioner. The amendment removes the requirement that a critical incident stress management team have as a member a licensed mental health clinician. The amendment requires the critical incident stress management team to have a relationship with a licensed mental health clinician who is available for consultation with members of the team as needed and with the team at least once per year. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 89**

LD 1091 - Current law provides that the personal liability of an employee of a governmental entity for negligent acts or omissions within the course and scope of employment is subject to a limit of \$10,000. This bill provides an exception to this limit for an employee who is covered by liability insurance covering the negligent acts or omissions, in which case the limit is equal to the limits of the policy. **DEAD**

LD 1090 - This bill amends the criminal animal welfare laws in the following ways: (1) consolidates and clarifies the provisions for a possession hearing concerning an animal suspected to have been subject to cruelty, including removing the provisions for a show cause hearing; (2) provides for emergency euthanasia of an impounded animal that is severely sick or severely injured; (3) clarifies that a person authorized to make arrests may seize and take possession of a cruelly treated animal; (4) prohibits an owner or keeper of an animal that has been seized or impounded due to cruel treatment from possessing or acquiring an animal prior to the possession hearing; (5) clarifies that an owner or keeper subject to forfeiture of an animal may appeal to the Superior Court; (6) adds to the definition of animal cruelty intentionally giving an animal a scheduled drug; and (7) makes the violation of a sentencing provision for a conviction of animal cruelty a Class D crime.

LD 1088 - This bill requires the Commissioner of Public Safety to add to the list of names on the law enforcement memorial located at the State Capitol complex the name of a law enforcement officer who was killed in the line of duty, who at the time of death was a resident of the State or employed in the State as a law enforcement officer and whose name is approved for inclusion on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial or whose death meets the criteria for line-of-duty death benefits. **DEAD**

LD 1086 - This bill promotes the goals of the state's low-emission vehicle program by requiring the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, Central Fleet Management Division to ensure that not less than 15% of the vehicles purchased for the state fleet are zero-emission vehicles. Zero-emission vehicles include battery electric vehicles, plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and fuel cell vehicles. This bill requires a five percent increase each fiscal year in the number of zero-emission vehicles purchased by the Central Fleet Management Division until 2027-28, when not less than 50 percent of all vehicle purchases must be zero-emission vehicles.

LD 1084 - This bill preempts municipal regulatory authority over the operation of a pedal-powered tour vehicle on a public way, except that the municipality may require evidence of liability insurance and compliance with equipment standards and traffic restrictions established

by the municipality. The bill also defines "pedal-powered tour vehicle" and permits such vehicles to be used on public ways.

LD 1083 - This bill provides that, whenever the state committee of a qualified political party certifies that there is a contest among candidates for nomination as the presidential candidate of the party and that the committee has voted to conduct a presidential primary election, the State shall hold a presidential primary election on a date in March of the presidential election year chosen by the Secretary of State in consultation with the parties. Only voters who are enrolled in the party may vote in that party's presidential primary election. The votes cast in the presidential primary for each party must be tabulated according to the ranked-choice method of tabulating votes. The selection of delegates to the national presidential nominating convention for each party and allocation of those delegates among primary candidates must be in accordance with any reasonable procedures established at the state party convention. The state is required to cover all municipal costs. This bill also requires the ballots cast for presidential electors during the general election to be tabulated according to the ranked-choice method of tabulating votes.

LD 1081 - This bill expands the restrictions on where marijuana may be smoked to include: (1) areas in which tobacco smoking is prohibited; (2) a private residence or on private property when a person under 18 years of age is present; and (3) a vehicle in which a person under 18 years of age is present. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1079 - This bill requires school administrative units to test schools and other buildings for radon every five years. The radon testing must comply with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) recommended testing standards for schools. A school administrative unit must notify parents, faculty and staff of the test results and must report test results to the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), which in turn must report these results to the Governor and the Legislature every five years. The bill also requires school administrative units to build new schools and buildings using radon-resistant new construction techniques as recommended by the U.S. EPA.

LD 1078 - This bill allows the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to license up to 11 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population over 60,000. Under current law, the maximum number of agency liquor stores that may be licensed in a municipality with a population over 45,000 is 10.

The amendment replaces the bill and restructures for clarity current law limiting the number of agency liquor stores. Substantively, the amendment allows the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to: (1) License up to 11 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population over 60,000. Under current law, the maximum number of agency liquor stores that may be licensed in a municipality with a population over 45,000 is 10; and (2) License up to 7 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population over 15,000 but less than 20,001 and 6 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population over 10,000 but less than 15,001. Currently, 5 agency liquor stores are allowed in a municipality with a population over 10,000 but less than 20,001.

Enacted; PL 2019, c. 74

LD 1077 - This bill requires an employer to register with and use the federal immigration verification system, currently known as the E-Verify program, to determine the work eligibility status of new employees physically performing services within the state. **DEAD**

LD 1076 - This bill changes the excise tax on adult use marijuana cultivation facilities from a tax based on quantity to a tax based on a percentage of the average market price for the category of marijuana sold. The bill requires the average market price to be determined quarterly by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services. The tax would not apply to sales by a cultivation facility to a licensee with which it is vertically integrated. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1074 - This bill creates an excise tax of 12¢ per gallon on the extraction of groundwater or surface water for commercial bottling for sale. Sixty-five percent of the revenue from the tax must be used to support the expansion and improvement of high-speed broadband access and 35 percent used to provide tuition grants for up to two years for postsecondary education.

LD 1073 - This resolve establishes an intensive drug treatment court two-year pilot project in the midcoast area of the State to be operational no later than Nov. 1, 2019. The pilot project will serve 10 participants who meet the requirements for participation in drug court programs. The support services provided by the Department of Health and Human Services under the pilot project are more intensive than those provided to current participants in drug court programs. The department is required to provide an interim report on implementation and a final report that includes the results of an independent evaluation of the project.

LD 1068 - This bill allows the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to license up to six agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population of at least 10,001 but less than 20,001; current law allows such a municipality a maximum of five agency liquor stores. **DEAD**

LD 1066 - This bill minimizes conflicts of interest in municipal government operations. The bill precludes the municipal treasurer and tax collector, or town officer performing the duties of either, from simultaneously acting as the municipality's code enforcement officer. The bill requires the town manager to implement a training program for municipal officers and employees on the ethical standards applicable to and the performance risks associated with hiring professional consultants. The bill prohibits a person contracted to provide professional services to a municipality from having a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the business of the municipality. A "pecuniary interest" is defined as any benefit from the professional services provided to the municipality under a contract if the person has an ownership interest in more than 10% of the land area within the municipality and further defines "professional services" as including, but limited to, the services provided by accountants, architects, attorneys, consultants and engineers. **DEAD**

LD 1064 - This bill allows career and technical education centers and regions to offer firefighter training as an approved program and requires the program to use National Fire Protection Association standards for fire fighter professional qualifications as the industry standard for the firefighter training. **DEAD**

LD 1063 - This bill recognizes broadband Internet as a public necessity. It designates a community broadband system or part of that system as a revenue-producing municipal facility. It allows a municipality to construct, maintain and operate a municipal or multi-municipal system composed of infrastructure capable of being utilized by communications service providers for the provision of communications services. The bill prohibits a municipality from providing retail communications services through community broadband systems to non-municipal entities. The bill exempts community broadband systems from taxation.

The amendment to the bill removes the provision that prohibits a municipality from providing retail communication services through community broadband system to non-municipal entities. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 108**

LD 1058 - This bill specifies that a governmental entity that elects to make payments in lieu of contributions into the unemployment compensation fund is not liable to make payments with respect to an individual who voluntarily separates from employment. **DEAD**

February 28, 2019

LD 1054 - This bill clarifies the law relating to the use of burying grounds and family burying grounds. It requires that the description of a burying ground or family burying ground be recorded only in the registry of deeds and not with the town clerk. The bill also allows property surrounding a family burying ground to be conveyed as long as reasonable access, including the establishment of an easement route, is provided to the spouse, ancestors and descendants of persons interred there. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1043 - This bill specifies that it is the goal of the state to ensure that public preschool programs for children 4 years of age are offered by all school administrative units by the 2020-2021 school year. In order to achieve that goal, this bill requires the Department of Education to develop recommendations and report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 1, 2020. Recommendations must include: (1) standards for public preschool programs; (2) a process for approval and certification of programs not operated by a school administrative unit, including, but not limited to, a Head Start program or other program affiliated with the school administrative unit; and (3) funding for public preschool programs. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature to implement the recommendations in the report.

LD 1042 - This bill permits a veteran with a service-connected disability rated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs at 30% or greater to choose to receive a homestead exemption equal to 50% of the just value of the homestead multiplied by the veteran's percentage disability rating instead of the current homestead exemption and exemptions for veterans and legally blind persons. The bill requires the state to reimburse municipalities for 75% of the revenue loss attributable to the new exemption.

LD 1041 - This bill amends provisions relating to collective bargaining by public employees covered by municipal public employees labor relations laws, including: (1) repealing the

provision that prohibits public employees from stopping or slowing work, striking or blacklisting public employers to prevent the employers from filling vacancies; and (2) requiring both parties to collective bargaining to have an individual present who is authorized to reach a tentative agreement. **DEAD**

LD 1040 - This bill allows a landowner to conduct timber harvesting activities on property adjacent to a river, stream, pond, wetland or tidal water that exceed limits established by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Forestry rules if determined necessary by a professional forester in order to meet acceptable forestry standards upon a 5-day notice to the bureau by the landowner stating the area where the timber harvesting activity is to take place, the name of the professional forester, the professional forester's license number and the professional forester's determination of the need for the timber harvesting activity. **DEAD**

LD 1038 - This concept draft bill proposes to improve the training and retention of oil and hazardous materials emergency response workers and their ability to respond to oil and hazardous materials emergencies by requiring the State to: (1) pay or waive the fee for workers for the cost of necessary training courses and any materials required for those courses; (2) compensate workers fairly for the time spent in training courses, while on call and when responding to hazardous materials emergencies; and (3) purchase hazardous materials emergency response equipment for use by municipalities or reimburse municipalities that purchase hazardous materials emergency response equipment.

LD 1036 - This resolve establishes the Task Force To Study the Creation of a Comprehensive Career and Technical Education System to examine the feasibility of establishing a comprehensive 4-year high school career and technical education program to provide a technical high school setting for middle school students to attend at the completion of the 8th grade.

LD 1034 - This bill address Highway Fund revenue shortfalls by increasing: (1) certain fees charged by the Secretary of State for driver's license examinations, temporary license plates, nondriver identification cards, duplicate registrations, titles, driver's licenses, nondriver identification cards and transfers of registrations; and (2) the sales tax on the short-term rental of automobiles and certain pickup trucks and vans from 10% to 12%. The bill also requires 5% of the sales tax imposed on transportation-related items, such as motor vehicles and products for the repair and maintenance of motor vehicles, such as motor oil, batteries and tires, to be transferred to the Highway Fund on a monthly basis. Finally, beginning October 1, 2019, the bill increases the tax imposed on gasoline from 29.5¢ to 36.5¢ per gallon, and the tax imposed on special fuel from 29.6¢ to 37.7¢ per gallon.

LD 1031 - This bill changes the method of computing the excise tax that is levied on motor vehicles, including commercial motor vehicles, buses and camper trailers, and mobile homes registered in the state. With the exception of certain commercial motor vehicles and buses and special mobile equipment, current law requires that the excise tax be based upon the maker's list price for the motor vehicle or mobile home. The excise tax on certain commercial motor vehicles and buses and special mobile equipment is based on the purchase price. This bill requires that the excise tax for all motor vehicles, mobile homes and camper trailers be based upon the actual value of the vehicle or mobile home at the time of delivery to the owner, as

determined by sources approved by the State Tax Assessor. Current law requires the state to reimburse a municipality for the difference in the amount of excise tax that would have been collected by the municipality on each commercial motor vehicle or bus using the manufacturer's suggested retail price instead of the actual purchase price. This bill applies that requirement to all vehicles registered and taxed by the municipality using the actual value. **DEAD**

LD 1027 - This bill removes the 100-megawatt capacity limit for a hydroelectric generator that meets all state and federal fish passage requirements applicable to generators to qualify as a renewable capacity resource and for a hydroelectric generator to qualify as a renewable resource for the purpose of meeting the state's renewable resource portfolio requirement. **DEAD**

LD 1026 – This bill requires the Secretary of State to: (1) Publish a guide to election procedures for public distribution and revise the guide annually to reflect current law, rules and procedures regarding elections. (2) Provide and require local election officials to complete and submit a checklist of voting place election procedures and a ballot reconciliation form that accounts for ballots delivered, ballots voted, absentee ballots mailed and returned, spoiled ballots, unused ballots, challenged ballots and ballots unaccounted for. (3) Develop an election complaint process for use by election officials and the public to report excessive wait times, noncompliance with election procedures or other concerns about the election process. (4) Maintain automatic voter registration information and contract with a nonprofit corporation of member states to maintain the information. (5) No later than 12 months after the election, provide the Legislature with a report summarizing: (a) the information obtained from submitted election voting place checklists and ballot reconciliation forms; (b) election day complaints; (c) voters removed from the central voter registration system since the prior general election; (d) recounts conducted, including a description of any discrepancies in vote totals and explanations for discrepancies when available; as well as recommendations for resolving identified problems with the election process at the state or local level. (6) Establish an ad hoc committee, composed of state and municipal election officials, election security advocates and registered voters, to conduct a study of best practices in post-election ballot audits, recounts and the intersection of audits with recounts. The study must include nonbinding, post-certification pilot audits of both plurality and ranked-choice elections. The Secretary of State shall by Dec. 6, 2023 submit a report based upon the study with any recommended legislation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over election matters. The joint standing committee may report out a bill based upon the report to the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

LD 1020 - This bill allows the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to license up to 8 agency liquor stores in a municipality with a population of at least 16,001 but less than 30,001; current law requires a population of at least 20,001 before a municipality qualifies for 8 agency liquor stores. The population threshold to qualify for 5 agency liquor stores remains at 10,001. **DEAD**

LD 1018 – This bill requires the Department of Public Safety to convene a work group to review the laws governing enforcement of protection from abuse orders and how protection from abuse orders are enforced by law enforcement officers. The study must include a review of penalties for submitting malicious or false allegations, especially for the purpose of retaliation, when filing a request for a protection from abuse order. The department shall invite providers of mental

health services, representatives of law enforcement and public safety agencies, medical professionals, members of the legal community with experience in matters related to protection from abuse orders and other individuals who have experience or expertise in protection from abuse orders to participate in the work group. The department is required to submit a report, including any recommended legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety by Dec. 7, 2019. **DEAD**

February 26, 2019

LD 1017 - This concept draft bill proposes to create statutory and regulatory requirements that are designed to prevent harm to employees by substituting for or eliminating highly toxic and hazardous chemicals in the workplace. The bill would apply to industries, including, but not limited to, manufacturing, retail and service; automotive; auto body repair; shipbuilding; paper manufacturing; manufacturing of apparel or apparel components; medical equipment; construction; personal care product or feminine product manufacturing; coatings; textiles; lumber; plastics; technology services; and cleaning and janitorial services. The bill would not apply to agricultural employers in the State.

LD 1016 - This resolve requires the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to solicit bids for the construction of a new facility in Fort Kent to house the district headquarters for the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Forestry. Construction must be started within 60 days following the award of the contract.

The amendment to the bill strikes the requirement in the resolve that bids must be solicited no later than 90 days following the effective date of this resolve and that construction must be started within 60 days following award of the contract. The amendment provides one-time funds to the department for the construction of the facility. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 1014 - This bill provides funding to the Maine Length of Service Award Program to provide length of service awards to eligible volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services personnel.

LD 1013 - This bill clarifies that an individual whose employment is terminated because of the individual's being under the influence of marijuana while on duty or when reporting to work is disqualified from unemployment benefits, as is currently the case for alcohol and illegal drugs.

The amendment includes marijuana in the current disqualification from unemployment benefits for an individual whose employment is terminated because of intoxication while on duty or when reporting to work or engaging in unauthorized use of alcohol while on duty, except for the use of marijuana permitted under the laws governing the medical use of marijuana. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 125**

LD 1011 - This bill clarifies that when an agency provides notice to the Legislature of a proposed rule or the adoption of an emergency rule, it must identify whether the proposed rule or adopted emergency rule is a routine technical rule or a major substantive rule.

LD 1002 - This bill is the Governor's FY 2020 – FY 2021 biennial Highway Fund budget, which advances the following initiatives of municipal significance:

Multimodal Transportation Loans (Part D). Part D of the Highway Fund budget allows the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation (DOT) to use revenue in the Multimodal Transportation fund to make loans to counties, municipalities, state agencies and quasi-state government agencies advancing qualifying multimodal projects.

Local Road Assistance Program (Part J). Part J of the budget repeals the section of law that excludes Marine Highways from the calculation of state aid provided under the Local Road Assistance Program (LRAP). Under existing law, nine percent of the Highway Fund revenues allocated to the DOT, excluding Marine Highway funding, is distributed to municipalities. The change proposed in the budget increases LRAP funding by \$396,000 over the next two years, resulting in roughly \$21.3 million in local road assistance funding in both FY 2020 and FY 2021.

LD 1001 – This bill is the Governor's FY 2020 – FY 2021 biennial General Fund Budget, which advances the following initiatives of municipal significance:

Revenue Sharing (Part H). Under current statute, funding for the state-municipal revenue sharing program is restored to five percent of state sales and income taxes on July 1, 2019 (FY 2020). However, the proposed budget reduces the amount of state tax revenue shared with municipalities to 2.5 percent in FY 2020 and three percent in FY 2021. As proposed, funding for the program will increase from the current \$71 million to \$89.2 million in FY 2020 and \$115.7 million in FY 2021. Funding at the five percent level would increase municipal revenue sharing distributions to \$174.4 million and \$190.3 million in the first and second years of the biennium, respectively.

Funding Homestead Program Changes. In her overview document, Governor Mills states the budget funds “changes to the Homestead program to increase municipal aid by more than \$5 million a year”. The \$5 million investment ensures that adequate funding is available in both years of the biennium to reimburse municipalities at the current 62.5% level of lost revenue, which is projected at \$68.5 million in FY 2020, and \$69 million in FY 2021.

Funding for K-12 Education (Part C). \$2.28 billion is calculated by the Essential Programs and Services (EPS) model, including the normal cost of teacher retirement, as necessary to fund K-12 education in FY 2020. The state's proposed contribution to those costs is \$1.16 billion, accounting for 50.71 percent of total expenditures.

The budget allocates an additional \$224 million as the state's share of the total unfunded actuarial liabilities (UAL) of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System that are attributable to teacher and retired teacher health and life insurance benefits. The UAL appropriation brings the total costs of K-12 education to \$2.51 billion, with the state's \$1.38 billion appropriation accounting for 55.1 percent of total expenditures.

For FY 2020, the minimum local share for the cost of funding K-12 education is \$1.13 billion and the mill rate expectation is 8.28, both of which represent a reduction in local costs.

K-12 Education Funding

	Budgeted	Proposed	
	FY 2019	FY 2020	Change
Total EPS & Normal Teacher Retire	\$ 2,249,579,653	\$ 2,288,878,518	\$ 39,298,865
State Share of Total EPS & Normal Teacher Retire	\$ 1,115,378,083	\$ 1,160,733,317	\$ 45,355,234
Local Share of EPS & Normal Teacher Retire	\$ 1,134,201,570	\$ 1,128,145,201	\$ (6,056,369)
State Share as a % of Total, Excluding UAL	49.58%	50.71%	-
Total EPS, Normal Teacher Retire & UAL	\$ 2,431,107,486	\$ 2,512,886,969	\$ 81,779,483
State Share Total EPS, Normal Teacher Retire & UAL	\$ 1,296,905,916	\$ 1,384,741,768	\$ 87,835,852
State Share as a Percentage of Total, Including UAL	53.35%	55.11%	-
Mill Rate Expectation	8.48	8.28	(.20)

Minimum Teacher Salary (Part UU). Beginning with the June 30, 2020 school year, Part UU of the proposed budget increases minimum teacher salaries from \$30,000 to \$40,000.

Funding for County Government Services (Part A). \$18.4 million is appropriated in each year of the biennium to fund county jail operations. This allocation represents an increase from the \$15.3 million provided in FY 2018 and is equal to the amount of state funding provided in FY 2019.

Municipal Planning Assistance (Part FF). Part FF of the proposed budget transfers all funding, roughly \$160,000 per year, for the Municipal Planning Assistance (MPA) Program to the renamed Geology and Resource Information Program.

Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (Part OO). Part OO of the proposed budget relocates the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board from the Department of Public Safety to the Department of Economic and Community Development. It also specifies the inspection alternatives available in communities where MUBEC enforcement is required. The options include: (1) assigning the task to a local building or code enforcement officer; (2) entering into interlocal agreements with other municipalities to share the costs and responsibilities of performing inspection duties; (3) contracting with a county or regional authority to enforce the code; and (4) the use of third party inspectors certified to provide the service.

Office of Outdoor Recreation (Part PP). Part PP of the proposed budget establishes the Office of Outdoor Recreation, which is tasked with promoting Maine’s outdoor recreational opportunities as a means for increasing tourism and supporting statewide economic

growth. Funding for the new program is included in the Office of Tourism's budget, which is provided a revenue increase from the current \$13.6 million (FY 2019) to \$16.8 million and \$17.4 million in FY 2020 and FY 2021, respectively.

ConnectME Authority (Part QQ). Part QQ of the proposed budget relocates the ConnectME Authority from the Office of Information Technology in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the Department of Economic and Community Development.

LD 1000 – This bill is the Governor's FY 2019 supplemental General Fund budget. Of municipal significance, the bill includes a \$2.5 million appropriation for the state's Disaster Recovery Fund. According to the information provided in the governor's budget overview document, this funding will be distributed to municipalities hit by the 2017 wind storm and 2018 coastal flooding events.

Of municipal relevance, the amendment to the bill allocates \$200,000 to the land management and planning division of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to funding capital construction materials, capital improvement to bridges and roads, and other improvement to recreational trails and site used by the public. The amendment also allocates \$400,000 to the Department of the Secretary of State to fund the annual lease of accessible voting system equipment, software and support to municipalities for 2019. **Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 4 (3/14/19)**

LD 999 - This bill allows the use of a shared facility for retail sale of adult use marijuana and products and sale of marijuana and products for medical use, as long as the adult use marijuana and adult use marijuana products are sold using a different cash register than that used for sales of marijuana and marijuana products for medical use. **Carryover Approved**

LD 992 - This resolve directs the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to develop a fully off-road trail corridor linking the East Coast Greenway's northern terminus at the Ferry Point International Bridge in Calais with the Down East Sunrise Trail's eastern terminus at Ayers Junction.

LD 990 – This concept draft bill proposes to make specific changes to the law to improve transportation infrastructure and modes in this state. **DEAD**

LD 989 – This concept draft bill proposes to enact changes to the tax laws to improve the application and efficacy of the tax laws. **Carryover Approved**

LD 988 - This bill removes the exemption to the municipal solid waste disposal surcharge for municipal solid waste generated by a municipality that owns the landfill accepting it or that has entered into a contract with a term longer than 9 months for disposal of municipal solid waste in that landfill facility. The bill also directs the proceeds from the surcharge to the Maine Solid Waste Diversion Grant Program. **Carryover Approved**

LD 985 - This bill repeals the provisions of law that allow diplomas indicating graduation from a secondary school to be based on a student's demonstration of proficiency.

LD 983 - This bill exempts low-head dams from the permitting requirements for repair under the Natural Resources Protection Act.

LD 979 – This bill directs the Commissioner of Education to annually post on the Department of Education's publicly accessible website statewide historical financial data on education funding for a period of no less than 10 years. **DEAD**

LD 973 – This concept draft bill proposes to stabilize the funding for county corrections.
Carryover Approved

LD 970 - This bill directs municipalities to develop policies in the comprehensive planning process that provide for accessory dwelling units, which are dwelling units located within a detached single-family dwelling unit.

The amendment to the bill expands the definition of "accessory dwelling unit" to include a dwelling unit attached to and detached from another single-dwelling unit. It clarifies that municipalities are encouraged to develop policies in the comprehensive planning process that provide for accessory dwelling units, but it does not require municipalities to permit accessory dwelling units. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 145**

LD 969 - This is the placeholder bill for the state's FY 2019 supplemental General Fund budget.

LD 968 - This is the placeholder bill for the state's FY 2020 – FY 2021 supplemental General Fund budget.

February 21, 2019

LD 964 - This resolve establishes the Study Commission to Assess Housing Needs of Persons with Mental Health Challenges and Substance Use Disorder and requires the study commission to assess the housing needs of persons who are living with mental health challenges and who have substance use disorder, with a focus on the needs of such individuals located in rural Maine. The study commission is required to explore methods of expanding the options and availability of housing for such individuals, including options that support the unique housing needs of such individuals, and report its findings and recommendations to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. **DEAD**

LD 960 – This concept draft bill proposed to amend the laws governing size requirements for soft-shell clams and to create a spat collection permit for soft-shell clams.

The amendment replaces the bill and specifies that a municipality with a municipal shellfish conservation ordinance may establish minimum or maximum size limits on shellfish regulated by the ordinance as long as those limits established are no less stringent than any minimum or maximum size limit set in law or rule, except it requires that an ordinance must

establish minimum size limits for soft-shell clams that are at least as strict as state limits. It also clarifies that enforcement of any provision adopted in any ordinance is enforceable only in the municipality in which the harvesting of the shellfish occurs. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 144**

LD 959 - This bill allocates \$200,000 in both FY 2020 and FY 2021 to the Department of Environmental Protection to make grants to the Lake Stewards of Maine for the volunteer lake monitoring program and the Maine Lakes Society for the "LakeSmart" education program. This bill also allocates \$25,000 in both FY 2020 and FY 2021 to the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission for pollution control training programs.

The amendment to the bill increases the annual funding for New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission from \$25,000 to \$50,000. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 958 – This concept draft bill proposes to amend the Maine income tax laws. **DEAD**

LD 957 - This bill increases the maximum credit available under the property tax fairness credit from \$750 to \$1,000 for resident individuals under 65 years of age and from \$1,200 to \$1,500 for resident individuals 65 years of age and older and decreases the threshold from 6% to 5% of the resident individual's income for purposes of calculating the credit. **DEAD**

LD 953 – This concept draft bill proposes to enact an ordinance related to vehicle use in Monhegan Plantation. **DEAD**

LD 952 – This concept draft bill proposes to coordinate and standardize data collection protocols. **Carryover Approved**

LD 951 – This concept draft bill proposes to enact measures to improve the research capabilities of state agencies. **Carryover Approved**

LD 950 – This concept draft bill proposes to develop a state energy plan to provide a pathway to an energy portfolio of fossil fuels. **DEAD**

LD 948 - This bill prevents a political subdivision of the state, including municipalities, from enacting an ordinance, law or rule regulating the posting of property by marking with signs or paint that is different from the provisions in state law. **DEAD**

February 20, 2019

LD 947 – Under current law governing workers' compensation, an employee must provide notice of injury to an employer within 30 days after the date of injury. This bill provides that, for claims for which the date of injury is on or after January 1, 2020, an employee must provide to the employer notice of the injury within 180 days after the date of injury. **DEAD**

LD 945 – This concept draft bill proposes to establish a blue ribbon commission to study and recommend additional funding option to adequately fund Maine’s transportation infrastructure maintenance program.

LD 944 - This bill prohibits a public school from having or adopting a name, symbol or image that depicts or refers to a Native American tribe, individual, custom or tradition and that is used as a mascot, nickname, logo, letterhead or team name of the school.

The amendment to the bill adds the University of Maine System, Maine Community College System and the Maritime Academy to the prohibition. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 123**

LD 941 – This concept draft bill proposes to redefine the status of the Monhegan Lobster Conservation Area. **DEAD**

LD 940 - This bill increases the number of Franklin County commissioners from 3 to 5 and defines the 5 county commissioner districts beginning with the election to be held Nov. 3, 2020.

LD 938 – This concept bill draft proposes to provide a means of sustainable transportation funding for Maine. **DEAD**

LD 937 - This bill amends the state's litter law to provide that a person who releases or abandons a balloon outdoors is subject to penalties under that law regarding the waste materials resulting from that release or abandonment. It also requires a seller of balloons to register with the Department of Environmental Protection and to display in a conspicuous place at each purchase counter warning information developed by the department concerning the risks to the environment and to wildlife posed by waste materials resulting from the outdoor release of balloons; the choking and suffocation risks to children posed by the unsupervised use of balloons; the risks to individuals with latex allergies posed by exposure to balloons made wholly or partly from latex; and the penalties for littering resulting from the outdoor release of balloons that may be imposed by the state's litter laws. The intent of this legislation is to prevent the release into the environment of balloons that pose a danger and a nuisance to the environment, particularly to wildlife and marine animals, and that cause hardship for the municipalities that must clean up the debris from balloons. **DEAD**

LD 936 - This bill establishes the 13-member Commission To Study the Effects of Freshwater and Marine tasked with studying freshwater and marine debris and how it has affected or potentially will affect Maine's freshwater and ocean and coastal ecosystems, habitats and species. The commission must submit a report, including suggested legislation, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters no later than Dec. 4, 2019. **Carryover Approved**

LD 933 - This resolve authorizes persons who claim to have suffered damages arising from the Kittery Community Center transport van accident on Interstate 95 in Greenland, New Hampshire on Aug. 10, 2018 to sue the Town of Kittery for damages resulting from the accident and waives the statutory limitations on damage recovery. **DEAD**

LD 928 – This concept draft bill proposes to create a process to allow the Legislature to preempt the implementation of powers delegated by the Legislature. **DEAD**

LD 927 - This bill requires a person removing a vessel from an inland water body to drain the vessel and other equipment and to remove or open drain plugs, bailers, valves and other devices to drain the water before that vessel is transported. It exempts emergency response vessels from these requirements. **DEAD**

LD 925 - This bill requires the Department of Corrections to reimburse a county for the costs of confining a person who is serving a sentence of more than 6 months or for a probation or parole violation. **DEAD**

LD 923 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$5 million bond issue to provide funds for a competitive grant program that matches local funding for the upgrade of municipal culverts at stream crossings in order to enhance and restore rivers, streams and fish and wildlife habitats and to allow communities to better prepare for extreme storms and floods.

LD 922 – This bill provides a property tax exemption for renewable energy fixtures installed on or after Sept. 1, 2019. “Renewable energy fixtures” include fixtures that: (1) produce energy from solar, wind ocean thermal, wave, or tidal power; (2) enable low-emission advanced renewable energy conversion technologies; (3) are part of a run-of-the-river hydropower facility; or (4) are part of a sustainable biomass facility with an average emission rate no greater than 0.075 pounds of nitrogen oxides per million BTU. **DEAD**

LD 921 – Upon receiving written approval from the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board, this bill authorizes municipalities to adopt building and energy code requirements that are stricter than those contained in the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. **DEAD**

LD 920 - This bill establishes the Fund To Support Local Fruits and Vegetables Purchasing within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to provide incentives to federal food and nutrition assistance program participants for the purchase of locally grown fruits and vegetables and to support outreach for and administration of programs that offer nutrition incentives to participants of federal food and nutrition assistance programs. Fund recipients must be state-based organizations that support local food producers, local food production or low-income individuals in receiving food and nutrition assistance, with priority to organizations that have a demonstrated history of incentivizing the use of federal food and nutrition assistance programs to purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables or that demonstrate the ability to leverage the proceeds to match or receive additional funds from local, state, federal or private sources. The bill provides reporting and audit requirements for recipients to ensure proper use of the funds and appropriates funds to capitalize the fund.

LD 917 - This bill increases the service fees for registrations for motor vehicles from \$3 to \$5 for renewals and from \$4 to \$6 for new registrations. It also increases the service fees for registrations for all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles and watercraft, from \$1 to \$3 for renewals and from \$2 to \$5 for new registrations.

February 19, 2019

LD 915 - This bill specifies that beginning September 1, 2019 the reimbursement rate for ambulance services under the MaineCare program may not be less than the average allowable reimbursement rate under Medicare and reimbursement for neonatal transport services under MaineCare must be at the average rate for critical care transport services under Medicare.

LD 911 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$95 million bond issue to provide funds for the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands and the Land for Maine's Future Board.

LD 910 - This concept draft bill proposes to require the state to consider interests of Maine farmers, growers and food producers as a priority when making decisions regarding the purchase of food. **DEAD**

LD 908 - This bill establishes in law certain requirements of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control related to pest management on school property. It requires a school to maintain a pest management activity log related to the application of pesticides. It requires this information to be provided annually to the board and requires the board to post the information on its publicly accessible website. It also requires that the board post on its publicly accessible website a list of all board inspections of a school's use of pesticides and the results of those inspections.

LD 906 - This bill prohibits the sale of coal tar sealant products beginning October 1, 2020 and prohibits the application of coal tar sealant products on driveways or parking areas beginning October 1, 2021. The Commissioner of Environmental Protection may grant an exemption from the prohibitions for research or development purposes.

LD 900 - This bill allows public employees, including municipal and county employees, state and legislative employees, university, academy and community college employees and judicial employees, but not including employees whose duties include protecting public safety, to strike pursuant to the official procedures of the employees' employee organization or under a process in which an affirmative vote to strike is held. The bill requires that notice be given to the public employer stating the dates upon which the strike will begin and end. The bill also provides that the employee organization or public employer may call for emergency bargaining within 3 days prior to the intended start of the strike.

LD 897 - This bill provides ongoing funds of \$50,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2019-20 for the Capital Riverfront Improvement District. **DEAD**

LD 896 - This resolve directs the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, in conjunction with the Department of Labor, to study the development of a voluntary licensing system for general contractors for home improvement and construction. The department is required to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business by December 4, 2019, and the committee is authorized to submit a bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. **DEAD**

LD 893 - This bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection, working with the Maine Interagency Climate Adaptation (MICA) Work Group, and the University of Maine, to update the Maine Climate Action Plan developed in 2004 by the department. It requires the updated plan to address both mitigation and adaptation strategies. It requires the department and the MICA Work Group to convene a group of stakeholders, including representatives of municipal, government to evaluate the mitigation and adaptation strategies in order to update the plan and provides internships for University of Maine students to work on the development and implementation of the updated plan. The bill also allocates \$400,000 over the biennium to fund the effort. **DEAD**

LD 887 - This bill increases the maximum credit available under the property tax fairness credit to \$2,000 for resident individuals, regardless of age. Current law provides a maximum credit of \$750 for resident individuals under 65 years of age and \$1,200 for resident individuals 65 years of age and older. This bill also removes the inclusion of benefits received under the federal Social Security Act and railroad retirement benefits from being included as income for purposes of determining the credit. The credit is fully refundable after the application of nonrefundable credits. **DEAD**

LD 886 - This bill provides the same protections to volunteer search and rescuers for absences from work in responding to search and rescue operations requested by a law enforcement agency as volunteer firefighters receive for absences from work in responding to emergencies. Under this bill, a volunteer search and rescuer is a person who has been certified in search and rescue practices and procedures by a nonprofit search and rescue training organization recognized by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Bureau of Warden Service.

LD 883 - This bill creates the Maine Paid Family Leave Insurance Program to provide wage-replacement benefits to persons who qualify for family medical leave. The program is funded by employee contributions and provides 2/3 of a person's average weekly wage or 100% of the state average weekly wage, whichever is lower, for up to 6 weeks in any 12- month period. Employee contributions are collected on a sliding scale based on wages. **DEAD**

LD 880 - This concept draft bill proposes to provide methods of allowing the state to respond more quickly to changes in federal law affecting social programs used by citizens of Maine.

LD 879 - This bill requires the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection, to develop a risk assessment tool to evaluate the economic and environmental risks associated with public access, including the issuance of permits for fishing derbies and tournaments, on public waters with documented invasive aquatic plants. It requires the commissioner to utilize the risk assessment tool before the issuance of permits for fishing derbies and tournaments and when making decisions regarding public access on public waters with documented invasive aquatic plants. **DEAD**

LD 877 - Current law distributes 0.9045% of total gasoline tax revenues to programs related to snowmobiles and 0.1525% to programs related to all-terrain vehicles. This bill amends the law to

provide that 0.5285% of gasoline tax revenues funds programs related to snowmobiles and 0.5285% funds programs related to all-terrain vehicles. **DEAD**

LD 873 - This bill sets the annual personal property tax on equipment for water well drilling owned by a licensed well driller at \$2,500 for tax years beginning January 1, 2020 and thereafter.

LD 869 - This concept draft bill proposed to amend the law governing gun control. **DEAD**

LD 868 - This bill provides that the terms of a settlement of a claim against a county or municipality, including a payment by an insurer of the county or municipality, are a public record.

February 14, 2019

LD 862 - This bill limits the amount of money that may be retained under a construction contract, pending the completion of contractor or subcontractor performance, to 5% of the contract price. The limit applies only to private contracts and not to contracts entered into by governmental entities and only to contracts entered into on or after the effective date of the legislation.

LD 861 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$3 million bond issue to provide funds to complete the renovation of a wharf and bulkhead at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute in Portland to bring the wharf back into operation for a fishing vessel berthing resource to support marine research at sea and for continued long-term marine job development.

LD 860 - This bill establishes the Maine Community College System No-cost Tuition Program. Under the program, Maine residents who are determined to be eligible students and who are enrolled in an eligible course of study at a college within the Maine Community College System are eligible for a grant to cover the cost of tuition and mandatory fees, less any federal financial aid or other financial assistance that the student receives that is not required to be repaid. The Maine Community College System must include in its biennial budget for presentation to the Governor and the Legislature the estimated full funding for the Maine Community College System No-cost Tuition Program. **Carryover Approved**

LD 859 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$40 million bond issue to provide funds to make capital improvements to and purchase equipment for career and technical education centers and regions for high school students.

LD 855 - This bill requires that the Commissioner of Public Safety appoint a technical codes coordinator, an office specialist and a building codes trainer. It also requires that municipalities impose a \$3 surcharge on building permits and remit those funds to the Department of Public Safety to fund the Uniform Building Codes and Standards Fund.

LD 854 - This bill expands the allowable use of tax increment financing to include development, expansion or improvement of broadband services, including connecting to broadband service outside the tax increment financing district.

LD 851 - This resolve directs the Department of Transportation and the Maine Turnpike Authority to study their holdings and operations and propose reorganizations effecting efficiencies in both the department and the authority leading to economies of scale within the state's transportation funding regime. The department and the authority are directed to report to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation the results of their study and any suggested legislation by Jan. 15, 2020. The joint standing committee is authorized to report out a bill regarding the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. **DEAD**

LD 850 - This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to place signs directing motorists to the Town of Island Falls on Interstate 95 on the northbound and southbound lanes near the exit closest to the town. **DEAD**

LD 848 - This bill conforms the disclosure requirements for transfers of residential and nonresidential properties that are accessed by means other than a public way. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 142**

LD 847 - This bill provides that single-occupancy bathrooms in existing buildings for use by the general public, including municipal buildings, may not be designated as gender specific. It also requires that new construction of buildings for use by the general public include the construction of single-occupancy bathrooms that meet the standards of construction for new buildings and the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The bathrooms may not be designated as gender specific; the purpose of this provision is to ensure that a person with a disability using the bathroom may be assisted by an attendant of a different gender.

LD 843 - This concept draft bill proposes to clarify the laws governing parental consent regarding the release of student information. **DEAD**

LD 840 - This concept draft bill proposes to control the problems caused by browntail moths by: (1) requiring a state agency, on its own or by contracting with an outside entity, to determine the best practices for controlling or eliminating the browntail moth infestation in Maine; and (2) appropriating funds for payment to members of the public for the collection and disposal of browntail moth cocoons. **DEAD**

LD 839 - This bill increases the sales tax on short-term rentals of automobiles, small trucks and vans from 10% to 15% to provide funding for multimodal transportation. The increase takes effect October 1, 2019.

LD 837 - This bill provides an additional \$30,000 homestead property tax exemption, for a total exemption of \$50,000, for persons who are 75 years of age or older and claimed the homestead as a permanent residence for 10 or more years. The bill requires the state to reimburse municipalities 100% of the revenue lost as a result of the increased exemption for persons 75 years of age or older. **DEAD**

LD 833 - This concept draft bill proposes to amend the laws governing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to provide the same retirement benefits as are provided to law

enforcement officers to state employees working in law enforcement, including emergency dispatchers, staff in the Maine State Police computer crimes unit and crime laboratory, law enforcement staff at the Attorney General's office, and forest rangers.

LD 829 - This resolve reestablishes the 17-member Commission To Improve the Sentencing, Supervision, Management and Incarceration of Prisoners. The members of the commission include four legislators; representatives from the Attorney General's office and Departments of Corrections and Health and Human Services; director of the Adult Community Corrections Bureau; and six members appointed by the governor based on the nominations made by statewide associations representing prosecutors, county commissioners, county sheriffs, criminal defense lawyers and people with mental illness. The commission is tasked with conducting research and preparing recommendations that: (1) reduce overall prison and jail populations; (2) reduce overall costs; (3) accomplish policy improvements to transition prisoners back into the community; (4) preserve community safety; (5) respect the needs of victims and hold prisoners accountable for their actions; and (6) address factors leading to increasing prison populations, the impact of current sentencing laws, the uses of alternate sentences and the means to reduce recidivism. The commission must submit its report to the Criminal Justice Committee no later than Dec. 4, 2019.

LD 828 – This concept draft bill proposes to enact measures to ensure that the name of a deceased individual is not released publicly before the family of the deceased individual has been notified. **DEAD**

LD 827 - This concept draft bill proposes to allow a business to move a campaign sign that is placed directly in front of a storefront.

LD 826 - This bill provides that the \$15 fee imposed to retain a motor vehicle registration number in a year in which new registration plates are issued does not apply for the retention of the registration number of a special veteran's registration plate or a special disability registration plate for veterans. **DEAD**

LD 824 - This bill allows a municipality, by referendum, to exempt all personal property, including business equipment, located in that municipality from assessment and collection of tax by that municipality. **DEAD**

LD 823 - This bill amends the law exempting motor vehicles from certificate of title or certificate of salvage requirements to exempt automobiles and all over-the-road commercial vehicles that are more than 15 years old, unless the Secretary of State determines it is in the best interest of the state and an applicant for certificate of title to issue a title to a vehicle more than 15 years old.

The amendment strikes and replaces the bill and rather than exempting all vehicles more than 15 years old from titling requirements, allows a vehicle that is at least 20 years old according to its model year to be recycled, salvaged or scrapped without a certificate of title. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 141**

LD 818 - This bill provides that by Jan. 1, 2030 the state must reduce net annual greenhouse gas emissions to at least 80% below the 1990 net annual greenhouse gas emissions level. It directs the Department of Environmental Protection to establish interim net annual emissions levels and to monitor and report on gross and net annual greenhouse gas emissions. It directs the department to update the state's climate action plan and evaluate the state's progress toward meeting the reduction levels. The bill also requires the Board of Environmental Protection to establish greenhouse gas emission standards for individual sources or categories of sources. **DEAD**

LD 817 - This bill extends north to Milford Dam between Milford and Old Town on the Penobscot River, with the exception of the Stillwater Branch, the protections currently provided to the lower Penobscot River. It requires the Departments of Marine Resources, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Penobscot Indian Nation and interested federal agencies, to conduct a comprehensive assessment of fish passage barriers, water quality and habitat conditions affecting the full restoration of fisheries within the Penobscot River watershed and the feasibility and costs of mitigating problems and report to the Joint Standing Committees on Marine Resources, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and Environment and Natural Resources. It authorizes the joint standing committees to report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

This amendment removes from the bill the directed comprehensive assessment of the Penobscot River Watershed by the Department of Marine Resources, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Department of Environmental Protection. It also makes a technical correction to a section headnote. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 72**

LD 816 - This bill proposes to adopt an interstate compact to elect the President of the States by national popular vote. Under the compact, the presidential candidate who receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia is elected president. Under the compact, all of a state's electoral votes would be awarded to the presidential candidate who receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. This bill takes effect only if enacted by states possessing a majority of the electoral votes, that is, enough electoral votes to elect a president, which is 270 of 538.

LD 812 - This bill permits a municipality to cap the property tax on the homestead of a permanent resident who is at least 66 years of age or older at the amount billed in the year prior to an application for stabilization. The amount by which the tax assessed exceeds the capped amount must be paid to the municipality by the state. An applicant for a capped tax assessment must be a permanent resident of the state and must have received a property tax fairness credit for the income tax year preceding the application. An application for a capped tax assessment must be made each year to continue eligibility. **DEAD**

LD 811 - This bill amends the law regarding municipal property tax assistance programs to provide more flexibility to municipalities that choose to implement a program by allowing the municipality to establish: (1) A minimum age for eligibility, as long as that age is at least 62 years; and (2) a minimum length of time that the claimant has maintained a homestead in the

municipality. The bill also allows a municipality to impose other eligibility standards and procedures, as long as they are established by ordinance. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 159**

LD 806 - This bill provides that ancient burying grounds include private cemeteries and family burying grounds established before 1880. It also provides that ancient burying grounds may be documented in family papers, records of registers of deeds or municipal records, but that a lack of such documentation, or of apparent marked boundaries, does not negate the existence of, or a place's status as, an ancient burying ground.

February 12, 2019

LD 804 - This concept draft bill proposes to ensure programming for long-term incarcerations at county jails. **DEAD**

LD 801 - Current law requires that law enforcement agencies adopt written policies for the recording of interviews of only suspects in serious crimes. This bill extends that requirement to include recording of interviews of witnesses.

LD 800 - Current law requires that law enforcement agencies only adopt written policies for the recording of interviews of suspects of serious crimes. This bill requires law enforcement officers to record interviews of suspects in custody or otherwise deprived of freedom of action in any significant way whenever feasible and always where questioning occurs at a place of detention.

LD 797 - This bill provides that by Jan. 1, 2050 the state must reduce net annual greenhouse gas emissions to at least 80% below the 1990 net annual greenhouse gas emissions level. It directs the Department of Environmental Protection to establish interim net annual emissions levels and to monitor and report on gross and net annual greenhouse gas emissions. The bill also directs the department to update the state's climate action plan and evaluate the State's progress toward meeting the reduction levels. **DEAD**

LD 795 - This constitutional resolution declares that all individuals have a natural, inherent and unalienable right to acquire, produce, process, prepare, preserve and consume and to barter, trade and purchase the food of their own choosing for their own nourishment, sustenance, bodily health and well-being.

LD 794 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$6 million bond issue to provide funds to recapitalize the Municipal Investment Trust Fund to provide grants and loans to municipalities for public facilities and infrastructure. **DEAD**

February 8, 2019

LD 792 - This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing the issuance of bonds: (1) requires the governor to issue a general obligation bond that has been ratified by the legal voters of Maine unless one of 5 specific conditions exists, including level of debt service and impact on credit rating, and it requires the governor to provide certain information upon delaying or forgoing issuance of a bond; (2) eliminates the requirement that registered bonds bear the

facsimile signature of the governor; and (3) provides that the bill applies to all general obligation bonds ratified by the voters but as yet unissued as well as all future general obligation bonds ratified by the voters.

LD 791 – This bill requires the State, beginning July 1, 2020, to provide a school administrative unit 100% of the funding needed for high-cost special education students. **Carryover Approved**

LD 790 - This bill prohibits the Public Utilities Commission from adopting or amending net energy billing rules to impose any limit on the number of accounts or meters that customers may designate for net energy billing or any limit on the number of customers that may share an interest in a generation facility for which the energy output is credited as part of any net energy billing. **Carryover Approved**

LD 789 – This concept draft bill proposes to appropriate money from the General Fund to support basic government functions.

LD 788 - This bill provides that a law enforcement agency that has in its possession a drug or substance for analysis as a scheduled drug may, in addition to or instead of analysis of the drug or substance in a laboratory, submit the drug or substance for analysis by means of a handheld narcotics analyzer that has been evaluated and certified by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory as reliable for field testing of scheduled drugs. The bill requires that a law enforcement officer who analyzes a drug or substance by means of a handheld narcotics analyzer in accordance with procedures adopted by the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory must upon completion of the analysis issue a signed certificate stating the results of the analysis. The bill provides that such a certificate, when duly signed and sworn to by a person certified as qualified for this purpose DHHS under certification standards set by that department, is admissible in evidence in a court of the state, and gives rise to a permissible inference under the Maine Rules of Evidence, Rule 303 that the composition, quality and quantity of the drug or substance are as stated in the certificate, unless, with 10 days' written notice to the prosecution, the defendant requests that a qualified witness testify as to the composition, quality and quantity. **DEAD**

LD 786 - This bill provides a \$2.5 million appropriation in each year of the biennium allowing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to contract with a nonprofit organization that provides statewide hunger relief services to allow that organization to (1) engage in statewide hunger relief services, including, but not limited to, the purchase of food from Maine food producers and processors; (2) provide grants to local hunger relief programs; and (3) pay its operational and distribution expenses.

The amendment to the bill decreases the ongoing annual General Fund appropriation from \$2.5 million to \$1.5 million. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 785 - This resolve requires the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control to develop and disseminate to the public educational materials that promote the proper use of pesticides and promote integrated pest management. **DEAD**

LD 783 - This resolve directs the Legislature to contract with a nongovernmental entity to perform an independent analysis of the Department of Transportation's I-395/Route 9 Connector Project and appropriates \$25,000 from the General Fund to fund the contract. The nongovernmental entity may not have a direct commercial interest in the I-395/Route 9 Connector Project and must provide a report of its analysis to the Transportation Committee no later than Apr. 19, 2019. This resolve also suspends the project until the independent analysis is complete and provides the Transportation Committee with the authority to make a determination about whether the project may continue. **DEAD**

LD 780 - This bill reduces from \$750 to \$350 the maximum allowable contribution for candidates for municipal office.

The amendment to the bill reduces from \$750 to \$500 the maximum allowable contribution for candidates for municipal office. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 51**

LD 778 - This bill establishes the Fund for Municipalities To Improve Pedestrian Safety as a program account in the Highway Fund within the Department of Transportation. The bill provides that the fund must be used for pedestrian safety improvements, such as lights, paint, signs, speed bumps and reconstruction of intersections. The bill also provides that a municipality or a group of municipalities may apply for funding from the fund. Up to 80% of project costs for pedestrian safety improvements may be financed from the fund with the remainder of the costs provided by the municipality or group of municipalities, except that up to 100% of proposed project costs for pedestrian safety improvements may be financed from the fund if the project is located within an area identified by the Department of Transportation as a dangerous intersection based on pedestrian crash data. The bill also requires the department to notify municipalities of the required biennial report and pedestrian crash data. Finally, the bill provides that the Fund for Municipalities To Improve Pedestrian Safety receives revenue from uncommitted balances in the Multimodal Transportation Fund and other funds from any public or private source. **Carryover Approved**

LD 774 - This bill amends the Maine's coastal management policies laws to ensure that the policies address the effects of coastal erosion on beaches and shoreline and ensure the health of the State's beaches and shoreline for habitat protection for coastal wildlife species and for protection against storms. The bill also creates an advisory group on beach management, to be convened by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection for the purpose of developing and recommending objectives, strategies, legislation and other actions to mitigate coastal erosion in the state and to keep beaches healthy for storm protection, habitat protection for coastal wildlife species and for recreational use. The group is directed to review the report titled "Integrated Beach Management Program Working Group Report," dated January 2017 and submitted to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources in the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature, update the data and findings contained in that report, if necessary, and review and update the specific recommendations for legislative, regulatory or other actions contained in that report, if necessary. No later than Feb. 15, 2020, the commissioner is required to submit a report to the Environment and Natural Resources Committee containing the findings and recommendations of the group following its review of the 2017 report, including any proposed legislation necessary to implement those recommendations. **Carryover Approved**

LD 772 - This concept draft bill proposes to enact measures designed to encourage continued learning by Maine residents, including, but not limited to, creating incentives and implementing strategies to enable so-called stranded learners who have some college credit but no degree to complete degree and certificate programs and graduate from college. **Carryover Approved**

LD 769 - This resolve directs the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to create a working group to study credentialing skilled individuals with foreign credentials in Maine. The working group consists of 8 to 10 members representing licensing boards and professional organizations served by the licensing boards in professions for which there is a need for and an opportunity to credential skilled individuals with foreign credentials. The working group is required to submit its report along with any recommendations and suggested legislation to the governor and the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation. The commissioner is required to submit the report with any recommendations and suggested legislation to the Labor and Housing Committee. **DEAD**

LD 767 - This bill requires the sheriff of a county jail to provide for in-person visitation between a prisoner and a visitor of the prisoner, subject to any conditions and limitations required for the safety and security of the jail as determined on a case-by-case basis by the sheriff. The bill authorizes a sheriff to restrict a particular prisoner to video-only visitation upon a determination that allowing in-person visitation for that prisoner may jeopardize the safety and security of the jail. The bill also requires the sheriff to provide opportunities for in-person visitation involving physical contact between a prisoner and a visitor of the prisoner, subject to any conditions and limitations required for the safety and security of the jail as determined on a case-by-case basis by the sheriff. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 76**

LD 765 - This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to review asset limits for social service programs and revise the limits to increase the effectiveness of the programs.

LD 762 - This bill brings the implied consent provisions concerning operating under the influence into compliance with recent case law from the U.S. Supreme Court that requires a search warrant before taking a sample of blood or urine from a person suspected of operating under the influence.

LD 761 - This bill clarifies current law regarding Medicaid eligibility for incarcerated individuals to ensure that individuals who are eligible for Medicaid coverage are able to renew their coverage while they are incarcerated and also establishes a mechanism to ensure that individuals who are uninsured and eligible for Medicaid coverage are able to apply for coverage while they are incarcerated. The bill also requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide Medicaid coverage for treatment received by an incarcerated person outside a correctional facility as long as, at the time treatment is provided, the person is eligible for Medicaid.

LD 758 - Under current law, an injured worker who is only partially incapacitated by a workplace injury may be eligible for so-called 100% partial incapacity benefits if the worker is not working, as long as the worker can demonstrate that the lack of employment is due to the injury and that the worker has not been able to obtain employment, within the restrictions caused

by the partial incapacity, despite an adequate work search. This bill abrogates the current "work search rule" by placing the burden on the previous employer to demonstrate that there is suitable employment available to the injured worker in the worker's local community. If the previous employer has demonstrated suitable available employment, the injured worker may still be eligible for so-called 100% partial incapacity benefits if the worker can demonstrate continued unemployment despite reasonable efforts to secure the alternative employment identified by the previous employer. **DEAD**

LD 757 – This concept draft bill proposes to provide employees more rights under the labor laws.

The amendment strikes the bill, which is a concept draft, and replaces it with an amendment to the labor relations laws governing municipal public employees. When employees in a collective bargaining unit file a request with their public employer to be represented by a certain organization as their collective bargaining agent, current law allows the public employer to request an election from the Maine Labor Relations Board in order to determine whether the organization indeed represents a majority of the members in the collective bargaining unit. Instead, this amendment would require an election only in such cases if, after examining the demonstration of majority support, the Maine Labor Relations Board finds majority support for the organization to be in question. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 135**

LD 756 - This concept draft bill proposes to enact measure to improve the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992.

LD 755 - This bill removes the 4% growth limitation factor on county tax assessments for jail operations. **DEAD**

LD 753 - This bill provides a process for a voter to request ongoing absentee voter status in a municipality that has approved the use of ongoing absentee voter status, which allows the voter to automatically receive an absentee ballot for each statewide and municipal election until the status is terminated. **DEAD**

LD 752 - This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to seek a waiver beginning with federal fiscal year 2020, which begins October 1, 2019, and for each federal fiscal year thereafter to allow individuals otherwise subject to a 3-month limit on federal food supplement program benefits to continue to receive benefits if those individuals reside in counties, labor market areas or other areas that qualify for a waiver because of high unemployment or a lack of a sufficient number of jobs to provide employment for those individuals. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to calculate the amount of the food stamp standard utility allowance using reliable data reflecting actual utility costs in Maine. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services to request the U.S. Department of Agriculture to waive the asset test for determining the eligibility for the federal supplemental nutrition assistance program of any household in which there is an individual who is 60 years of age or older or an individual with a disability or that does not include children. **DEAD**

LD 751 - This bill reinstates the State's elderly property tax deferral program, which until April 1, 1991 provided a mechanism allowing qualifying senior homeowners to defer property tax payments and required the State to pay the property taxes on behalf of the homeowners. This bill modifies the program's eligibility standards by increasing the household income threshold from less than \$32,000 to less than \$40,000 and adding a liquid asset limit. The bill makes the existing abatement and appeal processes available in cases in which the State Tax Assessor disagrees with the municipal assessment of a property eligible for enrollment in the program. **DEAD**

LD 746 - This bill provides local control to municipalities over the duration of municipal development districts that are funded by assessments and are not tax increment financing districts. Municipal development districts that are tax increment financing districts continue to be subject to the 30-year duration limitation under current law. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 140**

LD 744 - This resolve authorizes the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to lease or sell the state property known as "the Dolby Landfill" located in the Town of East Millinocket.

LD 743 - This concept draft bill proposes to enact certain measures designed to allow for increased flexibility in emergency dispatch protocols. Currently, structured, standardized call-taking processes are implemented to assess a caller's condition, scene information and the appropriate response to dispatch to the emergency. This bill would examine: (1) whether protocol-based call-taking processes result, in certain instances, in delays in emergency response and the need for additional staffing; (2) the extent to which the use of protocols improves or impedes the delivery of emergency services; (3) any outstanding issues associated with appropriate and effective training in the use of emergency dispatch protocols; and (3) the costs associated with the implementation of standardized police dispatch protocols that are borne by municipalities. **DEAD**

LD 741 - This concept draft bill proposes to return surplus state funds to Maine taxpayers by: (1) placing in the General Fund only the amount necessary to cover the outstanding obligations of the state required by law, such as for bond debt and payment of contracts and salaries; (2) after the transfer of funds required to meet the legal obligations of the state, distributing 75% of the remaining funds to Maine taxpayers on a pro rata basis, based on tax data for the 2018 tax year; and (3) after the transfer and the distributions, transferring the remaining 25% to the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund, also known as the Maine Rainy Day Fund.

LD 740 - This bill directs the Department of Transportation to develop and implement a strategy for cargo port development that includes Bucksport and the Penobscot River Basin. **DEAD**

LD 738 - This resolve requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to convene a study group of interested parties, including police departments, to review the crisis response system in the Maine. The study group is directed to evaluate average call times, time on hold when contacting referral services, wait time for mobile units, any decline in number of crisis teams and crisis stabilization unit beds in the state, average length of stay in crisis stabilization units and any other pertinent date. The study group is required to submit its report, including any

recommended legislation, to the Health and Human Services Committee no later than Dec.15, 2019. **DEAD**

LD 736 - This bill requires that when an election is held with a school as a voting place, the school must either be closed or secured according to a plan approved by the municipal law enforcement agency responsible for protecting that school. **DEAD**

LD 731 – This concept draft bill proposed to amend Maine tax laws. **Carryover Approved**

LD 730 - This bill establishes the Substance Use Disorders Cabinet. The cabinet consists of the Commissioners of Corrections, Education, Health and Human Services, Labor and Public Safety, Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court and, at the discretion of the Governor, one member of the public. The cabinet is established to promote interdepartmental collaboration on substance use disorders policy development and program implementation and support service delivery in an integrated manner. The duties of the cabinet include coordinating funding, conducting long-term planning and policy development, coordinating service delivery, assessing resource capacity, reviewing programs and policies and submitting an annual report to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs, criminal justice and public safety matters, education and cultural affairs, health and human services matters, judiciary matters, labor matters and state and local government matters. **DEAD**

LD 727 – This bill requires alternative organizational structures (AOS), a type of school administrative unit, to be funded at the same level as school management and leadership centers.

LD 725 - This bill provides a new employee hiring incentive by means of an income tax credit for employers with an average of 25 or fewer full-time employees during a tax year. The credit is equal to the amount of federal social security tax and Medicare tax paid by the employer for the first 40 hours of employment for new employees who are employed for at least 12 consecutive months for year-round jobs or at least 2 consecutive seasons for seasonal jobs. **DEAD**

LD 723 - This bill provides that all lands beneath the mean low-water mark of waters impounded prior to Jan. 1, 1997 are state-owned submerged lands held in trust for the benefit of the people of Maine. **DEAD**

LD 720 – This concept draft bill proposed to amend the law governing adult use marijuana in Maine.

LD 719 – This concept draft bill proposed to amend the Marijuana Legalization Act.

LD 718 - This bill provides an increase in funding for the adult education subsidy to local school units that operate adult education programs. It also provides targeted funds to improve the capacity of local adult education programs to meet students' academic and work readiness and training needs. **DEAD**

LD 715 - This concept draft bill proposes to change the section of law regarding the allocation of revenue from slot machines operated by casinos, which includes revenues dedicated to the municipality where the machines are located. **DEAD**

LD 713 - This bill gives a law enforcement officer discretion in issuing a warning to a first-time violator of the laws prohibiting negligently feeding, baiting or harassing an endangered or threatened species or feeding, baiting or harassing a delisted species. It removes the requirement that a law enforcement officer must issue a warning to a first-time violator. It increases from Class E crimes to Class D crimes negligently importing, exporting, hunting, taking, trapping, possessing, processing, selling, offering for sale, delivering, carrying, transporting, shipping, feeding, baiting or harassing endangered or threatened species. It also increases from Class D crimes to Class C crimes intentionally engaging in any of those acts with endangered, threatened and delisted species.

LD 712 - This bill amends the school funding formula to fund after-school programs based on the state share percentage and to fund public preschool programs at 50% of the cost of the programs, or if a school administrative unit's state share percentage is greater than 50%, to fund the unit's public preschool program at the state share percentage. The bill also increases the additional weight for economically disadvantaged students from 0.15 to 1.5. The bill also raises the maximum debt service limit for school construction projects from \$126 million to \$150 million beginning in 2020.

LD 710 - This resolve requires the Department of Environmental Protection to study the establishment of a new stewardship program in the State for mattresses and report the results of its study and recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources by December 4, 2019. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 36**

LD 707 – This concept draft bill proposes to require the Department of Transportation to clear vegetation from the sides of roads that poses a risk to drivers. **DEAD**

LD 703 - This concept draft bill proposes to help Maine student succeed. **Carryover Approved**

LD 696 - This bill requires a public employer that determines or suspects there has been a breach of confidentiality or theft of an employee's personal information to notify the employee within 24 hours of being notified of or discovering the breach or theft and to provide the employee financial counseling.

The amendment replaces the bill. It amends the Notice of Risk to Personal Data Act to add municipalities and school administrative units to the definition of "person" to make the Act applicable to these entities. It also exempts these entities from the civil violations provision of the Notice of Risk to Personal Data Act. The amendment specifies that notice to residents of the state of a security breach must be given no later than 30 days after the information broker or person maintaining computerized data that includes personal information becomes aware of a security breach. **On Appropriations Table**

February 7, 2019

LD 694 - This bill replaces language regarding the bonding authority of the Madison Department of Electric Works to provide that it is the electric works that issues bonds for its purposes and not the Town of Madison. The bill also removes the \$1.2 million cap on the issuance of bonds or notes for current operating expenses. **Enacted; P & SL 2019, c. 4**

LD 693 - This concept draft bill proposes to establish and fund a regional prerelease center. **DEAD**

LD 691 - This bill requires that instead of a specific dollar amount the state provide at least 20.22% of the cost of county jail operations to the County Jail Operations Fund for distribution to county jails. **DEAD**

LD 689 - This bill limits the placement of temporary signs related to an event in the public right-of-way by prohibiting their placement more than 6 weeks before the event. **Carryover Approved**

LD 687 - This bill replaces the current State of Maine flag with the one used before 1909.

The amendment changes the bill to a resolve directing the Secretary of State to create a bicentennial flag for the State. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 22**

LD 683 – This concept draft bill proposes to provide social workers to persons with mental illness who are in crisis or pose a threat to themselves or others in order for them to avoid incarceration and protect their safety and the safety of others. **DEAD**

LD 682 - This bill reinstates the state's property tax deferral program, which was in effect for applications filed before April 1, 1991. The bill modifies the program to include households with at least one individual who is 65 years of age or older or who is unable to continue employment due to disability and to surviving spouses who are at least 60 years of age or who are unable to continue employment due to disability and provides that income must be less than \$40,000. This income limit is indexed for inflation in 2021 and annually thereafter. The bill also changes the rate of accrual of interest on deferred property taxes from 6% to the prime rate published in the Wall Street Journal rounded up to the next whole percent minus one percentage point. The bill adds a maximum liquid asset standard for eligibility of property owners and provides that property may not be subject to deferral under both the state deferral program and a municipal deferral program.

LD 678 - This bill requires the Department of Corrections to reimburse a county for 20.25% of the cost of the county's correctional services. **DEAD**

LD 677 - This bill requires the establishment of a record and case tracking system and detailed reporting to the Commissioner of Public Safety when a law enforcement agency seizes, holds or disposes of property as a result of civil forfeiture provisions. The bill provides that reported information is public information and for public access to that information through a website and

mandates reports to the Legislature, Attorney General and Governor. The bill provides rulemaking for the Commissioner of Public Safety and auditing by the State Auditor, with a report from the State Auditor to the Commissioner of Public Safety. The provisions apply to law enforcement agencies, which are defined to include fire departments that seize, hold or dispose of property as a result of an investigation and arrest carried out in cooperation with a federal law enforcement agency. **DEAD**

LD 674 - This concept draft bill proposes to enact measures designed to upgrade the state's E-9-1-1 system in accordance with certain recommendations contained in the report related to standardized dispatch protocols for police 9-1-1 calls.

The amendment replaces the bill, which was a concept draft. The amendment directs the Public Utilities Commission, Emergency Services Communications Bureau to convene a stakeholder group to develop recommendations regarding emergency dispatch protocols and use of the E-9-1-1 fund to support standardized dispatch protocol implementation. The amendment requires the stakeholder group to examine and make recommendations regarding: the use of the E-9-1-1 fund to cover costs associated with the implementation of standardized dispatch protocols and related requirements; issues related to the adoption and implementation of protocols for fire 9-1-1 calls and medical 9-1-1 calls; and potential future implementation of dispatch protocols for police 9-1-1 protocols on a mandatory or voluntary basis. The amendment requires the bureau to submit a report detailing the recommendations of the stakeholder group to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by November 1, 2019 and authorizes the committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature related to the report. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 24**

LD 671 - This bill requires that all property inspectors be licensed by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation and directs the department to adopt rules to establish standards and procedures for licensure.

LD 670 - This bill increases the minimum wage of the employees of employers with 50 or more full-time employees to \$13.00 on January 1, 2021, to \$14.00 on January 1, 2022 and to \$15.00 on January 1, 2023. **DEAD**

LD 669 - This bill replaces the property tax fairness credit with a housing relief credit for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2020. Resident individuals are eligible for the housing relief credit if their income is equal to or less than the area median income identified by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. The credit is equal to the amount by which a resident individual's housing cost exceeds 25% of the individual's income. Housing cost includes payments made for the purpose of maintaining a homestead, including property tax payments, property insurance payments, mortgage payments, rent payments and payments for heat, electricity, water and sewer, including well and septic maintenance. The maximum credit is \$3,000 for resident individuals under 70 years of age as of the last day of the taxable year or \$4,000 for resident individuals 70 years of age and older as of the last day of the taxable year. **DEAD**

LD 667 - This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that a candidate for Governor receive more than 50% of the votes cast to be elected. This resolution requires a

run-off election between the two persons who received the largest number of votes when no candidate received more than 50% of the total number of votes cast. The person who receives the larger number of votes in the run-off election is declared Governor. **DEAD**

LD 666 - This bill provides that it is unlawful employment discrimination for an employer to fail to provide a reasonable accommodation for an employee's pregnancy-related condition, unless provision of an accommodation would impose an undue hardship on the employer.

LD 663 - This bill allows the holder of a registration certificate and a set of gold star family registration plates to be issued a complimentary license to hunt, trap and fish, including permits, stamps and other permissions needed to hunt. It also exempts a person with a registration certificate and a set of gold star family registration plates from the annual motor vehicle registration fee. **DEAD**

LD 661 - This bill permits the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board, beginning January 1, 2020, to issue a license to a charitable nonprofit organization that is a veterans' organization that is tax-exempt under the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to operate up to 3 slot machines on premises that have been owned, rented or leased by the organization for at least 2 consecutive years, that serve as its primary administrative operations headquarters and that are located in a municipality that has, by referendum of the voters, approved the operation of slot machines in that municipality. The charitable nonprofit veterans' organization must be able to demonstrate that it has a cash reserve of \$1,000 for each machine the organization intends to operate. A charitable nonprofit veterans' organization that wishes to apply prior to January 1, 2020 may file a declaration of intent to apply with the Gambling Control Board. An application must include a refundable \$2,500 deposit. The initial application fee for a slot machine operator license is \$500, and the annual renewal fee is \$175. Slot machine operated by a charitable nonprofit veterans' organization is subject to the same central site monitoring that applies to casinos and slot machine facilities at harness racing tracks. The total number of slot machines allowed to be operated by charitable nonprofit veterans' organizations statewide between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020 is 80; beginning January 1, 2021 the number increases to 150. The bill provides that 10% of the net slot machine income from a charitable nonprofit veterans' organization is required to be deposited directly with the Gambling Control Board for administrative expenses; 8% goes directly to the General Fund; 10% goes to the host municipality; and 2% is dedicated to gambling addiction prevention and treatment. A charitable nonprofit veterans' organization that is licensed to operate slot machines is required to establish a separate account, from which the board may withdraw funds to distribute the net revenue percentages. The remaining revenue generated from the slot machines must be used to support the charitable purposes of the veterans' organization.

LD 656 - This bill increases the penalties for passing a stopped school bus with its red lights flashing to include: (1) the assessment of 6 demerit points on a driver's license; (2) a fine of \$2,000; and (3) a term of imprisonment of 90 days. **DEAD**

LD 655 - This bill permits municipalities to issue separate bills for the portion of their tax commitments attributable to education funding and the portion attributable to county taxes and all other municipal costs. **DEAD**

LD 654 - This bill clarifies that instruction in civics is part of the comprehensive program of instruction in secondary schools and also adds civics to the parameters for essential instruction and graduation requirements in the system of learning results. **DEAD**

LD 651 - This bill makes changes to the laws governing special education, by adding response to intervention systems to the minimum requirements for basic school approval to ensure an all-encompassing, tiered system of support for general and special education students; facilitating collaboration between general education and special education, including a clarification that the Department of Education is required to help schools apply for schoolwide status with respect to federal Title I funds; and requiring a review of the purpose of the maintenance of effort funding component of the essential programs and services funding formula and whether it is accomplishing this purpose and how to increase equity among all school administrative units.

The amendment replaces the bill with a resolve. The amendment directs the Department of Education to report to the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee, no later than Jan. 1, 2020 on progress, including recommendations and suggested legislation, on the following: (1) Enhancement of response to intervention to become an all-encompassing multitiered system of support in all school administrative units (2) Facilitation of the process by which schools apply for schoolwide status with respect to funds under Title I of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 19 1965; (3) Increased use of dual certification programs for general education and special education certifications; (4) Review of the maintenance of effort funding component of the essential programs and services funding formula; and (5) Improvement of regional programs that facilitate MaineCare billing for medically necessary services for schools. The committee may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature to implement any recommendations in the report. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 29**

LD 648 - This bill requires the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police, State Bureau of Identification to maintain separate categories in its uniform crime reporting for offenses that involve operating under the influence of alcohol, offenses that involve operating under the influence of intoxicating substances other than alcohol and offenses that involve operating under a combination of alcohol and other intoxicating substances.

The amendment replaces the printed bill and requires that on each April 1 the department report to the Legislature the incidences of operating under the influences offenses involving: (1) alcohol; (2) intoxicating substances other than alcohol; and (3) a combination of alcohol and other intoxicating substances. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 121**

LD 647 - This bill establishes the Welcome Center Initiative to operate welcome centers in adult education programs to provide education, services and training for foreign-trained workers in municipalities or regions of the state that have immigrant populations or that have industries that are experiencing a shortage of trained workers, patterned after the New Mainers Resource Center operated by the City of Portland adult education program. The bill provides grant funding for proposed welcome centers. The bill directs the Department of Education's office of adult education and family literacy to: (1) administer a vocation-specific English language acquisition and workforce training program for immigrants in the State and establish a statewide competitive

grant process to carry out the purposes of the program; (2) establish and implement a local community planning support program to provide a planning process for communities to provide English language acquisition and training in vocational skills, identify employers or areas that would benefit from immigrant residency or employment and cultivate community support to integrate immigrants into the communities and local workforce; and (3) develop and implement a grant process to award grants to adult education programs to increase English language acquisition instruction. The bill provides funding for the vocation-specific English language acquisition and workforce training program, the local community planning support program and grants to increase English language acquisition instruction; and directs the Department of Education to establish a welcome center under the Welcome Center Initiative within the City of Lewiston's adult education program to attract, educate and retain in employment foreign-trained workers, patterned after the New Mainers Resource Center in Portland, and provides funding for that purpose. The bill also provides ongoing funding for the New Mainers Resource Center in Portland.

LD 645 - This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to authorize the Legislature to require municipalities to cap property taxes on property owned and occupied as a person's primary residence if that person is at least 65 years of age and the household income for the residents of the property does not exceed 400% of the federal poverty level. The tax would be stabilized at the amount assessed on the property on the later of the date by which the person attained 65 years of age or purchased the property. Upon transfer of the property to someone other than a family member of the owner, the property would assume the just value at the time of transfer. The State would be required to reimburse a municipality for any revenue lost due to the cap on property taxes. **DEAD**

LD 643 - This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the State Entomologist, to identify pests, such as browntail moths and ticks, in this state that pose a risk of significant harm to human health, and to undertake measures to manage those pests. The bill also establishes the Maine Harmful Pest Management Fund to disburse funds to municipalities severely infested with harmful pests for the purpose of mitigating the infestations. The funds are capped at \$50,000 per municipality and require that 75% of the funds be used to mitigate infestation of residential property where persons with health conditions exacerbated by the infestation reside and 25% on publicly owned properties in the municipality. The bill allocates \$500,000 to the fund. **DEAD**

LD 639 - This bill provides that video and audio recordings made by security or surveillance cameras on school grounds or in school vehicles are not public records for purposes of the Freedom of Access Act. **Carryover Approved**

LD 637 - This bill: (1) allows as admissible evidence indicating whether a person is operating a motor vehicle under the influence of intoxicants whether the person has an alcohol level of 0.05 grams or less of alcohol per 100 milliliters of blood or 210 liters of breath and has a trace amount of any drug or the metabolite of any drug within the person's blood or urine; (2) establishes a permissible inference of operating under the influence of intoxicants when a person operates a motor vehicle and has an alcohol level in excess of 0.05 grams of alcohol but less than 0.08

grams of alcohol per 100 milliliters of blood or 210 liters of breath and has a trace amount of any drug or the metabolite of any drug within the person's blood or urine; (3) establishes a 0.00 nanogram level for THC for a person under 21 years of age who is operating a motor vehicle; and (4) creates a new traffic infraction for a person who consumes marijuana or a marijuana product in a vehicle, possesses an open container of marijuana or a marijuana product in the passenger area of a vehicle or possesses marijuana or a marijuana product that has been placed in a container labeled by the manufacturer of the container as containing a non-marijuana substance. **DEAD**

LD 636 – Beginning Jan. 1, 2021, this bill requires law enforcement officers to be equipped with a body-worn camera that is in operation and creating a recording at all times the officer is in uniform and engaged in law enforcement-related encounters or activities. The bill also provides that the use of body-worn cameras by law enforcement officers and the maintenance and retention of data and recordings must be consistent with model policies and procedures developed by the Board of Trustees of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy.

LD 630 - This bill provides that food and food products containing hemp-derived cannabidiol that are produced and sold within the State are not considered to be "adulterated" under state law, and the production, marketing, sale or distribution of food or food products containing hemp may not be prohibited. The bill also changes the term in Maine law "industrial hemp" to "hemp" and defines "hemp" to match the definition of "hemp" in the federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018.

This amendment strikes and replaces Part A of the bill and provides that food, food additives and food products that contain hemp and hemp products, including hemp-derived cannabidiol, are not considered to be "adulterated" under state law and that the non-pharmaceutical or nonmedical production, marketing, sale or distribution within the state of food, food additives or food products that contain hemp-derived cannabidiol may not be prohibited. The amendment also clarifies that eating establishments, in addition to food establishments, may not make any therapeutic claims about food products that contain hemp-derived cannabidiol without federal approval. The amendment clarifies that the definition of "hemp" includes commodities and products derived from hemp, including food, food additives and food products, and that it does not include medical marijuana as governed by the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act or adult use marijuana as governed by the Marijuana Legalization Act. **Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 12 (3/27/19)**

LD 629 - This bill directs the Commissioner of Marine Resources to ensure that a seat on the Shellfish Advisory Council is held by a member who has a demonstrated knowledge of a marine science and, at minimum, a bachelor's degree in a field of marine science. **DEAD**

LD 627 - This bill sets forth procedures to govern the installation and monitoring of tracking devices by law enforcement officers. It amends the definition of "portable electronic device" to clarify that the device is electric and defines "tracking device." The bill also establishes parallel terms and procedures in the laws governing portable electronic device content information, electronic device location information and tracking information, including parallel definitions of "adverse result" and "serious physical injury." It provides an exception to the requirement that

notice be given to the owner or user if the government entity is unable to identify the owner or user.

February 1, 2019

LD 623 - This bill amends the charter of the City of Brewer High School District to provide that each trustee of the district receives annual compensation as determined by the city council and to provide that the president, treasurer and clerk receive additional annual compensation as determined by the city council. Currently, the district charter provides that only the treasurer receives compensation.

The amendment to the bill adds an emergency preamble and clause to allow this legislation to become effective prior to the start of the City of Brewer's fiscal year 2019-20. The amendment clarifies that each City of Brewer High School District trustee receives the same amount of compensation and removes the provision in the bill regarding additional compensation for the president, treasurer and clerk. **Emergency Enacted; P & SL 2019, c. 6 (4/30/19)**

LD 622 - This concept draft bill proposes to improve, encourage and support public sector collective bargaining and sound labor relations in the public sector by more clearly defining the rights and obligations of public employers and labor organizations that represent public employees under state public employment labor relations laws concerning information, representation, collective bargaining and other matters. **DEAD**

LD 619 - This resolution proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Maine authorizing a process by which municipalities may allow voters to vote in the same manner as on election day during a period immediately preceding an election and allow absentee voting for any sufficient reason. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 611 - This is the placeholder bill for the state's FY 2019 supplemental budget.

LD 609 - This bill provides an incremental sales tax of 1% for those sales currently subject to the 9% sales tax on lodging. The incremental revenue, after reduction for administrative costs, is returned to the generating municipality or unorganized territory. The amount received may not be used to reduce any other state aid or revenue sharing to municipalities or the unorganized territory. **Carryover Approved**

LD 603 - This bill extends the eligibility period for closure costs for a landfill that currently applies only to a landfill licensed on or before September 1, 1989. The bill provides that if a license application for a landfill was accepted for processing on or before Sept. 1, 1989 and the application was approved by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection within one year of accepting the application for processing, the landfill is eligible for payment of 75% of certain closure costs by the Department of Environmental Protection. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 93**

LD 602 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$50 million bond issue for investment in research, development and commercialization in the state's targeted technology sectors to be used for infrastructure, equipment and technology upgrades that enable organizations to gain and

hold market share, increase revenues and expand employment or preserve jobs, including in the biotechnical and biomedical sectors by attracting more research capacity and in the forest products sector by using Maine fiber to reduce carbon emissions.

LD 597 - This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to establish a pilot project to allow the use of traffic surveillance cameras to prove or enforce a motor vehicle or traffic violation on Castine Road in Orland and requires the department to submit a report evaluating the results of the pilot project to Transportation Committee by Jan.15, 2021. **DEAD**

LD 596 - This bill requires that a person proposing to permanently shut down an industrial or commercial facility make an offer of sale, at fair market value, to an interested employee organization, a privately owned business entity, government-owned business entity or jointly owned business entity. **DEAD**

LD 591 - This concept draft bill proposes to allow exemptions in the calculation of the affordable housing cap for per unit expenditures. **DEAD**

LD 590 - This concept draft bill proposes to enact measures designed to provide flexibility in the regulation of development near the shore and encourage creative approaches to protecting beaches and critical near-shore infrastructure threatened by sea level rise and storm damage. **DEAD**

LD 585 - This bill grants plantations and county commissioners for the unorganized territories the power to control junkyards and automobile graveyards in the same manner as municipalities.

The amendment to the bill: (1) limits applicability to plantations; (2) removes reference to junkyards and automobile graveyards; and (3) grants plantations the authority to enact ordinances addressing the accumulation of garbage, refuse, rubbish or trash, or unwanted or discarded material of any kind on private property. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 138**

LD 582 - To protect water bodies from nonpoint source pollution, this concept draft bill proposes to amend the laws governing shoreland zoning to increase the vegetative buffer requirement from 75 feet to 150 feet for certain areas in the shoreland zone. The bill also proposes to remove provisions in law that grandfather certain parcels of land and that allow smaller vegetative buffers on those parcels. **DEAD**

LD 580 - This concept draft bill proposes to enact measures designed to strengthen representation for injured workers and improve the advocate program established under the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992. **DEAD**

LD 579 - This bill increases from 5 cents to 15 cents the deposit on refillable and nonrefillable beverage containers, increases from 5 cents to 15 cents the deposit on wine and spirits containers of 50 milliliters or less, and from 15 cents to 45 cents the deposit on wine and spirits containers of greater than 50 milliliters. **DEAD**

LD 577 - This bill provides for the participation in the federal child and adult care food program to serve at-risk students who attend after-school programming by school administrative units that choose to operate the program and have at least one public school in which at least 50% of students qualified for a free or reduced-price lunch during the preceding school year. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 575 - This bill, in part, increases from 5 cents to 10 cents the deposit on refillable and nonrefillable beverage containers. **DEAD**

LD 571 - This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to initiate a service development plan for commuter and passenger train service between Portland and the Lewiston and Auburn area. The plan must indicate the locations of railway stations in towns along the corridor route and include an environmental impact statement for each station site. It directs the department to submit a progress report to the Transportation Community by Jan.15, 2020. **Carryover Approved**

LD 569 - This resolve directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to submit a plan to the United States Secretary of Agriculture to continue Maine's industrial hemp program and to regulate hemp in accordance with federal requirements. **Carryover Approved**

LD 568 - This bill amends the laws governing the composition of the Maine Land Use Planning Commission to increase the number of members appointed by the Governor from one to three and to decrease the number of members appointed by the counties from eight to six. **DEAD**

LD 565 - This bill establishes the Maine Coastal Risks and Hazards Commission for the purpose of developing recommendations to address and prepare for coastal hazards, including increased storm surges, extreme precipitation, sea level rise and hazards posed to municipalities, the coastal economy and state assets. The 21 member commission includes three members of the legislature; representatives from the departments of Environmental Protection, Transportation, Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, and Marine Resources; representatives from the Portland, Hancock County, Lincoln County, Washington County, and Southern Maine planning commissions; a municipal designee, as well as representatives from the tourism or recreational, environmental management, marine-based, real estate, and working waterfront industries. The commission is directed to meet at least four times annually to review available data, identify vulnerable coastal assets, and develop a set of actionable strategies and best practices to protect, adapt and sustain vulnerable coastal assets. On or before Nov. 1, 2022 and every four years thereafter, the commission must submit a report, including draft legislation to a committee of the Legislature with jurisdiction over environmental and natural resources matters. **DEAD**

LD 564 - This bill provides a property tax exemption for solar panels and associated equipment installed on residential property that qualifies for a homestead exemption. **Carryover Approved**

LD 563 – This bill amends the state’s growth planning and land use laws to: (1) direct state, local and federal agencies responsible for regulating, planning, developing or managing coastal resources to assess the impacts of sea level rise on buildings, transportation infrastructure,

sewage treatment facilities and other relevant public or privately held infrastructure, property or resources; and (2) allow a coastal municipality to address changes in sea level through its comprehensive plan. The bill also defines a “coastal municipality” as a municipality in a Department of Marine Resources identified coastal zone.

The amendment to the bill clarifies that a municipality or multi-municipal region that is the coastal area is defined in Title 38, section 1802, subsection 1 is subject to the terms of the bill, which includes all island, municipalities and unorganized townships on tidal waters with the inland boundary defined as the inland line of coastal town lines and the seaward boundary as the three-nautical-mile line shown on the most recently published Federal Government nautical chart. The amendment also strikes from the bill the requirement that state, local and federal agencies encourage the assessment of sea level rise on building, transportation infrastructure, sewer treatment facilities and other public or privately held infrastructure. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 153**

LD 562 - This bill amends the shoreland zone laws to: (1) require the state to provide both basic and advanced training to code enforcement officers; (2) increase the maximum per day civil penalty for a specific violation of a municipal land use law or ordinance from \$2,500 to \$5,000 and increases the maximum per day civil penalty for a specific violation of a municipal shoreland zoning ordinance occurring within an area zoned for resource protection from \$5,000 to \$10,000; and (3) require an applicant for a permit for development within the shoreland zone to provide to the municipal permitting authority preconstruction and post construction photographs of the shoreline vegetation and development site.

The amendment to the bill remove the requirement that the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Community Development provide both basic and advanced training to code enforcement officers in the technical and legal aspects of code enforcement and instead removes from existing law the designation that the training program required by statute be basic. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 40**

LD 560 - This bill repeals a provision in law requiring a permanent resident of the state to have owned the home for 12 months in order to qualify for the homestead exemption benefit.

The amendment to the bill clarifies that repeal of the waiting period first takes effect for property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2202. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 557 - This bill establishes the School Revolving Maintenance Fund as a nonlapsing fund administered by the Department of Education to make no interest loans to school administrative units for minor school infrastructure maintenance and construction projects. The bill requires the department to adopt major substantive rules and transfer \$30 million from the state’s unappropriated surplus to the fund. **DEAD**

LD 554 - This bill repeals the provision that limits the use of the recall process for elected municipal officials to cases where the official is convicted of a crime, the conduct of which occurred during the official's term of office and the victim of which is the municipality. **DEAD**

LD 550 - This bill changes the date by which definitions of "subdivision" that are in municipal ordinances and that conflict with state law must comply with the definition of "subdivision" in state law to Jan. 1, 2021. It also extends the time municipalities have to register an ordinance with a conflicting definition with the registry of deeds to June 30, 2020. The bill also removes cross-references to the site location of development laws in an exemption to municipal subdivision review and adds a cross-reference to the law governing municipal site plan review ordinances.

The amendment to the bill repeals current provisions requiring a project subject to municipal site plan review to be conducted in accordance with provisions in Title 38. Instead, the amendment defines "municipal site plan review" to mean a review established by ordinance that sets forth the process of determining whether a development meets certain specified criteria, which must include stormwater management, sewage disposal, water supply and vehicular access and which may include criteria regarding other environmental effects, layout, scale, appearance and safety. The municipal review authority must determine whether the local ordinances meet these requirements. The bill also applies the changes retroactively to June 30, 2018. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 174**

LD 549 -This bill directs the state to fund the difference between the federal reimbursements for reduced-price and free lunches in order to provide all children from families with incomes under 185% of the federal poverty level free lunch at school. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 546 - This bill increases from \$250 to \$350 the minimum fine for passing a stationary authorized emergency vehicle using an emergency light or a stationary public service vehicle using its authorized lights and failing to pass in a lane that is not adjacent to the stationary vehicle or, if passing in a nonadjacent lane would be impossible or unsafe, failing to pass at a careful and prudent speed.

LD 545 - Under current law, a marriage license may be issued to parties who are under 16 years of age with the written consent of their parents, guardians or legal custodians and the consent of the probate judge in the county where each minor resides. This bill amends the law to prohibit the issuance of a marriage license to a person under 16 years of age. **Passed to be Engrossed**

LD 544 - This concept draft bill proposes to establish a system under which producers of tobacco products develop, finance and implement stewardship programs to collect, transport, process and safely dispose of post-consumer tobacco waste to reduce, prevent and mitigate the environmental effects of the disposal of that waste in the state. **Carryover Approved**

LD 543 - Current law requires the inspection of a subsurface wastewater disposal system on a property located within the shoreland area of the state that is to be transferred. This bill expands these requirements to apply to the transfer of any property in the state on which a subsurface wastewater disposal system is located.

The amendment replaces the bill by amending the bill into a resolve directing the Department of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Protection, to submit to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and

Natural Resources on or before January 15, 2020 a report containing a variety of information regarding septic system inspections and the certification of septic system inspectors. After reviewing the report, the committee may report out a bill related to the information contained in the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 13**

LD 541 - This resolve directs the Department of Education to develop a school food sharing policy to encourage schools and food banks to work together to collect whole and packaged school cafeteria surplus or leftover food and share it with the community.

January 30, 2019

LD 537 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$2 million bond issue to support the Gulf of Maine Research Institute's establishment of a near-shore coastal sensor network to gather oceanographic data, track changes in state waters, predict changes and support persons who engage in commercial fishing and aquaculture as they adapt to a changing ocean.

LD 535 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$50 million bond issue to repair and reconstruct state-owned railroad lines, improve infrastructure on a railway crossing in the Town of Yarmouth and improve the railroad line between the cities of Lewiston and Auburn and the City of Portland.

LD 534 - This bill requires ballot questions to be written at the 6th-grade reading level and unambiguously state what the effect of a "yes" or "no" vote may have.

LD 529 - This bill reinstates the state's property tax deferral program, which was in effect for applications filed before April 1, 1991. The bill modifies the program to include households with at least one individual who is 65 years of age or older or who retired from gainful employment due to physical disability and to surviving spouses who are at least 60 years of age and provides that household income must be less than \$40,000. This limit is indexed for inflation in 2020 and annually thereafter. The bill also limits the total amount of property taxes that a taxpayer may defer to 80% of the taxpayer's equity in the property and requires the Finance Authority of Maine to establish a loan program to ensure adequate funding of reimbursements to municipalities.

DEAD

LD 525 - This bill increases the annual snowmobile registration fee for residents from \$45 to \$55. **DEAD**

LD 524 - This resolve requires the Departments of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to study the feasibility of establishing incentives or mandates to promote composting in the state. The departments are required to submit a report of their findings and recommendations to the committees on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and Environment and Natural Resources, which may submit legislation relating to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. **DEAD**

LD 522 - This bill prohibits towns, cities, plantations, village corporations and counties providing municipal services in the unorganized territory from adopting ordinances regulating the rent that may be charged for a rental property, requiring registration of rental properties or imposing fees specific to rental properties. **DEAD**

LD 521 – This bill makes several changes to the archives and records management laws. Of specific municipal interest, the bill repeals the requirement that municipalities respond to a biennial survey asking for a description and statement of adequacy of the fireproof safe or vault where permanent records are retained. The requirement that municipalities respond to a similar survey regarding the digital storage of permanent records is also repealed. The bill establishes the powers and duties of the state archivist, which includes the right of reasonable access to all state and local government records, the authority to establish a municipal records retention schedule and standards for retention of electronic records. The archivist is also tasked with preparing detailed explanation of what constitutes a record belonging to the state or a municipality. The bill also repeals and replaces the nine member Archives Advisory Board. The members of the reconstructed board include two public members representing the interest of public access to government records, two members from municipal or county government with expertise in local government records, one member representing a state or local historical society, one member with expertise in the legal requirement of records retention and public records law, one member with expertise in the state’s fiscal requirements of records retention, one member from the executive branch with expertise in executive branch records and one member from the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology with expertise in electronic records and management systems.

The amendment to the bill maintains the exclusion of the judicial branch from the requirements of the Archives and Records Management Law. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 50**

LD 520 - This bill provides that in the event of a tie vote on a budget item by the Washington County Budget Advisory Committee, the committee is required to present the item to the Washington County commissioners to decide by majority vote.

The amendment to the bill provides that the legislative member of the Washington County Budget Advisory Committee is a nonvoting member, which will prevent a tie vote from occurring in the future by leaving an odd number of voting members on the committee.

Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 23

LD 517 - This bill permits a candidate to request that the candidate's nickname appear on the ballot for an election in the state. The candidate's nickname, if any, must be set off by quotation marks and be placed on the ballot immediately after the candidate's legal first name or initial and before the candidate's legal middle name or middle initial, if any.

LD 516 - This bill directs the Commissioner of Public Safety to design, implement and annually administer a statewide voluntary firearm collection day providing persons the opportunity to voluntarily turn over any firearm or ammunition at a number of sites conveniently located throughout the state. The commissioner is also required to facilitate the establishment of a year-round voluntary firearm collection program administered by the Bureau of State Police that, at a

minimum, is designed to provide to any person the opportunity to voluntarily turn over any firearm or ammunition in the person's possession to a state police officer at any facility or bureau function to which members of the public are regularly allowed admission. The commissioner is directed to provide technical assistance and, as necessary and as resources allow, financial assistance to municipal and county law enforcement agencies that elect to participate in the voluntary firearm collection day or elect to establish an ongoing local voluntary firearm collection program. A person may not be charged a fee to turn over a firearm or ammunition to a law enforcement officer during the collection day or through a collection program and is required only to provide the law enforcement officer the person's name, mailing address and telephone number. Firearms and ammunition collected are to be destroyed, except for those firearms determined to have been stolen or used in the commission of a criminal act or that are otherwise sought as evidence in a criminal investigation or prosecution. **DEAD**

LD 514 - This bill requires election clerks in a municipality to be selected so that 33% of clerks are from one major party and 33% from another, with 34% of clerks being selected without regard to party enrollment.

The amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, strikes and replaces the bill, to amends the process for selection of election clerks and clarifies other provisions regarding election clerks. Specifically, the amendment retains the provision in current law allowing parties to nominate election clerks but also allows the municipal clerk or any registered voter to make nominations. Like current law, the amendment directs timely consideration of nominations but does not require municipal officers to appoint the election clerks from 5 among nominees and instead allows them to appoint any qualified voter. Under the amendment, the minimum requirement is 2 election clerks at each voting place, one each from the two major parties. The amendment requires that at least 1/2 of the election clerks working at any election are affiliated with the major parties, and the rest of the election clerks may be affiliated with a minor party or be unenrolled. The amendment also provides that if the municipal officers do not appoint a sufficient number of election clerks representing the major parties or an insufficient number of appointees are available to serve from the list provided by municipal officers, the municipal clerk may appoint additional election clerks without regard to party enrollment status. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 64**

LD 507 - This bill amends the definition of "overcompensation" by an employer to include compensation in the form of paid leave. It changes the maximum amount an employer can withhold from an employee's pay to recover overcompensation from 10% to 5% and prohibits an employer from recovering more than the amount of overcompensation paid to an employee in the 3 years preceding the discovery of the overcompensation. The bill also specifies that the section of law regarding overcompensation by employers that includes these provisions does not limit or affect an employee's general civil remedies against an employer. **Carryover Approved**

LD 506 - This bill provides civil immunity for architects, contractors, environmental professionals, land surveyors, landscape architects, planners and professional engineers who provide voluntary professional services during or within 90 days of a natural disaster or catastrophe when the services are provided under the applicable license or certification, are related to the natural disaster or catastrophe and are provided at the request of a federal, state or

local public official, law enforcement official, public safety official or building inspection official. No immunity is provided for reckless or intentional misconduct.

The amendment to the bill clarifies that the immunity applies only when an emergency is declared by the President or the Governor. It also removes from the bill the provision of immunity for the 90 days after the emergency and it makes the language consistent with the Maine Tort Claims Act. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 49**

LD 499 - This bill prohibits the circulator or person who causes the circulation of an initiative or referendum petition or a petition organization from receiving payment for the collection of signatures based on the number of signatures collected. The bill clarifies that a salary or fee for the collection of signatures is not prohibited if it is not based on the number of signatures collected.

LD 497 - This bill specifies that an individual, organization or institution, including a public school, that donates food waste to a swine producer for use in swine feed is not required to verify that the swine producer has a license to feed garbage to swine. The bill also specifies that it is private or public property owned or operated by a swine producer that the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may enter to investigate conditions relating to the treating or feeding of garbage to swine.

The amendment to the bill strikes the provision in the bill that specifies that it is private or public property owned or operated by a swine producer that the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may enter to investigate conditions relating to treating or feeding of garbage to swine. Current law provides that the commissioner may enter any private or public property to investigate conditions relating to the treating or feeding of garbage. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 39**

LD 492 - This bill extends from 180 days to one year the notice period required under the Maine Tort Claims Act.

The amendment to the bill clarifies that the expanded notice period applies prospectively and only to causes of action that accrue on or after Jan. 1, 2020.

LD 489 - Current law prohibits the application of a municipal noise control or other ordinance to an existing sport shooting range. This bill gives the Commissioner of Public Safety the power to authorize the application of a municipal noise ordinance to a sport shooting range that existed prior to the adoption of the ordinance. The Commissioner of Public Safety is required to adopt major substantive rules to establish the criteria and the process for the authorization process. **DEAD**

LD 487 - This resolve directs the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Town of Old Orchard Beach, to study the corner of Smithwheel Road and Ocean Park Road, which connects to the I-195 spur, and the intersection of State Route 5, which is also known as Saco Avenue, with Temple Avenue and Old Orchard Road and determine whether a roundabout or an alternative layout is needed. **DEAD**

LD 485 - This bill requires the owner or keeper of a dangerous dog that assaults a person and causes serious bodily injury to remain at the scene of the assault until after providing the owner's or keeper's name and current address to the injured person, a person acting for the injured person or a law enforcement officer. A person who fails to comply commits a Class C crime.

The amendment replaces the printed bill and requires the owner or keeper of a dog that assaults a person and causes an injury that requires medical attention to secure aid for the injured person, contain the dog, if necessary, and provide the owner's or keeper's name, current address and contact information to the injured person, a person acting for the injured person or a law enforcement officer before the owner or keeper may leave the scene of the assault. A violation of the section is a Class D crime. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 134**

LD 482 - This bill changes the requirements for a municipality to withdraw from a regional school unit following a vote on a withdrawal agreement. Current law requires that the total number of votes cast for and against withdrawal equal or exceed 50% of the total votes cast in the municipality for Governor in the last gubernatorial election. This bill requires instead that the number of votes cast in favor of withdrawal equal or exceed 25% of the total votes cast in the municipality for Governor in the last gubernatorial election. This bill also changes the requirements for a new municipal charter, or charter revision, modification or amendment in a question before the voters to go into effect. Current law requires that the total number of votes cast for and against the question equal or exceed 30% of the total votes cast in the municipality in the last gubernatorial election. This bill requires instead that the number of votes cast in favor of the proposed change equal or exceed 15% of the total votes cast in the municipality in the last gubernatorial election and clarifies that this means votes cast for Governor in that election. Also, while this bill does not change the requirement that a majority of votes cast for and against the proposed change be in favor of it in order for that change to go into effect, it clarifies that blank votes are not counted in that calculation. This bill also changes the requirements for a deorganization of a municipality to go into effect following a vote on final approval. Current law requires that the total number of votes cast for and against deorganization must equal or exceed 50% of the total votes cast in the municipality for Governor in the last gubernatorial election in order for the deorganization to go into effect. This bill requires instead that the number of votes cast in favor of deorganization must equal or exceed 1/3 of the total votes cast in the municipality for Governor in the last gubernatorial election. Also, while this bill retains the requirement that the deorganization be approved by 2/3 of the voters in order for it to go into effect, it clarifies that that means 2/3 of those voting for or against deorganization in that election. **DEAD**

LD 481 – This bill removes from the law governing the publication of legal notices the requirement that the newspaper be posted as second class mail. **DEAD**

LD 480 – Beginning on March 31, 2020, this bill requires certain employers, including state and local governments, to annually file a wage data report with the Maine Human Rights Commission. The information in the report must include: (1) number and median wage of employees in each job category by gender, race and ethnicity; (2) aggregate number of male and female employees; and (3) percentage difference between the median wage of employees in each

job category between white male employees and employees in other gender, racial and ethnic groups. The commission must post the reports on a publicly accessible website, unless the number of employees within a gender, ethnic or racial group is less than five, in which case the wage report for that group must be redacted. **DEAD**

January 28, 2019

LD 478 - Beginning in 2020, this bill allows the operation of an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) on a public way as long as the ATV is registered and meets specified safety equipment requirements and the operator is licensed and has insurance. This bill establishes an annual registration fee of \$33, the same as for ATVs under current law. The bill does not affect the operation of ATVs off of public ways. This bill prohibits the operation of an ATV on a public way with a posted speed limit of more than 50 miles per hour. The Department of Transportation may adopt rules or a municipality or county may adopt an ordinance to restrict or prohibit the operation of an ATV on a way if the department, county or municipality determines that the prohibition or restriction is necessary in the interest of public safety. **DEAD**

LD 476 - This resolve requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services, working with health and human services providers in York County and Cumberland County as well as with other stakeholders, to review the programs, services and operations of the Department of Health and Human Services and determine if any of those programs, services and operations can be delivered more efficiently at the county level. The commissioner is required to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services detailing the findings of the review. The committee is authorized to submit legislation based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. **DEAD**

LD 475 - This bill allows disclosure of an audio recording of an E-9-1-1 call to the person who made the call or the person's attorney.

This amendment replaces the printed bill and provides that a party to a protection from harassment or abuse action to which the E-9-1-1 call is relevant may request that the recording be sent to the clerk's office of the court in which the action is pending. The court may then review the recording and determine whether the parties or their attorneys, if the parties are represented, should have access to or, for good cause shown, a copy of the recording. When requesting a recording be sent to the clerk, the party making the request to the custodian is required to provide the names of the parties, the court that is presiding over the action and the docket number. The request must be made in writing, which may include e-mail and allow the custodian a reasonable amount of time to search for, retrieve and send the recording. The custodian must send the recording in the format that both the custodian and the courts use.

Enacted; PL 2019, c. 84

January 25, 2019

LD 469 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$50 million bond issue in both FY 2020 and FY 2021 providing funds to the School Revolving Renovation Fund to upgrade learning spaces in school buildings and make other necessary repairs.

LD 468 - This bill requires the state to fund a minimum of 50% of the costs of eligible public preschool programs for each year the school administrative unit operates the eligible public preschool program, other than the year in which the school administrative unit receives start-up funds. **DEAD**

LD 466 - This bill imposes an additional 5¢ per gallon tax on diesel fuel and requires that revenue from the tax be used only for construction, reconstruction, maintenance and repair of public highways and bridges. The additional tax is repealed on November 1, 2022. The Commissioner of Transportation is required to submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters by March 1, 2022 identifying the amount of revenue collected and the purposes for which the revenue was or will be used. The committee is authorized to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature to retain, repeal or amend provisions relating to the diesel fuel tax differential. **DEAD**

LD 462 - This bill provides that a full-time employee of a school administrative unit is entitled to up to 12 weeks of paid family medical leave and may not be required to use sick or other kinds of leave for the birth of the employee's child or the employee's domestic partner's child or for the placement of a child 16 years of age or less with the employee or the employee's domestic partner in connection with the adoption of the child by the employee or the employee's domestic partner. The bill also provides that the employer and employee may negotiate whether leave is taken intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule. **DEAD**

LD 460 - This bill requires the Department of Corrections to reimburse a county for the annual costs of correctional services that exceed the county's tax assessment for those services. **DEAD**

LD 459 - This bill defines "homelessness" for the purposes of the laws governing general assistance, which includes living in a place that is not fit for human habitation, living in an emergency shelter or temporary housing, and fleeing violence. The bill also specifies that a person experiencing or facing homelessness who meets the conditions for receiving emergency assistance in current law is eligible for emergency general assistance.

LD 458 - This bill requires an operator of a vehicle to yield the right-of-way to a transit bus traveling in the same direction if the transit bus has signaled and is reentering the traffic flow from a bus stop or shoulder of the roadway.

The amendment, which replaced the printed bill, requires that the operator of a vehicle on a public way that has a speed limit of 35 miles per hour or less must yield the right-of-way to a transit bus that has an illuminated yield sign on the left side of the rear of the bus and the bus driver has activated a turn signal to reenter the traffic flow from a bus stop or shoulder on the roadway. The amendment also clarifies the definition of "transit bus" to include a "bus operated or contracted by the state, a municipality or other political subdivision for the purpose of

transporting members of the public from one destination to another, but does not include a school bus.”

LD 457 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$25 million bond issue to fund a grant program to invest in projects along the state's rivers that contribute to economic, environmental and community development and revitalization, promote economic activity, protect the environment and enhance quality of life for Maine people. **DEAD**

LD 453- This concept draft bill proposes to enact measures designed to ensure the integrity and accountability of persons who are elected to public office. **DEAD**

LD 452 - This bill provides that if land classified under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law is to be transferred, the owner must notify the assessor of the intended transfer and the intended transferee of a potential withdrawal penalty. If land is transferred, a withdrawal penalty must be assessed against the transferor unless the intended transferee notifies the assessor of intent to maintain eligibility of the land for tree growth classification. **DEAD**

LD 451 - This bill repeals the provisions enacted in 2018 creating new pre-foreclosure and post-foreclosure processes that municipalities must use in order to foreclose on homestead property for the nonpayment of property tax if the owner is 65 years of age or older and has income and liquid assets below specified limits.

LD 448 - This bill repeals the provisions enacted in 2018 creating new pre-foreclosure and post-foreclosure processes that municipalities must use in order to foreclose on homestead property for the nonpayment of property tax if the owner is 65 years of age or older and has income and liquid assets below specified limits. **DEAD**

LD 447 – This concept draft bill proposes to provide support for persons with substance use disorder along a continuum of care that includes prevention, law enforcement diversion, treatment, harm reduction and recovery. The bill proposes to provide: (1) funding for programs that reduce the use of marijuana and so-called "vaping" by youth in Maine in order to reduce the likelihood of neural pathway changes that can lead to addiction later in life; (2) ongoing support for detoxification as a path to recovery; (3) reimbursement under the MaineCare program for substance use disorder peer recovery coaches; (4) funding to the Bangor Area Recovery Network for addiction recovery support; (5) support for regional 2-1-1 hotlines to offer referrals to persons with substance use disorder for local services; and (6) access to evidence-based approaches to prevent substance use and treat substance use disorder in rural areas. **DEAD**

LD 446 - This bill provides a one-time appropriation to the Snowmobile Trail Fund to make grants-in-aid to political subdivisions, educational institutions, regional planning agencies, snowmobile groups and others for the maintenance of snowmobile trails. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 445 - This bill provides a one-time \$300,000 appropriation to the ATV Recreational Management Fund to make grants-in-aid to political subdivisions, educational institutions,

regional planning agencies, all-terrain vehicle groups and others for the maintenance of all-terrain vehicle trails. **DEAD**

LD 444 – This bill restores state-municipal revenue sharing to 5% percent from 2% as of April 1, 2019. **DEAD**

LD 442 - This bill prohibits the operation of an all-terrain vehicle at a speed of more than 15 miles per hour within 50 yards of a stream or pond, unless the ground is frozen and sufficiently covered with snow. It specifies that a person who violates this prohibition commits a civil violation, except that a person who violates this prohibition after having been adjudicated as having committed 3 or more violations of this prohibition within the previous 5-year period commits a Class E crime. **DEAD**

LD 433 - This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to prohibit the denial or abridgment by the state or any political subdivision of the state of equal rights based on the sex of an individual.

LD 432 – This concept draft bill proposes to make technical changes to the charter of the Greater Augusta Utility District to accommodate the district's growth and change in services and to change its voting membership. **Carryover Approved**

LD 431 - This bill designates the day of the November regular election (occurring in an even numbered year) a state holiday.

The amendment to the bill includes an appropriation for the Secretary of State's Office to fund overtime pay. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 430 - This bill establishes within the Department of Public Safety programs for the collection and disposal of expired marine flares and for education of the public and state agency personnel regarding expired marine flares. The bill also authorizes the commissioner to work with a statewide association of fire chiefs to identify fire departments in the state that have the capacity and willingness to accept expired marine flares from members of the public for collection and disposal by the state.

LD 427 - This bill repeals the provisions of school funding law that require school administrative units and private schools to pay for the normal costs of teacher retirement.

The amendment to the bill includes an allocation section appropriating roughly \$24 million in FY 2020 and FY 2021 to fund the normal costs of teacher retirement outside of the school funding model. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 422 - This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to develop a plan to increase the number of directional and identification signs on the Mt. Katahdin Trail and to submit the plan to the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation by January 1, 2020. **DEAD**

LD 419 - This bill sets the minimum salary for certified teachers in public schools at \$50,000 for the school year starting after June 30, 2020. **DEAD**

LD 418 - This bill proposes to adopt an interstate compact to elect the President of the United States by national popular vote, which only takes effect if enacted by states possessing a majority of the electoral votes, which is 270 of 538. **DEAD**

LD 415 - This bill makes changes to the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program to: (1) make enrollment in the program mandatory for a county or municipal law enforcement officer or municipal firefighter with a date of hire on or after January 1, 2020 and offers one-time open enrollment until July 1, 2020 to those officers and firefighters with a date of hire after November 1, 2006 who elected not to enroll; (2) increase the employee contribution for participation in the program from 1.5% of gross wages to 2.5% and makes corresponding changes to the contribution requirements for retirees with less than five years of contributions upon retirement; (3) allows a retiree to be eligible if the retiree is less than 50 years of age as long as the retiree has at least 25 years of service in a position as a county or municipal law enforcement officer or a municipal firefighter and has participated in the special consolidation retirement plan from the Maine Public Employees Retirement System; (4) increase the state subsidy for the retiree's share of the costs of health insurance coverage from 45% to 100%; and (5) require that all retirees be provided health insurance coverage through the group health plan provided to state employees beginning January 1, 2020. **DEAD**

LD 413 – This concept draft bill proposes to change the laws governing groundwater to establish the state as the trustee and steward of Maine's groundwater on behalf of its citizens. The bill also directs the state to take all reasonable measures to ensure an adequate supply of usable groundwater, monitor the level of sustainability of the groundwater and protect against uses of groundwater that are detrimental to aquifers, bodies of surface water or wetlands or to public health and welfare. **DEAD**

LD 412 - Current law requires that, beginning in fiscal year 2018-19, a portion of the system administration allocation must be allocated to school administrative units that have established regionalized administrative services. This bill instead establishes the system administration allocation at \$135 per pupil, the same as it was for fiscal year 2017-18, and repeals provisions that increase for future fiscal years the per-pupil amount and restrict allocation of portions of the funds to school administrative units that have established regionalized administrative services.

The amendment to the bill delays establishing the system administration allocation at \$135 per pupil unit fiscal year 2021.

LD 405 - Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, this bill increases the minimum salary for certified teachers to \$40,000. This bill also requires the Commissioner of Education to increase the state share of the total allocation to a qualifying school administrative unit to achieve the minimum salary for certified teachers. **DEAD**

LD 404 - This bill allocates \$25 million in one-time funding to the School Revolving Renovation Fund.

The amended to the bill includes a \$25 million fiscal note. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 402 - This bill annually raises the minimum salary that an employee who works in an executive, administrative or professional capacity must earn in order for that employee to be exempt from the laws governing the minimum wage and overtime pay until it is \$55,224 on January 1, 2022. The bill provides for an annual adjustment, beginning January 1, 2023, based on the percentage annual increase in certain earnings as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. **Carryover Approved**

LD 401 – This concept draft bill proposes to enact measures to ensure accurate tracking of the origin and type of waste materials disposed of in Maine, to discourage landfilling of recyclable materials, to preserve landfill capacity at state-owned facilities for Maine-generated materials, and to ensure the rights of host communities and abutters of waste disposal facilities. In order to achieve these goals, the bill proposes to: (1) ensure there is accurate tracking and record keeping identifying the origin, amounts and types of materials disposed in waste facilities in the state; (2) ensure waste is effectively tracked from generation point through processing to final disposal point, including the following types of facilities and disposal sites where tracking is required: landfills; landfill leachate discharge sites; incinerator ash and slag disposal sites; and biosolids disposal sites; (3) ensure that waste materials imported from outside the state that are processed at facilities in the state are not classified as Maine-generated waste; (4) ensure that waste materials that end up in a landfill, such as construction and demolition debris, which are used for daily cover in a landfill, are not counted toward the state's recycling goals; (5) ensure adequate legal standing and strengthen protections for the health and wellbeing of people living in close proximity to waste disposal facilities; and (6) strengthen conflict-of-interest protections in awarding and management and oversight of state waste contracts to prevent price fixing and market manipulation. The bill also directs the Department of Environmental Protection to amend rule Chapter 400, Maine Solid Waste Management Rules to: (1) amend the definition of "bypass" to limit the waste that is considered bypass to solid waste that cannot be disposed of, processed or beneficially used at that facility because of malfunction, insufficient capacity, downtime or inability of the facility to process or burn; (2) amend the definition of "recycle" and "recycling" to add a provision that any material left at a landfill is not considered recycled; and (3) define "Maine-generated waste" as solid waste that is discarded for the first time within the physical confines of the state. **Carryover Approved**

LD 397 - This bill requires the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to conduct an assessment pursuant to the sunrise review requirements in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 1-A, subchapter 2 of the licensing of building contractors, insulation installers and energy auditors. The bill requires the commissioner to submit a report to the joint standing committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Commerce and allows the committee to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. **DEAD**

LD 396 - This bill changes the period that a law enforcement agency must store a sexual assault forensic examination kit when the victim has not come forward from 90 days from receipt of the kit to the period of time equal to the limitations period for the underlying crime. This bill also requires investigating agencies in possession of a sexual assault forensic examination kit when the victim has come forward to store the kit for the period of time equal to the limitations period for the underlying crime or until the underlying crime has been prosecuted and a conviction has been obtained, whichever comes first.

The amendment replaces the printed bill and instead requires a law enforcement agency to store a sexual assault forensic examination kit when the victim had not come forward from 90 days to eight years. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 94**

LD 394 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$50 million bond issue to provide funds to the Finance Authority of Maine to create the Maine Student Loan Debt Relief Program. Under the program, zero-interest loans up to \$10,000 per year for a maximum of 5 years are available to certain Maine residents who study at qualified institutions of higher education and agree to live and work in Maine for at least 5 years following graduation. The bill exempts from Maine income tax any benefits received under the program to the extent included in federal adjusted gross income and prohibits individuals who have received benefits under the program from receiving the Maine educational opportunity tax credit.

LD 393 - This bill changes the formula for calculating the property tax fairness credit to expand the credit to residents whose property taxes or rent constituting property taxes on homestead property exceeds 5%, rather than 6% in current law, of the residents' income for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2020. **DEAD**

LD 391 - This resolve establishes a study committee to develop a disposition plan for the three York County courthouses and associated surplus state property that will be available, when the courts are consolidated into one building. The 10 members on the committee include three members of the Maine Senate representing York, Springvale and Biddeford, three members of the Maine House representing York, Springvale and Biddeford, three municipal officials, one each from York, Springvale and Biddeford, and a representative of the Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission. The committee is charged with submitting its findings and recommendations during the second regular session of the 129th Maine Legislature. **DEAD**

LD 390 - This bill allows a municipality or county seeking an order of demolition of a dangerous building to seek a writ of attachment of the property on which the building is located.

LD 389 - This bill changes noncommercial automobile inspection requirements from an annual inspection to a biennial inspection. **DEAD**

January 23, 2019

LD 385 - This bill amends the method by which the share of the total cost of education from kindergarten to grade 12 is calculated for a municipality that is within a regional school unit. Current law establishes that share as the lesser of the municipality's total cost of education as

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

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

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

The amendment to the bill clarifies that, in approving school construction projects, the State Board of Education is required to ensure that school administrative units have considered heating systems that use renewable, locally sourced wood-based fuels and that benefit the State's economy and reduce carbon dioxide emissions in all planning and design for new or substantially renovated schools or school buildings subject to state board approval. The amendment strikes the requirement that the school administrative unit demonstrates a preference for modern wood heating systems. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 53**

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

LD 372 - This bill allows a municipality, in the event of a power outage of five or more days, to hire appropriately licensed professionals to address power, telephone and similar lines that have been felled by weather events and that are preventing access to roadways within the municipality. It allows a municipality to apply to receive compensation from the local electric utility, the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Emergency Management Agency, the United States Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency or another funding source.

The amendment replaces the printed bill and (1) Establishes requirements for an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to establish emergency response plans for recovery and restoration in response to an event where widespread outages have occurred due to weather events or other causes beyond the utility's control. It requires that the prioritization process under the plan follow the statewide comprehensive emergency management plan and include consideration of steps to ensure safety of electric facilities, road opening and service restoration; (2) Requires the plan to detail a coordinated approach that includes: priorities for emergency response and service restoration, staffing, communication and coordination with emergency management agencies, customer communications, resource deployment and safety; (3) Requires each investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to file the plan with the Public Utilities Commission on a biannual basis and to provide a copy of the plan to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, Maine Emergency Management Agency. The amendment allows the commission to designate portions of the emergency response plan as confidential through the issuance of a protective order. The amendment also authorizes the commission to open an investigation to review the emergency response performance of an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility after an emergency event. If the commission, through investigation, finds that the utility failed to implement its emergency response plan in a prudent manner, the commission is required to take action to remedy the failure, which may include denying the recovery through rates of the costs of emergency response and service restoration; and (4) Requires the commission to include in its annual report to the Legislature information regarding its activities and the performance of investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities in relation to emergency response plans. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 120**

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

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

This amendment replaces the printed bill and does the following: (1) Requires an employer, except in a seasonal industry, that employs more than five employees for more than 120 days in any calendar year to permit each employee to earn paid leave based on the employee's base pay; (2) Specifies that an employee is entitled to earn one hour of paid leave from a single employer for every 40 hours worked, up to 40 hours in one year of employment, with accrual of leave beginning at the start of employment; (3) Requires an employee to work for 120 days before an employer is required to permit use of accrued earned paid leave; (4) Requires an employer to pay an employee taking earned leave at least the same base rate of pay that employee received immediately prior to taking earned leave and provide the same benefits as those provided under established policies of the employer pertaining to other types of paid leave; (5) Requires an employee, absent an emergency, illness or other sudden necessity for taking earned leave, to give reasonable notice to the employee's supervisor of the employee's intent to use leave; (6) Specifies that an employee taking earned leave maintains any employee benefits

accrued before the date on which the leave commenced and the leave may not affect the employee's right to health insurance benefits on the same terms and conditions as applicable to similarly situated employees; (7) Provides the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards the exclusive authority to enforce the law and requires the department to adopt routine technical rules to implement and enforce the law; (8) Allows for the imposition of penalties currently established in the Maine Revised 27 Statutes, Title 26, section 53; (9) Preempts the authority of a municipality or other political subdivision to enact any ordinance or other rule purporting to have the force of law under its home rule or other authority regulating earned paid leave; (10) Requires the department to adopt routine technical rules to implement and enforce provisions regarding earned paid leave; (11) Specifies that earned paid leave does not apply to an employee covered by a collective bargaining agreement during the period between Jan. 1, 2021 and the expiration of the collective bargaining agreement; and (12) Requires the department, beginning Jan. 1, 2022 and annually thereafter, to report progress to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over labor matters. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 156**

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

The amendment to the bill clarifies that the alternative breakfast delivery service provides breakfast after the start of the school day and before any lunch period in the school begins for students at that public school. The amendment also provides that a school administrative unit or a public school in which at least 70% of students who are eligible for free and reduced-price meals participate in the breakfast program is exempt from the requirement of providing an alternative breakfast delivery service. The amendment revises the process as proposed in the bill for a school administrative unit to opt out of the alternative breakfast delivery service. The amendment also provides for procedures to track health and academic outcomes of students.

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

LD 357 - This bill resolves logistical issues created by the construction of a consolidated courthouse for York County in Biddeford. Earlier legislation that authorized construction of the courthouse did not factor in adequate space for the office of the district attorney, a required component of the judicial process. This bill provides for the construction of a building of sufficient size to accommodate the office of the district attorney to be connected to the new

courthouse. This bill authorizes the issuance of up to \$6 million in Maine Government Facilities Authority securities to construct the building, but the planning and design, a joint project by the judicial branch and York County, will be covered by the existing funding of the courthouse. The goal of this bill is to make the new building as cost-neutral to the parties as possible. York County will pay the debt service on the bonds and pay annual rent for the land of \$1 until the debt service is fully paid, at which time the State will transfer the land and building to York County for \$1. In addition, the three district court buildings vacated when the new consolidated courthouse opens must be transferred at no cost to York County for its exclusive use.

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

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

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

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

The amendment to the bill provides that all school buses are exempt from the date restrictions on the use of studded snow tires, instead of creating a specific exemption for school busses operated by Head Start programs. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 31**

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

This amendment replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. The amendment does the following: (1) amends the law governing the use of the Liquor Operation Revenue Fund after all liquor operation revenue bonds and any ancillary obligations secured by the fund have been retired to provide additional funding for water and wastewater infrastructure. Specifically, while current law provides a maximum of 15% of funds available after retirement of the bonds be used for matching funds for federal programs for drinking water and wastewater systems, the amendment provides 30% of funds after bond retirement be designated for drinking water and wastewater purposes. The amendment divides the 30% between drinking water and wastewater at 45% and 55% respectively. For both drinking water and wastewater the amendment provides the funds first be used for the state match for federal funds for revolving loans; and (2) amends the law governing the State Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Fund and the Maine Clean

Water Fund to allow the funds to be used to provide assistance for capital investment in private and commercial wastewater systems. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 346 - This bill amends the Brunswick Sewer District Charter to allow the district to charge readiness to serve rates consistent with state statutes. The bill also amends the charter to allow the treasurer of the district, when authorized by the trustees, to waive the district's right to foreclose on a lien mortgage established by the district on an individual's property and provides the form that must be followed for filing the waiver. **Enacted; P & SL 2019, c. 1**

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

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

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

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

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

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

LD 333 - This bill repeals the law prohibiting a person from training or encouraging a dog that is not directly involved with a protection dog training program recognized by the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police to be aggressive toward or attack another person or domesticated animal. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 95**

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

LD 329 - This bill exempts from arrest or prosecution a person who in good faith seeks medical assistance for another person experiencing a drug-related overdose or who is experiencing a

drug-related overdose and is in need of medical assistance. The person may not be arrested or prosecuted for a violation of laws prohibiting the possession of scheduled drugs, acquiring drugs by deception, the possession of hypodermic apparatuses and the use of drug paraphernalia or a violation of probation if the grounds for arrest or prosecution are obtained as a result of the person's seeking medical assistance or experiencing a drug-related overdose. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 137**

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

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

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

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

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

January 17, 2019

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

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

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

LD 308 - This bill increases from 30 to 60 days the notice that a party must provide to terminate a tenancy at will. It also increases from 45 to 75 days the notice that a landlord must provide to increase the rent of a residential tenant.

The amendment, which the bill, authorizes a municipality to increase from 30 days up to 60 days the notice that a party must provide to terminate a tenancy at will. It also authorizes a municipality to increase from 45 days up to 75 days the notice that a landlord must provide to increase the rent of a residential tenant. **Passed to be Enacted**

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

The amendment to the bill changes the definition of “age-friendly community” to clarify that it refers to older adults. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 38**

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

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

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

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

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

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

vehicle in the intertidal zone within the previous five-year period commits a Class E crime.

DEAD

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

The amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill, repeals the existing law regarding nondegradable food and beverage containers and enacts a new provision of law regarding disposable food service containers. Under the amendment, beginning January 1, 2021, a food establishment is prohibited, subject to certain exemptions, from processing, preparing, selling or providing food or beverages in or on a disposable food service container that is composed in whole or in part of polystyrene foam. The amendment also: (1) Excludes from the definition of "disposable food service container" polystyrene foam coolers and ice chests that are used for the processing or shipping of seafood; (2) Adds sleeves and stirrers to the definition of "service ware"; (3) Excludes from the definition of "food establishment" hospitals and so-called meals on wheels establishments funded in whole or in part directly or indirectly by the Department of Health and Human Services; and (4) Incorporates from the existing law, which was repealed in the amendment, regarding nondegradable food and beverage containers certain definitions, a penalty provision and a prohibition on the use of plastic beverage stirrers by food establishments providing or serving beverages at a facility or function of the State or of a political subdivision. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 62**

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

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

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

The amendment to the bill adds a definition of misleading or inaccurate caller identification information to include blocked calls and adds language including interconnected voice over internet protocol and text messaging, and removes the requirement for at least one intrastate call, in the definition of telemarketing. It adds an exception to the prohibition on use of automatic calls in order to communicate with a business about reservations, purchases and other information for customers such as hours of operation, directions and merchandise availability. The amendment removes language prohibiting blocked telemarketer caller identification

information. The amendment adds language stating that violations of the prohibition on misleading or inaccurate telemarketer caller identification information that are violations of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act are enforceable by the Office of the Attorney General. The amendment changes the language describing transmission of misleading or inaccurate caller identification information to add a requirement for intent to defraud, cause harm or obtain anything of value. Finally, 24 amendment adds language stating that a telecommunications carrier providing telecommunications service as allowed by federal law is exempt from the prohibition on causing any caller identification services to transmit misleading or inaccurate caller identification information with the intent to defraud, cause harm or obtain anything of value. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 185**

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

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

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

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

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

The amendment, which replaces the printed bill, makes grammatical changes to clarify the law providing immunity from liability for an act done or omitted in collecting or withdrawing specimens of blood at the request of a law enforcement officer and extends that immunity to an emergency medical services person, a law enforcement officer, an emergency medical service and a law enforcement agency.

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

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

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

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

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

LD 245 - This bill makes permanent the temporary provisions in law requiring that a presidential primary election be conducted in March of the year the presidential election is held. **DEAD**

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

The amendment to the bill renames the Stinson Bridge in the Town of Waterboro and the Town of Limerick the Woodsome Bridge. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 7**

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

The amendment to the bill provides a time frame for implementation of the increase in the property tax exemption for farm machinery, provides administrative provisions for the Bureau of Revenue Services to enforce the exemption and verify required state reimbursement amounts and requires the state to reimburse municipalities for 100% of property taxes lost as a result of the increase in the exemption.

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

DEAD

LD 235 - This bill incrementally increases the fees for the lake and river protection stickers that are required for all resident and nonresident motorboats, personal watercraft and seaplanes operating on inland waters of the state as follows. Beginning January 1, 2020, the fee for resident motorboats and personal watercraft is increased by \$8 and the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by \$10. Beginning January 1, 2022, the fee for resident motorboats and personal watercraft is increased by an additional \$2 and the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by an additional \$5. Beginning January 1, 2024, the fee for resident motorboats and personal watercraft is increased by an additional \$2 and the fee for nonresident motorboats, nonresident personal watercraft and seaplanes is increased by an additional \$5.

The amendment changes the fee increases proposed in the bill as follows: (1) Beginning Jan. 1, 2020, increases the invasive species prevention and control fees for watercraft operating on inland waters from \$10 to \$15; (2) Beginning on Jan. 1, 2020, increases the fee for operating watercraft on inland waters by \$5; and (3) Beginning on Jan. 1, 2020, increases the fee for nonresident motorboats, personal watercraft and seaplanes by \$10, by another \$5 beginning on Jan. 1, 2022, and by another \$5 beginning on Jan. 1, 2024. The bill also requires 80%, rather than 60%, of the invasive species prevention and control fee revenue is credited to the Invasive Aquatic Plant and nuisance Specie Fund and 20%, rather than 40%, credited to the Lake and River Protection Fund.

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

LD 226 - This bill requires the use of preapproved subcontractors for certain components of work included in bids awarded to general contractors for public improvement construction projects subject to competitive bidding. **DEAD**

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

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

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

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

The amendments to the bill allow certain licensed veterans' organizations to sell liquor to the general public. This amendment permits only a licensed veterans' organization that is located on an island off the coast of the state that is provided with ferry service pursuant to state law to sell liquor to the general public at the discretion of and by agreement with the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations, instead of the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services as in the bill, subject to time-of-day and seasonal limitations defined by the bureau at the time of license approval. Smoking on the premises at which a licensed veterans' organization sells liquor to the general public during the time the general public is invited or allowed to be present is prohibited.

Enacted; PL 2019, c. 44

LD 216 - This bill extends to inland shoreland areas the requirement that subsurface wastewater disposal systems on property located within a shoreland area be inspected prior to a sale of the property. Currently, that inspection requirement applies only to the sale of property located within a coastal shoreland area. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 43**

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

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

The amendment replaces the bill and adds an emergency preamble, an emergency clause and an appropriations and allocations section. It creates the ATV Enforcement Fund, which is a nonlapsing fund that is funded with \$10 from each nonresident ATV registration fee collected. Money from the fund is required to be used for the enforcement of ATV laws, ATV education and the purchase of necessary machinery or equipment related to ATV safety and enforcement activities. Like the bill, this amendment increases the ATV registration fee from \$33 to \$45 for annual registrations for residents. It also increases from \$53 to \$75 7-day registrations for nonresidents and from \$68 to \$90 for one-year registrations for nonresidents. The amendment

requires \$12 of each registration fee to be deposited in the ATV Recreational Management Fund. **Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 75 (5/01/19)**

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

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

LD 207 - This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to rename Stillwater Bridge #1 and Stillwater Bridge #2 in the City of Old Town the Llewellyn Estes Bridge. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 10**

January 16, 2019

LD 200 - This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to rename the Ferry Hill Bridge in the Town of Orono the Brandon M. Silk Memorial Bridge. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 4**

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

The amendment to the bill adds to committee membership personnel from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Agricultural Water Management Board and a member of the public with expertise in stormwater management or wastewater management. The amendment strikes the requirement that a member of the public with expertise in water advocacy serves on the committee. The amendment strikes the requirement that the committee focus on developing a strategy for protecting and managing groundwater resources in

this State if worldwide clean water resources are threatened. The amendment also strikes phases two and three. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 67**

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

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

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

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

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

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

The amendment to the bill specifies that a municipality or other political subdivision operating a public airport that receives scheduled passenger aircraft service and that had more than 20,000 passenger boardings in the previous year may in a manner consistent with the airport's regulation of other prearranged for-hire transportation services charge a reasonable fee for each trip to pick up a rider at the airport made by a driver for a transportation network company and regulate the parking and traffic flow of transportation network company drivers at the airport. **Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 78 (5/8/19)**

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

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

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

LD 170 - This bill prohibits the state from including questions about criminal history on its employment application forms. The bill provides an exception to that prohibition when, due to the nature and requirements of the position, a person who has a criminal history may be disqualified from eligibility, such as for a law enforcement officer, corrections officer, child protective or adult protective services caseworker or child development services worker position. The bill applies to state employment positions in the legislative, executive or judicial branch of state government and positions with quasi-independent state entities or public instrumentalities of the state; it does not apply to positions in school administrative units, municipalities, counties or other political subdivisions. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 22**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The amendment strikes and replaces the bill. Like the bill, the amendment removes the requirement in current law that beano or bingo games conducted by an organization such as a volunteer fire department, agricultural fair association or nonprofit association must be conducted entirely by members of the organization. Under the amendment, the beano or bingo games must be conducted under the exclusive control of an adult member of the organization, who may be assisted by other individuals. The amendment defines "member" to mean an individual duly admitted as a member according to the laws, rules, regulations, ordinances or bylaws governing the organization. The amendment also makes a technical change to the laws governing beano and bingo to clarify that a charitable, educational, political, civic, recreational,

fraternal, patriotic, religious or veterans' organization that seeks to obtain a registration to conduct beano or bingo must be a bona fide nonprofit organization. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 56**

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

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

The amendment to the bill provides that a school must test water used for drinking or culinary purposes for lead to the extent the Department of Health and Human Services provides the necessary resources to the school so that the school is not required to expand or modify its activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenue. It directs the department to adopt rules regarding testing and guidance to reduce exposure to lead but provides that the department may not require a school to expand or modify its activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenue in implementing the rules. It further provides that the department may provide resources to schools within its existing resources or identify alternative means to achieve the purposes of the legislation. It requires the department to report annually beginning Jan. 1, 2021 on lead testing in schools. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 158**

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

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

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

The amendment replaces the bill and adds language to the law governing the telecommunications education access fund. The amendment specifies that the use of the fund for internet access includes mobile internet access through a portable wireless access point, or hotspot that provides internet access over a cellular network. The amendment also adds a guideline for allocation of money from the fund to provide, within existing resources, support for qualified libraries in rural areas of the state with greatest needs, as determined in consultation with the State Librarian, the Commissioner of Education and the ConnectME Authority, to offer portable wireless access points, or hotspots, for mobile internet access. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 52**

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

LD 143 - This bill prohibits a transmission and distribution utility from requiring a customer to meter the gross output of a facility for net energy billing purposes and from requiring a customer to have a meter installed to measure gross output in order to participate in net energy billing. The bill requires that a net energy billing customer be credited for kilowatt-hours exported from an eligible facility at the total retail rate for electricity. It allows a transmission and distribution utility to collect data on gross output only if a meter to measure gross output was installed prior to the effective date of this legislation. Finally, it requires the Public Utilities Commission to amend its rules to conform with the changes made in this legislation within 90 days of the effective date. **DEAD**

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

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

The amendment to the bill requires the Department of Economic and Community Development, when determining grants from the Maine Coworking Development Fund, to solicit applications through a competitive bid process, instead of a request for proposal process. The amendment allows for funds to be provided to entities to establish new collaborative workspaces and directs the department to prioritize development of new workspaces in the competitive application process. The amendment replaces the requirement for an annual report by the department to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives with a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over innovation, development, economic advancement and business matters. The amendment directs the department to engage in at least two rounds of competitive applications and also directs that the 2019-20 appropriation be carried over into 2020-21. **On Appropriations Table**

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

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

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

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

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

The amended bill provides that the sales tax exemption applies to sales of watercraft to an incorporated nonprofit transportation company that has a written understanding with a municipality that the watercraft will be available at all times to transport an emergency medical services patient from an island to a licensed ambulance service on the mainland.

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

LD 122 - This bill prohibits an employer from inquiring about a prospective employee's compensation history until after an offer of employment that includes all terms of compensation has been negotiated and made to the prospective employee. The bill also prohibits an employer from requiring that a prospective employee's compensation history meet certain criteria. An employer that violates this provision is subject to a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than

\$500 per violation and is also subject to a civil action that may be brought by or on behalf of an affected prospective employee by the Department of Labor or the affected employee. **DEAD**

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

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

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

LD 114 - This bill provides for open primary elections for the candidates for United States Senator, United States Representative to Congress, Governor, State Senator and State Representative. All of the candidates for those offices, including candidates enrolled in a party and unenrolled candidates, must appear on the same open primary ballot. All qualified voters, regardless of enrollment status, are eligible to vote in open primary elections. The votes in an open primary election must be tabulated using ranked-choice voting, except that the two candidates who receive the most votes are declared the winners of the open primary and their names must appear on the ballot for the general election. If one of the two candidates who received the most votes at the open primary withdraws from the race at least 70 days before the general election, that candidate must be replaced with the candidate who received the third most votes in the open primary election, if any. Voters may not vote for a write-in candidate in a general election that was preceded by an open primary election. As a result, ranked-choice voting will no longer be used in general elections for United States Senator and United States Representative to Congress. Instead, the candidate who receives a plurality of votes at the general election will be elected to those offices. **DEAD**

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

The amendment replaces the concept draft bill, and makes the following changes to the state's solid waste management laws: (1) Inserts "temporary" into the definition of "bypass"; (2) Defines "waste generated within the state" to be geographically specific unless the out-of-state source is used for purposes specified under department guidelines, and removes the definition of "waste generated within the State" from the statutes governing waste management; (3) Creates a whole new section of law that defines municipal solid waste disposal guidelines in state owned facilities with intent to limit land disposal unless the bureau and the operator of the facility have a specific need for the disposal in a landfill, or unless other options for the management of waste that would be further up the solid waste hierarchy are not feasible; (4) Creates a definition for recycling establishments and reportable recyclable materials; (5) Increases the reports required from municipalities on their solid waste management and recycling practices from annually to biennially. Directs municipalities to identify options available to residents and businesses' in the municipality for managing solid waste and recycling, organic waste, and construction and demolition debris and work with the department to develop tracking recycling rates. The bill also directs the Department of Environmental Protection to establish the forms, reporting criteria and guidelines for data reporting; and (6) Establishes a reporting requirement for a recycling establishment with specific provisions, reporting criteria and guidelines on forms provided by the department for these establishments as well as reporting.

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

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

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

January 15, 2019

LD 104 - This bill expands the earned income tax credit by increasing the credit from 5% to 15% of the federal earned income tax credit and extending the credit to persons from 18 to 24 years of

age who have no qualifying child. This bill also requires the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards to provide a poster or notice to employers that states that employees may be eligible for the earned income tax credit. This bill requires employers to post the poster or notice in a place that is accessible to the employers' employees.

LD 102 - Beginning January 1, 2020, this bill prohibits a manufacturer from selling, offering for sale or distributing for sale in the state a single-use plastic beverage container unless the container is composed of at least 15% postconsumer recycled plastic. Beginning January 1, 2022, this threshold for the percentage of postconsumer recycled plastic in single-use plastic beverage containers increases to 20% and, beginning January 1, 2024, the threshold increases to 25%. The bill also prohibits, beginning January 1, 2020, a manufacturer from selling, offering for sale or distributing for sale in the state a single-use plastic beverage container with a plastic beverage cap unless the cap is composed of the same plastic as the beverage container and the cap is tethered to the container in a manner that prevents the separation of the cap from the container when the cap is removed or the cap includes an opening from which the beverage can be consumed while the cap remains screwed onto or otherwise affixed to the container.

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

January 14, 2019

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

The amendment strikes the emergency preamble that would have made the bill effective on the day it is signed by the governor. Instead, the bill will become effective 90 days after the Legislature is finally adjourned for the session. **Passed to be Enacted**

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

The amendment adds an emergency preamble making the change effective on the date the bill is signed by the governor. **Emergency Enacted; P & SL 2019, c. 3 (4/11/19)**

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

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

LD 79 - This bill allows the discharge of a firearm on a sport shooting range that is within 100 yards of a building if the sport shooting range was established and in regular operation prior to the erection of the building. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 14**

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

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

The amendment includes a fiscal note. **On Appropriations Table**

January 10, 2019

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

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

The amendment adds a provision to existing law requiring the Public Utilities Commission to preserve records of customer complaints for a period of 10 years and to make those complaints readily available to the commission for examination. The amendment also strikes a provision in the drafted bill requiring the committee to reconstruct past records of a proceeding, investigation, formal public hearing or complaint. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 26**

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

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

The amendment replaces the printed bill authorizes the court in a proceeding for a violation of cruelty to animals to impose conditions, including but not limited to prohibiting ownership or possession of an animal or having an animal on the defendant's premises and prohibiting employment that involves the care of or other contact with animals. The amendment provides that an intentional or knowing violation of a court order issued pursuant to the provisions of the amendment is a Class D crime. The amendment provides a procedure for a defendant to obtain a court order modifying the conditions or restrictions set in a court order. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 99**

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

LD 62 - This bill increases the maximum benefit that a municipality may provide under a senior volunteer benefit program from \$750 to the greater of \$1,000 and 100 times the state minimum hourly wage. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 36**

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

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

Instead of establishing a recall process, the amendment gives plantations the authority to fill a vacancy in the office of a town official. **Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 18 (4/5/19)**

January 8, 2019

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

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

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

The amendment allows municipal officers to use sequential capital letters for municipal initiative and referendum questions, rather than requiring the use of sequential capital letters as provided for in the bill. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 58**

January 7, 2019

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

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

January 4, 2019

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

LD 41 - This bill replaces the existing net energy billing arrangement utilized for customers of eligible renewable energy facilities with a market-based crediting system that provides credits to eligible customers who produce more electricity than they consume. The market-based system would award credits for excess output based on the real-time wholesale market price of the excess energy. Under the new system, single eligible facilities could be shared by no more than 50 customers, and the service territory of the Northern Maine Independent System Administrator would be exempt until the Public Utilities Commission finds the Administrator's billing system can be modified to accommodate a market-based crediting system. Customers who are utilizing a net energy billing arrangement by December 31, 2019 would be allowed to continue to use that arrangement until December 31, 2034. **DEAD**

LD 39 - This resolve designates Bridge 1457 on Interstate 95, which crosses Main Street in the City of Waterville, the Specialist Wade A. Slack Memorial Bridge. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 5**

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

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

The amendment replaces the bill with a resolve directing the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to consider establishing a special youth turkey hunting day during the fall session, which the commissioner has statutory authority to do. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 18**

LD 32 - This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to designate a portion of U.S. Route 1 in the Town of Whiting the Brigadier General John Crane Memorial Highway and to rename the New Crane Bridge in the Town of Whiting the Purple Heart Veterans Memorial Bridge. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 3**

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

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

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

January 2, 2019

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

The amendment to the bill requires all 2021 model year or newer school buses to be equip with a school bus crossing arm, establishes the minimum and maximum length of the safety equipment and adds an emergency preamble allowing the bill to take effect when finally approved. **On Appropriations Table**

LD 17 - This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to designate Route 1 from its intersection with Route 1A in the Town of Jonesboro to the southern entrance to the Jeremiah O'Brien Memorial Bridges in the Town of Machias the Hannah and Rebecca Weston Trail. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 2**

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

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

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

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

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

The amendment to the bill provides a one-time allocation for updates to the marriage license and certificate forms in the online vital records ordering system. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 82**

LD 7 - This resolve designates Bridge 3790, which crosses the Penobscot River between the towns of Lincoln and Chester, the Master Sergeant Gary Gordon Bridge. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 1**

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