

2020 LD List
2nd Session of the 129th Maine Legislature
Prepared by the Maine Municipal Association
(as of 3/13/20)

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.

March 12, 2020

LD 2152 – This bill provides for the administration of naloxone hydrochloride in a noninjectable form to students, school staff and school visitors through collaborative practice agreements between physicians licensed in this state or school health advisors and public and private school nurses.

March 10, 2020

LD 2148 - This bill amends the definition of a "single-use carry-out bag" in the state's plastic bag reduction law to include bags provided within a retail establishment used to carry merchandise away from the establishment and those used for packaging, protecting or otherwise containing merchandise within the retail establishment. **Passed to be Engrossed**

LD 2147 - This bill requires any person, including a government entity, who causes a discharge of aqueous film-forming fire suppressant foam into waters of the state to report that discharge to the department within 24 hours. This bill also requires manufacturers of products with intentionally added perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances to report the presence of those substances in those products to the Department of Environmental Protection beginning in 2023.

LD 2145 – This concept draft bill, presented in the form of 32 directives, establishes a bill of rights to help veterans' access jobs, education, health care and housing. Of municipal interest, the bill proposes to: (1) extend to all veterans the \$6,000 property tax exemption provided to veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces who are at least 62 years of age and served during a federally recognized war period; (2) survey public lands, unused public buildings and available private buildings, including closed mills, for opportunities to provide housing or temporary shelter for veterans; and (3) provide preference to veterans in the Bridging Rental Assistance Program, which assists persons with mental illness to secure temporary housing.

LD 2144 - This bill adds the use of unmanned aerial vehicles, also known as drones, to the laws governing stalking in the Maine Criminal Code. With respect to the Class D crime of violation of privacy, it provides that the crime can be committed through the use of an unmanned aerial vehicle and adds a provision that prohibits a person from intentionally using outside a private place an unmanned aerial vehicle flying at an altitude of less than 400 feet above the private place or its curtilage at any time without the written permission of the resident or owner of the private place.

March 5, 2020

No LD # - This bill specifies that if the municipal officers or county commissioners have not adopted standards for out-of-service utility facilities or utility pole or utility pole structure replacement and wire transfers, the applicable standards adopted by the Department of Transportation govern.

LD 2134 - The funds provided by the bond issue under Part A, in the amount of \$105 million, will be used for improvement of highways and bridges statewide and for multimodal facilities or equipment related to transit, freight and passenger railroads, aviation, ports, harbors, marine transportation and active transportation projects, to be matched by an estimated \$275 million in federal and other funds. The funds provided by the bond issue under Part B, in the amount of \$15 million, will be used for investments in high-speed internet infrastructure for unserved and underserved areas, to be matched by up to \$30 million in federal, private, local or other funds.

March 3, 2020

LD 2130 – This bill increases the registration fees for all-terrain vehicles (ATV) by \$25 for each type of registration and requires the increased fee revenue to be deposited into the ATV Recreational Management Fund for the construction and maintenance of state-approved ATV trails.

LD 2127 - This bill allows the siting of solar energy installations on land classified as farmland under the farm and open space tax law without requiring the portion of the parcel on which the solar energy installation is located to be withdrawn from the farm and open space tax law program.

February 25, 2020

LD 2126 – This is the Governor’s proposed FY 2020 – FY 2021 supplemental budget, which advances the following issues of municipal significance:

Funding for K-12 Education (Part C). \$2.37 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 2021. The state’s proposed contribution to those costs is \$1.23 billion, accounting for 52% of total expenditures. The budget allocates an additional \$229 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 \$2.60 billion, with the state’s \$1.46 billion appropriation accounting for 56% of total expenditures. For FY 2021, the minimum local share for the cost of funding K-12 education is \$1.14 billion and the mil rate expectation is 8.18.

Line of Duty Benefit (Part E). The bill increases from \$50,000 to \$100,000 the death benefit paid by the state to the beneficiaries of a law enforcement officer, firefighter or emergency medical services person who dies in the line of duty.

LD 2125 - The purpose of this bill is to align the marijuana possession and transfer limitations between the laws governing adult use marijuana and the laws governing marijuana for medical use. This bill removes language in the adult use marijuana laws that authorizes the use, possession, transport, transfer, furnishing or purchase of 2 1/2 ounces of a combination of marijuana and marijuana concentrate that includes no more than 5 grams of marijuana concentrate and instead limits the permissible amount to 2 1/2 ounces of marijuana.

LD 2124 - This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Transportation to convene a rail corridor use advisory council to advise and make recommendations each time one or more governmental entities that represent communities along a state-owned rail corridor request the Department of Transportation to review a nonrail use of that rail corridor, as long as any nonrail use is considered to be interim in nature and that all such rail corridors are preserved for future rail use. Upon receiving a report from a rail corridor use advisory council that recommends track removal or another change to nonrail use of the rail corridor, the commissioner is required, if in agreement with the recommendation, to seek legislative approval of the recommendation by submitting legislation to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters prior to removal or another change to a nonrail use.

LD 2123 - This bill creates a refundable income tax credit equal to 4% for qualified paper manufacturer investment per year for 10 years, subject to certain limitations, for a maximum of aggregate annual credit of \$1.6 million, provided the manufacturer: (1) makes qualifying investments of at least \$15 million to acquire, modernize or improve the machinery used for the production of paper products at paper manufacturing facilities in Maine before Jan. 1, 2024; (2) employs 400 or more employees, 75% or more of whom earn at least 115% of the most recent annual per capita personal income in the county of employment; (3) is located in a high unemployment area that neither qualifies for low-income related federal new markets tax credit program nor a Maine new markets capital investment credit for the same investment; and (4) is or will be headquartered in Maine.

LD 2122 - This resolve directs the Department of Transportation to designate portions of Route 139 and Route 201A in Somerset County the Corporal Eugene Cole Way.

February 25, 2020

LD 2120 - Since a municipality may not be able to provide proof that the sale of liquor was authorized in the community, despite the presence in that municipality of establishments licensed by the bureau, the continuation of licensing by the bureau is in jeopardy. In order to prevent the loss of licensing, this bill provides a window, until July 1, 2022, for a municipality to either provide the bureau with proof of an affirmative vote or decision or to hold a local option election. This bill requires the bureau, no later than Oct. 1, 2020, to notify a municipality that the bureau does not have a record of a local option vote or decision authorizing the sale of liquor in that municipality. In order to continue as a municipality in which the sale of liquor is authorized, that municipality must either provide proof of a local option election or decision authorizing the sale of liquor or, before July 1, 2022, hold a local option election to authorize the sale of liquor. Beginning July 1, 2022, if a municipality that has been notified of noncompliance

fails to affirm the authorization to sell liquor, the bureau is prohibited from licensing an establishment or agency liquor store in that community. If the bureau fails to notify by Oct. 1, 2020 a municipality in which there is a business licensed by the bureau that the municipality is in noncompliance with the requirement to hold a local option election or issue a decision authorizing the sale of liquor in that municipality, then the bureau may not fail to continue to license a business based on that noncompliance. This bill also reduces the number of signatures of voters needed on a petition to hold a local option election to determine whether the sale of liquor is authorized in a municipality from 15% of the number of votes cast in the last gubernatorial election to signatures of 30 voters in that municipality and allows the municipal officers to hold a local option election.

LD 2118 - This bill establishes a requirement that state agencies consult with the tribes prior to engaging in any proposed action that may directly affect the tribes. It requires state agencies to request tribal consultation in writing and to provide the tribes with at least 30 days to respond and to agree to or decline consultation. If a state agency is required by outside legal factors to act earlier, the state must provide as much time for consultation as possible. If a tribe agrees to consultation, the state must provide preliminary drafts or proposals to the tribe and engage in meaningful and timely in-person consultation. The state must explain in writing to the tribe how it has or has not addressed tribal concerns. The bill requires tribal consent prior to proposed actions that could cause substantial or irreparable harm to tribal communities or tribal rights, including but not limited to reserved treaty rights and other tribal rights in land, water and other natural resources. The bill authorizes the state to enter into cooperative agreements with federally recognized Indian tribes within the state to facilitate cross-jurisdictional cooperation and the delivery of government services and to avoid disputes. The bill establishes the annual assembly of the governor and chiefs of each tribe and the biennial legislative assembly to discuss issues relating to the relationship between the state and the tribes. The also bill directs the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission to report, by Nov. 15, 2020, on its study of alternative dispute resolution options and best practices for facilitating resolution of tribal-state disputes and authorizes the committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over judiciary matters to report out legislation based on the recommendations of the commission. Finally, the bill directs the governor to work with the chiefs of each tribe to establish the Bicentennial Accord in order to institutionalize general principles governing tribal state relations. It directs the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission to provide logistical support and technical assistance in developing the Bicentennial Accord.

February 20, 2020

LD 2114 - This bill implements Secretary of State's recommendations for the implementation of the automatic voter registration system and replaces the requirement that the Bureau of Motor Vehicles scan documentation that will be used to create a pending voter registration record for an individual who has not opted out of automatic voter registration and who applies for a driver's license or nondriver identification card with a requirement that the bureau record the individual's documentation for pending voter registration record purposes. The bill also authorizes the bureau to create a pending voter registration record for an individual who has previously applied for a driver's license or nondriver identification card and submitted documentation sufficient to create a pending voter registration record if the individual appears before the bureau to conduct

another transaction and does not opt out of automatic voter registration. The bill directs the Secretary of State to submit, by Jan. 1, 2021, a report to the committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over voter registration matters on the progress made toward implementing automatic voter registration and the estimated time required to complete all activities necessary for implementation. The committee may report out legislation to the 130th Legislature based on the report.

LD 2113 - This bill prohibits a public charter school from using funds received from the state or federal government to engage in activities that interfere with employee rights to self-organization, form, join or assist labor organizations, bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing, and engage in other concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining.

LD 2112 - This bill prohibits the selling, leasing, renting, installing, use or entering into commerce of any product or equipment that uses or will use a substance that is a hydrofluorocarbon with high global warming potential intended for any air conditioning, refrigeration, foam or aerosol propellant end use as determined by the Department of Environmental Protection in rules. It directs the department to adopt rules to implement the prohibition and specifies the substances and end uses that are to be addressed in the rules. In adopting the initial rules, the department must regulate each substance and end use as specifically provided for in the bill and may not regulate any substance or end use not addressed in the bill. In the future, the department may adopt rules adding or removing substances from the list of prohibited substances or adding or removing end uses.

February 13, 2020

LD 2104 - This bill establishes a packaging stewardship program operated by an organization contracted by the Department of Environmental Protection via the competitive bidding process. Under the program, producers of packaging pay into a fund based on the amount by weight of packaging material they sell, offer for sale or distribute for sale in the state. Producers can wholly or partially offset the payment by implementing independent programs to recycle packaging of the same material type and can further reduce their payments by reducing the amount of packaging they sell, offer for sale or distribute for sale in the state, redesigning that packaging to make it more valuable as a recyclable or by meeting other program incentive requirements. Producer payments are used to reimburse eligible municipalities for certain incurred recycling and waste management costs. To be eligible for reimbursement, a municipality must share with the stewardship organization certain data regarding its incurred recycling and waste management costs. Recycling-related reimbursements to municipalities will be based on the median recycling costs incurred by similarly situated municipalities, while disposal-related reimbursements will be based on per capita disposal costs. The stewardship organization is authorized to use producer payments remaining after all reimbursements are paid to cover program operational costs, department fees, development of educational programs, development the infrastructure necessary to improve recycling outcomes in Maine and funding for the Maine Solid Waste Diversion Grant Program.

February 11, 2020

LD 2103 – Under the Freedom of Access laws, personally identifying information concerning a minor that is obtained or maintained by a municipality providing recreational or non-mandatory programs or services can be withheld from disclosure provided the municipality adopts a related ordinance. This bill, in part, repeals the ordinance adoption provision and as a result exempts the data from public disclosure.

LD 2102 - This bill amends exiting Freedom of Access Act training requirements to: (1) clarify that an official must complete the required training within 120 days of assuming the duties of the position; (2) expand the list of municipal officials that must complete the training to include code enforcement officers, town managers, planning board members and the deputies of municipal clerks, treasurers, managers, assessors and code enforcement officers; and (3) clarifies that school superintendents and assistants, as well as school board members are required to complete the training.

February 6, 2020

LD 2100 – This bill requires the Departments of Health and Human Services and Transportation to adopt routine technical rules governing corrosion prevention and mitigation for bridges, public water supply infrastructure and wastewater infrastructure. The rules must: (1) establish a process for ensuring that corrosion prevention and mitigation activities are carried out in accordance with established standards; (2) require the use of personnel who are industry trained and certified in corrosion prevention and mitigation; and (3) require plans to prevent environmental degradation that might result from corrosion prevention and mitigation activities.

LD 2099 – On Jan. 2, 2021 and after, this bill provides that caregivers can operate retail stores, registered dispensaries, testing facilities and manufacturing facilities in communities where the local legislative body (e.g., town meeting or town/city council) has adopted an ordinance or warrant article authorizing related operations and the caregiver has obtained all municipal approvals, permits and licenses. It is unclear as to whether related caregiver operations can take place prior to the January 2021 date. The bill also requires caregivers interested in operating a retail store to apply for a registration certification and prior to obtaining the certification, provide evidence of compliance with applicable local regulations.

January 30, 2020

LD 2090 – Of greatest significance to municipalities, this bill amends the labor relations laws governing municipal public employees, including counties and schools, 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 and provides that, if a public employer fails to implement the binding determinations, non-public safety employees are authorized to strike. The bill adds specific factors an arbitrator must consider when a controversy is not resolved between a public employer and bargaining agent, including: (1) interest and welfare of the public and financial ability; (2) comparison of conditions of employment wages, hours and working conditions of employees performing similar services in the public and private labor market; (3) overall compensation presently received by employees,

including benefits; (4) the need of the employer for qualified employees; (5) the need to maintain appropriate relationships between different occupations in public employment; and (6) the need to establish fair and reasonable conditions in relation to job qualification and responsibilities. The bill also requires that cost items in a collective bargaining agreement arrived at through arbitration may not be included in the state or local operating budget, as relevant, for the current fiscal year, but must instead be submitted for inclusion in the operating budget for the following fiscal year. Finally, under existing labor relations laws governing municipal, university, state and judicial employees require that each party select one arbitrator and those two arbitrators select a neutral third arbitrator. This bill requires that the neutral third arbitrator be selected from a panel of arbitrators appointed by the governor from a list of nominations supplied by the Maine Labor Relations Board. Under the bill, appointees to the panel of arbitrators serve as impartial arbitrators of the interests of the public in the settlement of disputes between employers and employees or their representatives, and each appointee must reside in the Maine. The effective date of these proposed changes is July 1, 2021.

January 28, 2020

LD 2087 - This bill prohibits an employer from requesting criminal history record information on an initial employee application form, subject to certain exceptions. An employer may inquire about a prospective employee's criminal history record information during an interview or once the prospective employee has been determined otherwise qualified for the position. The bill prohibits an employer from stating on an initial employee application form or advertisement or otherwise asserting that a person with a criminal history may not apply or will not be considered for a position, subject to certain exceptions. The bill provides that if an employer inquires about a prospective employee's criminal history record information, the prospective employee, if still eligible for the position under applicable federal or state law, must be afforded an opportunity to explain the information and the circumstances regarding any convictions, including conviction rehabilitation.

LD 2086 – This resolve creates the 23 member Criminal Records Review Committee, including members of the Legislature, commissioners from impacted state agencies, several civil rights and social service advocates, as well as the president of the Maine Sheriffs' Association. Absent from the list is a representative from the municipal law enforcement community. The committee is directed, in part, to develop options for managing criminal records by reviewing activities in other states that address the expungement and sealing of and limiting public access to criminal records and to submit its findings and recommendation, including legislation, to the Judiciary Committee no later than Nov. 4, 2020.

LD 2084 - This bill provides that after Dec. 31, 2024 farm owners and operators must keep their egg-laying hens in cage-free housing systems and prevents the sale in Maine of eggs from hens not kept in a cage-free system. A person who violates these requirements commits a civil violation for which a fine may be adjudged.

January 23, 2020

LD 2067 - This bill provides a process for a voter to request ongoing absentee voter status, which allows the voter to automatically receive an absentee ballot for each statewide election, municipal election and any other election until the status is terminated. It provides that if the clerk notes a discrepancy in signature on the return envelope of an absentee ballot, the return envelope is missing a signature or the affidavit on the return envelope is not properly completed, the clerk shall make a good faith effort to notify the voter within hours by mail, telephone or e-mail of the procedure by which the voter may cure the discrepancy, correct the missing signature or properly complete the affidavit on the return envelope. It provides an effective date of January 1, 2022.

LD 2065 - This bill exempts airboats, which are defined as flat-bottomed watercraft propelled by an aircraft-type propeller and powered by either an aircraft engine or an automotive engine, from the noise level limits imposed on other watercraft. Instead, this bill allows the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to establish noise level limits for airboats by routine technical rules. This bill also requires the department and the Department of Marine Resources to jointly solicit and collect information regarding airboats, including uses of airboats, noise levels and complaints and suggestions for reducing complaints regarding the use of airboats, from interested parties, such as harbor masters, town clerks and residents of coastal towns and airboat users and sellers. Based on the suggestions, the commissioners are authorized to submit legislation in 2021 to implement necessary changes.

LD 2064 - This bill requires the Department of Transportation to notify a municipality when a bridge for which a municipality has maintenance responsibility requires a posting or closure and requires the municipality to carry out the posting or closure. Current law provides a municipality sole responsibility to determine whether such a bridge must be posted or closed. The bill provides that the department's responsibility to pay a portion of the cost of a capital improvement for a low use or redundant bridge on a town way is subject to available funds. It provides that in order for the department to accept certain responsibilities for an improved bridge or for a new bridge, the department must approve the design of the improvements or construction before the improvements are made or the bridge is constructed. The design of the improvements or construction must meet standards set by the department and be sealed by a professional engineer. The department must inspect the bridge after it is improved or constructed. The bill also changes how often the department must prepare a list of bridges that are eligible for capital improvement from biennially to annually and removes the requirement that this list be arranged in priority order using accepted bridge management principles.

LD 2063 – Of municipal interest, this bill corrects a conflict regarding fees related to municipal inspections in the laws governing eating establishments, lodging places, campgrounds, recreational and sporting camps, youth camps, public pools and public spas and adds provisions regarding applications and conditional licensing. It adds a fine for second and subsequent violations and a provision stating that information identifying a reference, complainant or reporter of a suspected licensing violation is confidential.

January 16, 2020

LD 2061 – This bill makes an owner of 50,000 or more acres of forested land that allows transportation of harvested forest products in Maine and in violation of federal law or international trade agreements ineligible for enrollment under the Maine Tree Growth Tax law and for certain tax incentives or state grants or other state funding.

LD 2056 – This resolve establishes the Frequent Users System Engagement Collaborative which includes the director of the Maine State Housing Authority (MSHA), the commissioners from the Departments of Health and Human Services and Corrections, representatives from the Statewide Homeless Council, Maine Sheriffs' Association and providers of emergency health services and any other member the MSHA director determines has relevant expertise. The collaborative is directed to develop a plan to provide stable housing and community services to 200 persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness who are the most frequent consumer of high-cost services, such as psychiatric hospitals, emergency shelters, emergency rooms, police, jails and prisons. The collaboration is further directed to submit its report to the Health and Human Services Committee by Jan. 1, 2021 which is in turn authorized to report out a bill in 2021.

LD 2050 – This emergency legislation establishes the Central Aroostook County Emergency Medical services Authority to facilitate the provision of emergency medical services to the citizens of Mars Hill, Bridgewater and Blaine. **Emergency Enacted; P& SL 2019, c. 17 (2/29/20)**

LD 2049 - This bill amends the laws governing contributions under the open enrollment provisions of the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program by repealing the provision that requires a person hired on or after Oct. 1, 2019 to enroll in the program no later than five years after hire. This bill also changes the percentage of gross wages for contributions from 1.5% to 3% for the first five years and from 3% to 1.5% for additional years. This bill removes the requirement of 60 months of contributions by enrollees and requires state payments to be made directly to enrollees.

LD 2047 – This bill, in part, makes changes to the real estate transfer tax in order to require the filing and payment of real estate transfer tax returns to the State Tax Assessor instead of the register of deeds for the county in which the real estate is being transferred is located.

LD 2045 – This bill provides that for property tax purposes, retail sales facilities in excess of 20,000 square feet must be valued based on their current use compared to similar property in their retail market segment or, if vacant, according to their highest and best use.

LD 2044 – This bill increases the state funded death benefit for a law enforcement officer, firefighter or emergency medical services person who has died while in the line of duty from \$50,000 to \$75,000 through June 30, 2021, and then adjusted by the Consumer Price Index each year thereafter.

LD 2043 – This bill seeks to reclassify violations of certain inland fisheries and wildlife and motor vehicle laws. Of greatest municipal interest, the bill reduces from a Class E crime to a civil violation, the following offenses: (1) failure to register a vehicle or having a registration that has been expired for 150 days or more; (2) operating a motor vehicle on a public way or parking area without being licensed; (3) failure to obtain a license after establishing residency for more

than 90 days; (4) operating a motor vehicle without proof of financial responsibility; (5) possessing a revoked, fictitious or fraudulently altered driver's license; and (6) attaching to a motor vehicle a registration plate assigned to another vehicle.

LD 2040 – This bill requires municipal clerks to maintain a record of disposition permits using the electronic death registration system maintained by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics and to make copies of the records available upon request. **Passed to be Enacted**

January 14, 2020

LD 2037 – Of municipal interest, this bill authorizes nonconcurrent sentencing when a crime is committed by a convicted person during a stay of execution of any term of imprisonment or after failure to report after a stay of execution of any term of imprisonment. It also authorizes nonconcurrent sentencing when the convicted person is convicted of the crime of failure to report as ordered after a stay of execution of any term of imprisonment.

LD 2036 – This resolve extends the work of the 15-member Blue Ribbon Commission To Study and Recommend Funding Solutions for the State's Transportation system by authorizing the commission to meet up to four times during the 2020 legislative session and to report out findings and recommendations to the Transportation Committee no later than March 5 of this year. **Emergency Passed; Resolves, 2019, c. 112 (1/21/20)**

LD 2033 - This bill ensures proper closure of oil terminal facilities by establishing financial assurance and facility closure requirements. It develops a process for assessing the costs of decommissioning oil terminal facilities and infrastructure and establishing financial responsibility for closure costs. It requires, upon closure, removal of facilities and appurtenances and remediation of the site to an unrestricted use standard or the most protective use standard determined by the Department of Environmental Protection to be practicable. It also requires facilities not in use for 10 years to file a closure plan. The bill also requires oil terminal facilities to provide evidence of financial ability to satisfy liability under existing law.

LD 2032 – This bill allows the Public Utilities Commission to waive the requirement that a small water utility (e.g., gross annual revenues of less than \$50,000) has an independent internal audit of accounts performed by a certified public accountant if the utility shows good cause as to why the waiver is necessary. **Passed to be Enacted**

LD 2031 – This bill requires a cable system operator to grant a subscriber a pro rata credit or rebate if that subscriber requests service disconnection during the first two weeks of a monthly billing period.

LD 2028 – This concept draft bill establishes a process to be used by the Office of the Secretary of State to restrict or prohibit the sale of information or sale of information for specific purposes.

LD 2025 – This bill allows a hospital to authorize an emergency medical services person to provide to a patient of the hospital in a hospital setting treatment that is within the scope of practice of the emergency medical services person.

LD 2024 – This bill repeals the provision of statute that includes state contributions to the unfunded actuarial liabilities of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System attributed to teachers and retired teachers' health and life insurances in the calculation of state aid for education.

LD 2022 – Using a one-time FY 2021 General Fund appropriation of \$4 million, this bill authorizes the Commissioner of Education to expend and disburse funds to career and technical education centers and regions to make capital improvements and to purchase equipment that has a useful life of at least five years.

LD 2021 – Using a one-time FY 2021 General Fund appropriation, this bill allocates \$15 million to the ConnectME Authority for providing broadband internet infrastructure in unserved and underserved areas of the state.

LD 2019 - This bill provides the same protections to municipal, judicial and public higher education employees that are provided to state employees upon the expiration of labor contracts by requiring that, during an interim between the expiration and the effective date of any subsequent bargaining agreement, covered employees must remain eligible and receive merit increases in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the expired collective bargaining agreement.

LD 2015 – This bill provides that victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking may take reasonable leave from work, with or without pay, to: (1) seek legal or law enforcement assistance; (2) seek treatment by a health care provider for related physical or mental injuries; (3) obtain services from a domestic violence shelter, rape crisis center, other social services program, or mental health counseling provider; and (4) participate in safety planning or relocation. Employees are required to provide employers with advance notice of the intent to take leave, consistent with the employer's policy, if one exists, unless the leave is an emergency. Employers are authorized to ask for verification of the leave and the bill establishes the information that is to be submitted to satisfy the employer's request, which can include a police report, court order, written statement, etc. The bill also extends employment, pay and benefit protections to employees who take leave from work and makes any related information in the possession of the employer confidential. An employer who violates the leave act is subject to a fine of up to \$500 for the first offense and a fine of up to \$1,000 for each subsequent offense occurring within three years of the first violation. **DEAD**

LD 2011 – In part, this bill subjects digital media consumer purchases to the service provider tax, and requires that a percentage of those revenues, currently 3%, are transferred to the Local Government Fund for distribution to communities via the revenue sharing program.

LD 2009 - This emergency bill authorizes the Greater Portland Transit District board to accept applications for membership from municipalities that are contiguous to, as well as those located wholly or partially within, the Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System.

Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 554 (2/04/20)

LD 2008 – Of greatest municipal interest, this bill requires the state tax assessor to provide a copy of the equalized and adjusted assessment list to each community’s municipal officers rather than to the chair of the board of assessors or the chair of the board of selectmen as currently provided in statute.

January 8, 2020

LD 2006 – This bill adds testing of enterococcus to the list of bacteria that a laboratory operated by a licensed waste discharge facility can analyze without being certified by the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 580**

LD 2005 – This bill increases the maximum length limit for the wheelbase of a semitrailer operated in combination with a truck tractor on a highway network from 43 feet to 45.5 feet. **Passed to be Enacted**

LD 1996 - This bill allows the Emergency Medical Services’ Board to collect or receive health care information or records, including information or records that identify a patient and requires hospitals and physicians, upon request by the board for the purpose of evaluating assessment and treatment by physicians and hospitals and determining health outcomes, to provide information concerning individuals who have received emergency medical treatment.

LD 1989 – This emergency bill amends the laws governing recounts in elections for municipal office to clarify that those laws apply to elections for all municipal offices. **Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 558 (2/14/20)**

LD 1983 - This bill amends the asset forfeiture-related recordkeeping laws in the following ways: (1) Clarifies that law enforcement agencies are responsible for maintaining reports of the forfeited property in their possession; (2) Changes the specific information that must be included in those records and authorizes public inspection of related records; and (3) Requires reports concerning the transfer of property held by the Department of Public Safety and forfeited to another governmental entity be provided, upon request, to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services and the Office of Fiscal and Program Review. **Passed to be Engrossed**

LD 1982 – This resolve directs the Department of Public Safety to conduct a study to develop best practices that municipalities may implement to improve the security of municipal properties and requires the department to submit a report of the study to the Criminal Justice Committee by Dec. 31, 2020. **DEAD**

LD 1981 – This concept draft bill proposes to define what a tiny house is and to allow for the titling of a tiny house as a camp trailer or a trailer.

The amendment to the printed bill puts into place provisions governing applications for certificates of title for tiny homes that are transported on public roads by way of transit permit from the point of sales to final destination, or annually or seasonably to an established temporary resident. As proposed, the Secretary of State is required to issue a certificate of title for a new

tiny home and authorized, but not required, to issue a certificate of title for a used home that was previously issued a State of Maine title. The application fee is set at \$50.

LD 1976 – This bill exempts a school bus driver who has been temporarily laid off from the work search requirements in the unemployment compensations laws for up to six weeks if the driver’s employer sets a definite recall date of not more than 12 weeks from the date of the temporary layoff. **DEAD**

LD 1973 – This bill amends the laws regarding the appointment of municipal conservation commissions in the following ways: (1) Authorizes the members of the commission, rather than the municipal officers, to appoint nonvoting associate members; (2) Requires the members of the commission to elect a chair and secretary among its members to serve one year terms; (3) Authorizes, at the recommendation of the commissioners, the municipal officers to appoint alternate commissioners; (4) Authorizes commissioners to appoint ad hoc committees to perform specific tasks as defined by the commission; and (5) Amends the duties and powers of the commission to include developing an open area plan for review and approval by the local legislative body, assisting in drafting or updating the natural resource provisions in the comprehensive plan, advising the planning board or other review authority on impacts on the environment and natural resources, educating community members, developing and recommending programs to better protect open areas, including the acquisition of conservation easements, and collaborating with other conservation entities.

The amendment replaces the printed bill and allows municipal officers to appoint associate and alternate members to an established municipal conservation commission and requires that only residents be appointed to ad hoc committees. The bill also adds to the list of possible activities municipalities may direct from the work of commissions to include: (1) developing and recommending to the municipal officers, local legislative body or state agency, programs to better protect the development or use of open areas; (2) work with planning boards in evaluating development and application impacts; and (3) collaborating with other conservation entities in the advancement of directives and goals. **DEAD**

LD 1971 – This bill allows schools to employ as a school security officer a trained law enforcement officer, a person who meets the Maine Criminal Justice Academy law enforcement officer qualifications, or a state, county, municipal or federal law enforcement officer who retired in good standing. **DEAD**

LD 1969 – This concept draft bill proposes to require the collection and cataloging of data on the history of public buildings regarding abatement and contaminant testing, create new standards regarding the level of contaminants allowed in public buildings, improve testing requirements, and better reinforce oversight of those buildings identified as having contaminant issues. The bill also seeks to improve the ability of state workers in public buildings to raise and resolve safety concerns.

LD 1967 - This resolve requires the county commissioners of Hancock and Washington counties to include a referendum question on the Nov. 3, 2020 ballot asking voters if they approve dissolving Prosecutorial District Number 7 and developing a plan to either establish a separate prosecutorial district or join a neighboring prosecutorial district. If a majority of voters in both

counties vote in favor of the question, the county commissioners of both counties are directed to develop and submit a plan to the committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters by Feb. 1, 2021. The committee is directed to introduce implementing legislation in either 2021 or 2022 to take effect Jan.1, 2023.

LD 1966 – Current law authorizes a vehicle with a disability placard or registration plate to park at a parking meter at no charge. This bill extends that authorization to public ways and other parking areas administered by municipalities.

LD 1965 – For the 2020-2021 and subsequent school years, this bill sets the minimum wage for school support staff at \$16 per hour. As defined in the bill, support staff does not include superintendents, assistant superintendents, building administrators, principals and certified teachers that receive the current minimum teacher salary.

LD 1963 – This bill amends the abandonment of residential properties in foreclosure law in the following ways: (1) Assumes that the property is abandoned by either determination of a code enforcement officer or other public official or if three or more conditions are present, including, but not limited to: (a) boarded or broken doors or windows; (b) termination or low use of utility services; (c) presence of rubbish, trash or debris on the premises; (d) accumulation of newspapers, flyers or mail; (e) absence of furnishings and personal property; (e) provision of one or more written statements signed by the homeowner indicating an intent to abandon the property; and (d) when a law enforcement agency has received reports of at least two separate incidents of trespass, vandalism or other illegal acts 180 days prior to seeking a determination of abandonment; (2) Requires that an affidavit attesting to the conditions of abandonment is signed and based on personal knowledge and the basis of that knowledge; (3) Authorizes, upon receipt of an order of abandonment, a mortgagee or designee to enter the property for the limited purpose of conducting inspections, repairs and maintenance required by statute or court order; (4) Protects residents lawfully residing in abandoned property from being forced, intimidated, harassed or coerced into vacating the property in order to render the property vacant and abandoned; (5) Provided that notice is issued prior to entry, allows a mortgage servicer or designee to enter property that is abandoned in mid-foreclosure in order to remedy identified nuisances, preserve the property or prevent waste, and secure the property; and (6) Provides immunity from liability to a municipality or county for damages caused by the mortgage servicer.

LD 1962 – This concept draft bill requires the use of propane and natural gas detectors in appropriate buildings.

LD 1960 – This bill makes communications between a bargaining unit and a state or other public employee, including municipal, county and school employees, confidential in proceedings before the Maine Labor Relations Board, to the same extent those communications would be subject to the lawyer-client privilege under the Maine Rules of Evidence if the agent was a lawyer. **DEAD**

LD 1959 – This emergency bill repeals the provision in public employee labor relations law prohibiting a state or other public employee, including municipal, county and school employees, from joining a labor organization within the first six months of employment.

LD 1958 – In an effort to promote workforce development and retention, this bill expands the use of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) to include qualifying adult and child care facilities.

The amendment to the bill describes eligible child care facilities as those licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services and under the supervision of a director and with sufficient staff to provide care for at least six children under the age of 18 who are not family members, legal guardians or other custodians of employees and operated out of nonresidential commercial buildings.

LD 1956 – This emergency bill establishes the 10-member Commission To Increase Housing Opportunities by Studying Zoning and Land Use Restrictions, which includes members of the Maine House and Senate and representatives from the Maine State Housing Authority, Governor’s Office, a statewide municipal association, statewide organization that advocates for affordable housing, regional planning association and the real estate industry. The commission is authorized to meet six times and directed to review data on housing shortages for low and middle income households, state laws that affect local regulation of housing, efforts in other states to address housing shortages via zoning and land use restriction changes, and consider measures to encourage increased housing options in Maine. The commission is required to submit its report and findings no later than Nov. 4, 2020, including legislation for presentation to the members of the 130th Legislature when convened in 2021.

LD 1947 – This bill authorizes the use of up to \$20 million in Maine Governmental Facilities Authority securities to fund capital improvements to career and technical education centers and regions.

LD 1945 – This emergency bill requires forest rangers hired on or after July 1, 2019 to complete the Maine Criminal Justice Academy’s basic law enforcement training program. All ranger pilots, regardless of date of hire, and all rangers hired before July 1, 2019 are exempt from the training mandate. **Passed to be Enacted**

LD 1942 – This bill bans the use of consumer fireworks within the shoreland zone, except during the week of July 4, New Year’s Eve, Labor Day, and Memorial Day and fireworks displays permitted by the Department of Public Safety.

LD 1932 – This bill allows private elementary and secondary schools and public and private postsecondary education institutions in Maine to conduct student and adult camping trips without first obtaining a guide license, provided that at least one staff member organizing the trip is at 18 years of age and the person in charge of the trip holds a valid camp trip leader permit.

LD 1930 – This bill makes the following changes to the state’s aquaculture leasing and licensing statutes: (1) Provides that the Department of Environmental Protection receives notices only of applications that involve activities that have a discharge; (2) Expands the reasons under which the Commissioner of Marine Resources may enter into lease revocation proceedings to include operating in a manner substantially injurious to public health or violating minimum lease standards; (3) Reduces the number of days in advance of which an individual must apply for the

renewal of a lease from 90 to 30 days prior to the expiration; (4) Clarifies notice requirements when a standard lease is proposed for renewal; (5) Requires the fee for a lease transfer to be paid upon application for the transfer instead of at the execution of the lease; (6) Specifies that a person may not apply for an expansion of a lease until the person has held that lease for a minimum of 2 years; (7) Moves the responsibility for notifying riparian landowners of an application for a lease expansion from the applicant to the Department of Marine Resources and moves the responsibility for providing public notice in the newspaper from the department to the applicant; (8) Establishes the rule-making authority for the commissioner to establish fees for services provided by the department to lease holders if they request testing or studies to ensure their products are safe for human consumption; (9) Broadens the language allowing changes to leases and requires the commissioner to establish a fee for making changes to a lease; (10) Removes the commissioner's rule-making authority regarding changes to limited purpose leases; (11) Limits the ability of the holder of a limited-purpose aquaculture license to have unlicensed individuals participate in the licensed activities by requiring their direct supervision by the license holder; and (12) Raises the fee for a limited-purpose aquaculture license from \$50 to \$100 for a resident and from \$300 to \$400 for a nonresident.

LD 1929 – This emergency bill establishes an 11-member Commission To Study Fair, Equitable and Competitive Tax policy for Maine’s Working Families and Small Businesses, which includes members of the Maine House and Senate and representatives of the Governor’s Office, small business community and working families. The commission is tasked with developing recommendations designed to ensure that Maine’s tax policy is fair and equitable, while ensuring the state remains competitive. The commission is also directed to examine measures to level the playing field for small businesses, provide aid to entrepreneurs, adequately fund important government services (e.g., aid for local services, education, infrastructure, affordable health care, etc.), and evaluate the impact of any proposed tax changes. The commission is required to submit its report and findings no later than Nov. 4, 2020, including legislation for presentation to the members of the 130th Legislature when convened in 2021.

January 2, 2020

LD 1923 –This bill amends the definition of "hazardous substance" in the laws governing uncontrolled hazardous substance sites by including substances defined as hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants under the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980.

LD 1918 - The bill expands the purposes for which a reserve fund may be established to include funding for any direct instruction or instructional support purpose, provided the creation of the fund receives voter approval. The bill also allows school administrative district, regional school unit, community school district and career and technical education region boards to vote to expend reserve funds without voter approval when an emergency necessitating immediate expenditure makes obtaining voter permission cost-prohibitive or when expenditures are required by law.

December 24, 2019

LD 1915 – This resolve directs the Department of Environmental Protection to study methods to measure and estimate air emissions from fixed-roof, heated aboveground petroleum storage tanks and methods to control odor and other air emissions from emission sources at oil terminal facilities. The department is further required to submit a report by Jan. 1, 2021 to the committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources matters, which in turn may submit legislation in 2021.

LD 1911 –Beginning on Jan.1, 2022, benefits paid to an individual under the laws governing unemployment compensation must be charged against the experience rating record of the claimant's employers in a ratio inversely proportional to the claimant's employment beginning with the most recent employer. This bill strikes that language and instead restores the previous language governing the employer benefit charging model. The bill also provides that the experience rating record of the most recent subject employer may not be charged with benefits paid to a claimant whose work record with that employer totals five or fewer consecutive weeks and clarifies that, in the absence of an application for redetermination filed within 30 days after the mailing of notification of benefits paid and chargeable to the employer's experience rating, the notification is conclusive and binding. Under the bill, any request for reconsideration must be made under the laws governing appeals of determination or assessment. **Passed to be Enacted**

LD 1908 – This bill establishes First Responders Day as a state holiday to be celebrated annually on September 11.

By vote of the committee, the amendment replaces the printed bill, changes the title to An Act to Establish First Responders Day on September 11th and requires the Governor to issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of Maine to observe this day through appropriate ceremony, celebration and activity. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 570**

LD 1906 – Of direct municipal interest, this bill changes the composition of the Shellfish Advisory Council to clarify that one of the members is a municipal official involved in pollution permitting or mitigation and provide that two additional members are municipal shellfish officials, including, but not limited to, a municipal shellfish conservation warden or a member of a municipal shellfish management committee.

LD 1904 – This bill makes the following changes to the election laws: (1) Adds a published obituary or notice from an immediate family member that includes the name, date and place of death of the voter to the list of resources election officials can use to maintain their voter files; (2) Lowers the age of qualification to be an election official from 17 to 16 to correspond to a recent change in law allowing for the conditional registration of 16 year olds; (3) Addresses a conflict in statute by clarifying that municipal clerks have two business days to submit their official election returns to the Secretary of State; (4) Requires the clerk to post a copy of the notice of early processing of absentee ballots along with the notice of election; (5) Requires an application for a citizens initiative or people's veto referendum to include the residences, e-mail addresses and telephone numbers of individuals designate to receive related notices and directs the secretary to provide notice by email only; and (6) Changes the withdrawal provisions of

candidates for the office of U.S. Senator, Representative to Congress and Governor to match the provisions of other offices.

LD 1903 – This bill repeals and replaces the following provisions of the law governing activities at polling places on the day of the election: (1) Requires a six foot wide access corridor from the entrance to the polling place to the guardrail enclosure where voting takes place that must be kept open at all times for the sole purpose of allowing voters to pass through; (2) Designates a wider campaign-free zone of up to 150 feet outside the entrance of the voting place where campaign activities related to any candidate or question on the current ballot are restricted; (3) Defines the activities restricted from occurring within the campaign-free zone as (a) the instruction of voters; (b) display or distribution of advertising material including literature, posters, palm cards, buttons, badges or stickers; (c) solicitation or acceptance of Maine Clean Election Act candidate contributions; (d) collection of signatures on nomination papers; or (e) communications with voters in a manner that expresses support or opposition for a party, candidate or question; (4) Provides that signatures on petitions for direct initiatives, people’s veto referenda and municipal referenda may be permitted by the election warden inside the voting place and within the 150-foot zone but outside the six foot wide access corridor; (5) Removes the provision making a violation of these laws a Class E crime and (6) directs the Secretary of State to issue guidelines to assist local election officials, candidates, campaigns and the public in interpreting and applying these restrictions.

LD 1901 – This bill adds parking areas to the places where the use of handheld mobile telephones and electronic devices while driving is prohibited and changes the penalty provision allowing the for the assessment of a \$50 fine for the first offense and a \$250 fine for subsequent offenses. Under current law, a fine of “not less than” \$50 and \$250 for a first and subsequent offense, respectively, may be assessed.

LD 1899 – Of municipal significance, this bill allows the Secretary of State to assist law enforcement entities by providing driver's license biometric technology records (e.g., retinal scans, facial recognition technology, fingerprints, etc.) and further prohibits the secretary from allowing an outside entity to use biometric technology to search driver's license records.

LD 1898 – This bill directs the State Tax Assessor to determine and apportion the value of an energy generation project property that is located in both the unorganized territory and organized areas. The valuation of an energy generation asset determined by the tax assessor may not be considered captured assessed value for tax increment financing purposes, and an appeal of a valuation may be made to the State Board of Property Tax Review.

LD 1894 – This emergency bill directs the Department of Education to transition 100% of the public school bus fleet to all-electric buses by 2040 and requires that a portion of available 2020 resources be set aside to purchase small electric buses (e.g., weighing less than 10,000 pounds) as replacements in or additions to the existing school bus fleet. The department is further directed to adopt rules relating to bid requirements, electric charging stations and uniform school bus specifications, as well as to develop an electric bus education program designed to train school bus mechanics, drivers and transportation directors.

LD 1893 – This emergency bill directs the state to lease public land at the property’s reasonable market value and requires legislative approval of leases seeking to use public lands for commercial purposes. The bill also directs the Bureau of Parks and Lands, within the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, to examine all public reserved land leases entered into by the state since Jan. 1, 2014 to determine whether those leases are in compliance with these requirements and report its findings to the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee no later than March 1, 2020. The committee is authorized to submit legislation for consideration in 2020.

LD 1892 – This bill increases the administrative penalties for violations of the so-called dig safe law from \$500 to \$1,000 for a first offense and from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for a subsequent violation occurring within 12 months of an earlier violation. The bill also specifies that underground liquefied propane gas distribution systems are subject to the dig safe law. **Passed to be Enacted**

LD 1890 – This bill amends the civil procedure laws to authorize the transport of a prisoner by a transport officer when a court has issued a writ of habeas corpus.

LD 1888 – This bill bans the use of nonselective herbicides, including but not limited, to glyphosate, within 75 feet of school grounds, public playgrounds and child care centers.

LD 1886 – This emergency resolve requires the Department of Transportation to rename the Sibley Pond Bridge in Canaan and Pittsfield the William Harris Memorial Bridge.

LD 1880 – This bill repeals and replaces the charter of the Canton Water District and clarifies that, going forward, the district is to be considered a standard district as defined in the Standard Water District Enabling Act. **Enacted; P & SL 2019, c. 15**

LD 1877 – This concept draft bill proposes to amend the Kittery Water District charter.

LD 1876 – This resolve requires the Department of Transportation to name Bridge 3880 in Dresden the Veterans Memorial Bridge. **Finally Passed**

LD 1875 – This bill requires the Department of Transportation to designate Bridge 5818 on Interstate 95, which crosses Main St. in Waterville, the Specialist Wade A. Slack Memorial Bridge. The bill also requires the department, when designating a bridge with a specific name, to deem separate bridges that run parallel to one another on the same highway as one bridge for the purpose of that designation. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 565**

LD 1873 – This bill requires an employee of a public safety answering point or public or private safety agency who responds to emergency medical calls to be trained to provide cardiopulmonary resuscitation instruction to a person at the scene of a cardiac arrest by means of telecommunications technology, also referred to as T-CPR. The bill directs the Department of Public Safety and the Emergency Service Communication Bureau within the Public Utilities Commission to establish a procedure to monitor compliance with the training mandate and

further authorizes the department to sanction noncompliance by adjusting the funding distributed to public safety answering points. **DEAD**

December 23, 2019

LD 1870 – This bill creates the Maine Lighthouse Trust special registration plate and dedicates \$10 of the initial and renewal registration fees to the trust for the purpose of supporting lighthouse restoration and preservation efforts.

Bills Carried Over from the 2019 Session:

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. **DEAD**

LD 1836 – This bill sends out to the voters a comprehensive bond package. Specifically, the bill includes: (1) \$100 million 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, child care services, 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. The program is 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. **Carryover Approved**

June 4, 2019

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's fee schedule effective Nov. 1, 2018 to Oct. 31, 2019. **Carryover Approved**

June 3, 2019

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

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

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

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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

LD 1786 - This bill amends the law restricting the sale of residential upholstered furniture treated with flame-retardant chemicals to prohibit the 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. **DEAD**

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, consult with the Departments of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry and Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. **Carryover Approved**

May 16, 2019

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**

May 14, 2019

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 1726 - This bill provides 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 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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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. **DEAD**

May 8, 2019

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. **Carryover Approved**

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. **Recalled from the Governor's desk pending consideration**

May 7, 2019

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. **Carryover Approved**

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 an upstream fish passage over both the Graham Lake Dam and Ellsworth Lake Dam within 10 years of the project's relicensure. **DEAD**

April 25, 2019

LD 1647 – Of greatest municipal interest, this bill increases the homestead property tax exemption to \$25,000 on April 1, 2020. **DEAD**

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.

Carryover Approved

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 benefit 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 misrepresents 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 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**

April 23, 2019

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 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 region, effective Jan. 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. **Carryover Approved**

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. **DEAD**

April 16, 2019

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 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 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 also establishes the Maine Broadband Initiative Fund to provide ongoing funding for high-speed broadband through funding sources to be identified in the bill. **Carryover Approved**

April 11, 2019

LD 1545 - This bill amends the provisions regarding the testing of adult use marijuana and products by requiring that testing conform to any applicable state or federal process, protocol or standard for the testing of tobacco. The bill also provides 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 1537 - This bill increases the portion of the benefits 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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

April 9, 2019

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. **Carryover Approved**

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. **DEAD**

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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

LD 1518 – This Act establishes the Tick Laboratory and Pest Management Fund administered by the University of Maine at Orono and capitalized by the revenue derived from the pesticide container fee. The 15 cent fee applies to all pesticide containers, excluding pesticides sold to licensed applicators and to containers of paint, stain, wood preservative or sealant registered as a pesticide with the Board of Pesticide Control (BPC). Three cents of the imposed fee is retained by the retailer to defray the costs associated with collecting the fee. After providing reimbursement to the State Tax Assessor for offsetting the costs of collecting the fee, BPC for maintaining a list of registered pesticides, the University for administering the program, 25% of the remaining revenues are used to fund pest management and pesticide safety education efforts; 50% used fund the University of Maine Cooperative Extension tick laboratory; and 25% used to conduct a research project every three years selected by the pest research committee. The seven member pest research committee includes faculty and pest specialist and experts from the University of Maine at Orono, a representative from the agricultural sector, a commercial pesticide applicator and representative from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 548**

April 4, 2019

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 Maine. 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 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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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 1460 – This bill provides for the establishment of a drug take-back stewardship program. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1444 – Under current law, a marijuana establishment must be 1,000 feet from a preexisting public or private school. This bill reduces that distance to 300 feet and makes the method by which the distance is measured consistent with liquor law requirements. **DEAD**

March 28, 2019

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.

DEAD

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

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 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 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 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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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 recommends that the Maine Turnpike Authority and the City of Saco contribute 40% and 20% of the total costs, respectively. **DEAD**

LD 1386 - This Act directs the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards, when determining prevailing hourly wage and benefits, to collect one set of data through a survey of wage and benefits during the second and third weeks of July and a second set of data through certified payroll submissions on state construction projects during the second and third weeks in July of each year any state agency contracts for the construction of public works and to use the higher of the two data sets to determine the prevailing hourly wage and benefit rate. This bill also increases from \$50 to \$250 for a first offense, \$500 for a second offense and \$1,000 for subsequent offenses the penalty assessed for failing to provide requested information to the bureau. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 545**

LD 1377 – This bill, in part, establishes the 14-member Panel To Review Deaths of and Serious Injuries to Persons with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism, one member of which is a law enforcement officer. An employee of the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, who is a registered nurse, is the panel coordinator and tasked with reviewing all cases of death of and serious injury to persons with intellectual disabilities or autism receiving adult developmental services and determining whether the case requires further review by the panel. Reports of the panel's work, including findings and recommendations, must be submitted the Legislature, Commissioner of Health and Human Services and the Maine Developmental Services Oversight and Advisory Board. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

March 21, 2019

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. **Recalled from the Governor's desk pending consideration**

March 19, 2019

LD 1295 - This concept draft bill proposes to direct the Departments of Health and Human Services and 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**

March 14, 2019

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. **Carryover Approved**

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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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. Eighty-five percent of the revenue collected from the local option sales tax is distributed to the generating 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. **Carryover Approved**

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. **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% to 100%. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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. **Carryover Approved**

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. **Carryover Approved**

March 12, 2019

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 1194 - This bill increases the veteran property tax exemption from \$6,000 to \$10,000. **Carryover Approved**

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 system is required to submit a report with suggested legislation by Dec. 4, 2019 to the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business, which may submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. **Carryover Approved**

March 7, 2019

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 Jan. 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. **Carryover Approved**

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

LD 1158 - This bill amends the property tax fairness credit under the income tax laws for tax years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2020 by changing the formula for the 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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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

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 two 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 community in which the resource is located; and (5) outline expected economic benefits from the long-term contract to the 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 nine 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. **DEAD**

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 revenue 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. **Carryover Approved**

March 5, 2019

LD 1096 - This bill requires the commissioner of the Department of Corrections to establish and maintain a substance use disorder treatment program in 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. **Carryover Approved**

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. **Carryover Approved**

LD 1083 - This Act requires primary and general elections for the office of the President of the United States to be determined by ranked-choice voting. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 539**

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 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. **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.

By vote of the committee, the amendment replaces the printed bill, changes the title to an Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Ancient Burying Grounds, and adds descendants of veterans to the list of entities and persons with whom a municipality collaborates when keeping veterans' graves in ancient burying grounds in good condition. This amendment clarifies that a municipally designated caretaker, but not a caretaker designated by a county, must be designated pursuant to a writing signed by the municipal officers. This amendment also permits the existence of an ancient burying ground to be documented through a variety of papers or through physical evidence. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 561**

LD 1043 - This bill specifies that it is the goal of the state to ensure that public preschool programs for children four 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 Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by Jan. 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 committee may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature to implement the recommendations in the report. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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. **Carryover Approved**

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 four-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. Members of the task force include representatives from the Maine Legislature, State Board of Education and Maine Education Association; the Commissioner of the Department of Education; administrators representing local, community college and university systems; and a member of a trade union, as well as a local school board member. **Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 108 (1/12/20)**

LD 1034 - This bill address Highway Fund revenue shortfalls by increasing certain fees charged by the Secretary of State (e.g., driver's license examinations, temporary license plates, nondriver identification cards, duplicate registrations, titles, driver's licenses, nondriver identification cards and transfers of registrations, etc.) and 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 and products for the repair and maintenance of motor vehicles to be transferred to the Highway Fund on a monthly basis. Finally, beginning Oct. 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. **DEAD**

February 26, 2019

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. **Recalled from the Governor's desk pending consideration**

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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

LD 999 - This bill allows the use of a shared facility for retail sale of adult use and medical use marijuana and products, provided that the sales transactions are conducted from separated cash registers. **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. **Carryover Approved**

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

LD 969 - This is a placeholder bill for the state’s FY 2019 supplemental General Fund budget. **Carryover Approved**

LD 968 - This is a placeholder bill for the state’s FY 2020 – FY 2021 supplemental General Fund budget. **Carryover Approved**

February 21, 2019

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

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

February 20, 2019

LD 936 - This bill establishes the 13-member Commission To Study the Effects of Freshwater and Marine Debris, which is tasked with studying how freshwater and marine debris 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 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over marine resources matters no later than Dec. 4, 2019. **Carryover Approved**

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. **Carryover Approved**

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 revenues to capitalize the fund. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

February 19, 2019

LD 915 - This bill specifies that beginning Sept. 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.

Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table

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. **Carryover Approved**

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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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 three days prior to the intended start of the strike. **Carryover Approved**

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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

February 14, 2019

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. **Carryover Approved**

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. **Carryover Approved**

February 12, 2019

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. **Carryover Approved**

February 8, 2019

LD 792 - This bill makes changes to the laws governing the issuance of bonds. The bill requires the governor to issue a general obligation bond that has been ratified by the legal voters of Maine unless one of five 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. It eliminates the requirement that registered bonds bear the facsimile signature of the governor. Finally, the bill applies to all general obligation bonds ratified by the voters but yet unissued, as well as all future general obligation bonds ratified by the voters. **Carryover Approved**

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. **DEAD**

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. **DEAD**

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

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 receives revenue from uncommitted balances in the Multimodal Transportation Fund and other funds from any public or private source. **DEAD**

LD 774 - This bill amends Maine's coastal management policies laws to ensure that the policies address the effects of coastal erosion 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 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 not enough to graduate from college. **Carryover Approved**

LD 731 – This concept draft bill proposes to amend Maine tax laws. **DEAD**

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

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 and raises the maximum debt service limit for school construction projects from \$126 million to \$150 million beginning in 2020. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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

February 7, 2019

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 six weeks before the event. **Carryover Approved**

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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

LD 661 - This bill permits the Department of Public Safety, Gambling Control Board, beginning Jan. 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 three slot machines on premises that have been owned, rented or leased by the organization for at least two 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 Jan. 1, 2020 may file a declaration of intent to apply with the 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 and 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 Jan. 1, 2020 and Dec. 31, 2020 is 80, and beginning on Jan. 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 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. **Carryover Approved**

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 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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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 636 – Beginning Jan. 1, 2021, this bill requires law enforcement officer 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 a body-worn camera by law enforcement officer 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. **Carried Over on the Special Study Table**

February 1, 2019

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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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

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 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. **Carryover Approved**

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 Committee by Jan.15, 2020. **Carryover Approved**

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

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, 2020. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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. **Enacted; PL 2019, c. 535**

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**

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. **Carryover Approved**

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 Lewiston and Auburn and Portland. **Carryover Approved**

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.

The amendment to the bill specifies that if a candidate requests that the candidate's nickname appear on the ballot for an election in the state, the candidate must include the nickname on the candidate's declaration of consent or written acceptance filed with the Secretary of State and must declare that the nickname is actually the name by which the candidate is known to others. The amendment also specifies that if a candidate requests that the candidate's nickname appear on the ballot for an election in the state, the secretary must set off the candidate's nickname by quotation marks and it must be placed on the ballot following the candidate's legal last name, first initial and middle initial, if any. **DEAD**

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 three 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**

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. **Carryover Approved**

LD 451 - This bill repeals provisions enacted in 2018 establishing new procedures for foreclosing on or disposing of tax acquired homesteads when the homeowner is 65 years of age or older and has income and liquid assets below specified limits. **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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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. **Carried Over on the Special Study Table**

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 includes an appropriation for the Secretary of State's Office to fund overtime pay. **Carried Over on the Special 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.

The amendment authorizes the commissioner to accept and use for the purposes outlined in the bill gifts, donations and contributions and adds an appropriation of \$43,500 to enable the State Fire Marshal to purchase a new high temperature thermal incinerator for the proper disposal of expired marine flares. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

LD 427 - This bill repeals the provisions of school funding law that requires 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. **Carried Over on the Special 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 Jan. 1, 2022. The bill provides for an annual adjustment, beginning Jan. 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 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 five 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 five 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. **Carryover Approved**

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.

The amendment replaces the printed bill, adds an emergency preamble making the legislation effective on the day the governor signs it, and authorizes a municipality or county to seek a writ of attachment from the Superior Court when incurring expenses associated with a nuisance or dangerous building. **Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 557 (2/14/20)**

January 23, 2019

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 replaces the printed bill, adds an emergency preamble making the legislation effective on the day the governor signs it, and requires public schools in which at least 50% of students qualify for a free or reduced-price lunch in the preceding school year to operate an alternative breakfast delivery service that provides breakfast after the start of the school day and before any lunch period. A public school in which at least 70% of students are eligible for free and reduced-price meals are exempt from this requirement, provided the school participates in the federal School Breakfast Program. Any schools may opt-out of the alternative breakfast delivery program, provided the following conditions are met: (1) the school unit board holds a public hearing regarding the required service; (2) the school unit submits a detailed cost-benefit analysis illustrating the program would cause undue financial or logistical hardship; (3) the public and the school board evaluate the cost-benefit analyses and any written material; (4) within 30 days of the public hearing the school board, by majority vote, deems that the program is not financially or logistically viable; and (5) the school board notifies the Department of Education of the vote to opt-out of providing breakfast service. The opt-out provision must be renewed every two years. The department is directed to adopt rules to implement the program and starting on July 1, 2020 and every year thereafter, to post on its website: (1) the names of the school required to comply with the breakfast program; (2) the names of the schools exempted from participation; and (3) program participation rate and financial impact on the school's nutrition budget. **Emergency Enacted; PL 2019, c. 556 (2/14/20)**

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. **Carryover Approved**

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

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.

The amendment to the bill reduces from 25% to 12% the amount of sales tax and excise tax revenue generated by adult use marijuana establishments required to be transferred to the municipalities where the revenue was generated after the transfer to the Adult Use Marijuana Public Health and Safety Fund and the deduction of state administrative costs. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

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

January 17, 2019

LD 311 - This is placeholder legislation for the state's FY 2020 - FY 2021 biennial budget. **Carryover Approved**

LD 310 - This is placeholder legislation for the state's FY 2019 supplemental budget. **Carryover Approved**

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. **Carryover Approved**

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 fund partnerships between private, municipal and nongovernmental service providers. **Carryover Approved**

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 increased exemption. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

LD 227 – This concept draft bill proposes 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.

By unanimous vote of the committee, the amendment replaces the concept draft bill and changes the title to Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Review the State's Public Health Infrastructure. As proposed, the commissioner is directed to review, with stakeholder input, Maine's public health infrastructure and develop recommendations to strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery and to submit a report with recommendations to the committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human serviced matter no later than Jan. 1, 2021. **Finally Passed; Resolves 2019, c. 114**

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**

January 16, 2019

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. **Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table**

LD 178 - Current law requires the state to pay 45% of a retired teacher's share of the premium for group insurances. 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 expand 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. **Carryover Approved**

LD 164 - Beginning on April 1, 2020, this bill increases the exemption under the Maine resident homestead program to \$50,000 and state reimbursement to 100% for lost property tax revenue.

Carried Over on the Special Appropriations Table

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. **DEAD**

LD 162 - 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 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 five 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 five 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.

Carryover Approved

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. **Carryover Approved**

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 136 - This bill establishes the special education circuit breaker reimbursement for a student whose eligible special education costs exceed four times the statewide EPS per-pupil rate at 75% of the amount of the special education costs that are above four times the statewide EPS per-pupil rate. The bill requires the department to distribute reimbursements to eligible school administrative units on a quarterly basis. Reimbursements must be deposited in a separate revolving account and spent only on approved special education services. **Carryover Approved**

LD 133 - This bill restores state/municipal revenue sharing to 5% from 2% for the current fiscal year (FY 2019), rather than in the next fiscal year (FY 2020), as statutorily required. **DEAD**

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.

Carryover Approved

LD 111 - This bill sends out to the voters a proposed \$250 million bond issue, to be issued in \$50 million increments over a five-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. **Carryover Approved**

January 15, 2019

LD 102 - Beginning Jan. 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 Jan. 1, 2022, this threshold for the percentage of postconsumer recycled plastic in single-use plastic beverage containers increases to 20% and, beginning Jan. 1, 2024, the threshold increases to 25%. The bill also prohibits, beginning Jan. 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. **Carryover Approved**

January 14, 2019

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 title. **DEAD**

January 7, 2019

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

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. **Carryover Approved**

January 2, 2019

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. **Carryover Approved**

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 committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utility matters by Jan. 15, 2021. **Carryover Approved**

No LD # yet – draft legislation: This bill creates the Justice Assistance Council, which, in part, consists of representatives from the law enforcement, public health and mental health, corrections, educator, and district attorney communities. The council is directed to explore a systemic approach to incarceration, restorative justice, pre-arrest diversion and community transitional support services for justice involved populations with the end goal of creating an oversight entity charged with strategically supporting and coordinating state-funded programs and interventions at the local level. The council is further authorized to: (1) enter into contracts for research and data collection; (2) coordinate services between correctional facilities and community support systems; (3) create housing navigator positions to connect previously incarcerated individuals to stable housing post release; and (5) make amendments to the county jail operations fund, pursue grants to support existing pre-arrest diversion programs and coordinate better statewide support for local interventions. The representation on the council may be further amended to include a municipal official and a municipal General Assistance program administrator.

No LD # yet – draft legislation: This bill authorizes municipal officers to declare a state of emergency within their jurisdictions. Once a municipal state of emergency is declared and the proclamation filed with the municipal clerk and the Maine Emergency Management Agency, municipal officers are authorized to: (1) suspend the enforcement of any policy that prevents, hinders or delays necessary action; (2) utilize all available municipal resources to address the emergency; (3) transfer personnel or department functions to perform or facilitate emergency services; (4) obtain property, supplies and materials; (5) activate all locally-controlled public warning systems; (6) enlist volunteers to aid in mitigating the emergency, to the extent allowed in state statute; (7) order the termination of any process, operation, machine or device which may be causing the emergency; (8) take action to abate or mitigate dangers within the affected area; and (9) make temporary emergency housing available. The community's chief law enforcement official is authorized to control access to and from the disaster area, evacuate all or part of the population from the threatened or stricken area and prescribe routes, modes of transportation and destinations in connection with any evacuation.