

**03/07/2025 - LPC LD List**  
**132<sup>nd</sup> Legislature – First Session**

**ENERGY, UTILITIES & TECHNOLOGY**

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[LD 873](#) *An Act to Expand Municipal Authority over Utility Pole Permits* (Sponsored by Rep. Abdi of Lewiston)

This bill increases the number of municipalities authorized to revoke the location of a utility pole when required for public safety and welfare by reducing the population threshold from 40,000 to 30,000.

**ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES**

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[LD 846](#) *An Act to Protect Natural Resources by Clarifying Hydropower Dam Removal Requirements* (Sponsored by Rep. Blier of Buxton)

This bill amends the laws regulating the removal of an existing dam that is part of a hydropower project by requiring that if a portion of the dam is located on land owned by a municipality or other government entity, the applicant must demonstrate to the Department of Environmental Protection that the municipality approves the removal of the dam. The bill also requires an applicant to participate in a premeeting with the department and hold a public informational meeting and further prohibits the applicant from filing for a permit to remove only a portion of the dam. Additionally, if the removal is expected to alter water levels, the department shall require as a condition of the permit the applicant to identify all landowners expected to be affected by the changes in water levels and set aside sufficient funds to reimburse those landowners for corresponding losses in property value.

**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

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[LD 904](#) *An Act to Exempt from Fees Certain Services Performed by the Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory for Criminal Investigations* (Sponsored by Sen. Haggan of Penobscot Cty.)

This bill prohibits the Department of Health and Human Services from establishing a fee for substance use testing, determining a blood-alcohol or drug concentration level, or analyzing a substance that is suspected of being an illegal drug when such testing or analysis is conducted pursuant to a criminal investigation.

**HOUSING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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[LD 907](#) *An Act to Amend the Law Governing Zoning Ordinance Variances for Persons with Permanent Disabilities* (Sponsored by Sen. Libby of Cumberland Cty.)

This bill amends the municipal land use regulation law governing zoning adjustments by removing restrictions on the type of vehicle a person with a permanent disability may own in order for that person to obtain a zoning ordinance variance to construct a structure for the storage and parking of the vehicle. It also removes restrictions on the size of the structure.

[LD 949](#) *An Act to Clarify Licensing Jurisdiction for Manufactured Housing Communities* (Sponsored by Rep. Golek of Harpswell)

This bill requires a municipality to accept a license issued by the Manufactured Housing Board as evidence a manufactured housing community meets all requirements to operate. The bill also prohibits a municipality from assessing additional fees for a manufactured housing community to operate or from assessing a fee for any type of permit for manufactured housing if the manufactured housing or the installation is governed by rules of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development or the Manufactured Housing Board.

## **JUDICIARY**

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[LD 882](#) *An Act to Protect Communication with Providers of Critical Incident Stress Management Peer Support* (Sponsored by Rep. Salisbury of Westbrook)

This bill includes critical incident stress management peer support in existing laws governing the confidentiality of health care information, provides that peer support individuals are mandatory reporters of suspected child abuse, neglect or suspicious death, and designates peer support communications as privileged. As defined in current laws, critical incident stress management peer support includes services provided to public safety agency employees and corrections officers, which includes assisting an employer, member or officer to process trauma and stress and connect the person to appropriate resources.

[LD 885](#) *An Act to Allow Certain Persons with a Permit to Carry Concealed Handguns to Possess or Discharge a Firearm on School Property* (Sponsored by Rep. White of Guilford)

This bill allows a person to possess and discharge a firearm on school property if that person is not a student at that school, is 21 years of age or older and possesses a permit to carry a concealed handgun.

## **TAXATION**

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[LD 807](#) *An Act to Limit the Number of Free Motor Vehicle Registrations That May Be Provided to a Disabled Veteran and Reimburse Municipalities for the Loss of Excise Taxes* (Sponsored by Rep. Drinkwater of Milford)

This bill specifies that only three registered motor vehicles may be exempt from excise taxes for a disabled veteran and requires 100% state reimbursement for the lost excise tax revenue.

[LD 934](#) *An Act to Provide 100 Percent of the Maine Resident Homestead Property Tax Exemption Amount to Seniors and Veterans* (Sponsored by Rep. Wood of Greene)

For property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2026, this bill extends the full amount of the homestead exemption, currently \$25,000, to homeowners who are either 65 years of age or older or veterans of the U.S. Armed Services, regardless of the municipality's assessment ratio. The bill also directs the state to reimburse municipalities for 100% of the lost property tax revenue associated with the proposed change.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

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LD 928 *An Act to Maintain Public Access to Town Ways in Maine* (Sponsored by Rep. White of Guilford)

This bill provides that if the municipal officers or county commissioners have declared a town way discontinued by abandonment and have retained a public easement for at least 15 years, the municipality, county commissioners or an abutter on the way may not gate, bar or otherwise obstruct the town way. The bill also provides that if the municipal officers or county commissioners have declared a town way discontinued by abandonment and have retained a public easement for less than 15 years, the municipality, county commissioners or an abutter on the way, acting with the written permission of the municipal officers or county commissioners, may remove any gates, bars or other obstructions in the town way.

## **VETERANS & LEGAL AFFAIRS**

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LD 948 *An Act to Reduce Administrative Burdens and Expand Access in the Laws Governing Cannabis* (Sponsored by Rep. Pluecker of Warren)

This bill doubles the current limit under the medical cannabis laws by allowing a caregiver to cultivate up to 60 mature cannabis plants, up to 120 immature cannabis plants, up to 1,000 square feet of mature plant canopy and up to 2,000 square feet of immature plant canopy. The bill also amends the medical cannabis and adult use cannabis laws to extend registration and license periods from one to two years and updates the license renewal process for registrants and licensees without any violations of those laws in the previous year to require only the payment of the license or registration fee to the Office of Cannabis Policy for a new active license to be issued.