

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY DEPT

POWERS

LR: 2687 Sponsor: Senator Bennett, R of Oxford

Title: An Act to Fund the Outdoor School for All Maine Students Program

Comment: This bill would fund the Outdoor School for All Maine Students Program under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, chapter 433.

LR: 2744 Sponsor: Representative Pluecker, B of Warren

Title: An Act to Survey Food Insecurity in Maine

Comment: This bill would require that an annual survey of food insecurity be conducted in order to track the effort to end hunger in Maine by 2030. Such a survey was formerly conducted by the Federal Government.

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 468 Senator Ingwersen, H

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 415 Representative Graham, A

LR: 2775 Sponsor: Senator Ingwersen, H of York

Title: An Act to Enhance Support of Local Nutrition Incentive Programs by Modifying the Eligibility Requirements of the Fund to Address Food Insecurity and Provide Nutrition Incentives

Comment: This bill would make funds more readily available to local nutrition incentive programs by modifying provisions establishing the Fund to Address Food Insecurity and Provide Nutrition Incentives by removing language that prioritizes participants in federal food and nutrition assistance programs.

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 468 Senator Ingwersen, H

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 415 Representative Graham, A

ANIMAL WELFARE

PULLING

LR: 2686 Sponsor: Representative Hall, R of Wilton

Title: An Act Regarding the Rules Governing Pulling Events

Comment: This bill would repeal statutory language setting out the rules governing the conduct of pulling events a person must adopt to receive a permit to conduct a pulling event.

FAIRS

AGRICULTURAL

LR: 2692 Sponsor: Representative Mitchell, C of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Optimize Opportunities for Agricultural Fairs

Comment: This bill would provide more enforcement tools and penalties that the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry may use to deter unofficial fair dates.

LR: 2712 Sponsor: Representative Pluecker, B of Warren

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

FAIRS

AGRICULTURAL

Title: An Act to Ensure Agricultural Fair Premiums Are Properly Distributed

Comment: This bill would modify provisions governing distribution of funds from the Stipend Fund to agricultural fair licensees. This bill would remove language that prohibits consideration of premiums paid by a licensee for a competition held at a time other than during the period during which the licensee's annual fair is held in calculating the amount of funds to be distributed to the licensee. This bill would specifically allow that premiums paid for a competition judged within 24 hours prior to the licensed fair date may be considered in calculating the licensee's distribution from the Stipend Fund.

FOOD

REGULATIONS

LR: 2742 Sponsor: Representative Quint, T of Hodgdon

Title: An Act Banning the Sale of Cell-cultured Meat

Comment: This bill would prohibit the sale of cell-cultured meat.

Potential JR 217: LD 1257 Representative Quint, T

PRODUCTS

HEMP

LR: 2933 Sponsor: Senator Talbot Ross, R of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Establish the Hemp Safety Act to Further Strengthen Public Safety and Public Health

Comment: This bill would establish clear safeguards for intoxicating hemp-derived products. It would establish age restrictions, set limits of tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, potency and require clear labeling and packaging.

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 1983 Senator Ingwersen, H

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2721 Representative Dill, J

PUBLIC LANDS

ACCESS

LR: 2718 Sponsor: Representative Dill, J of Old Town

Title: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Conservation Easements

Comment: This bill would amend the laws governing conservation easements by changing the definition of "conservation easement" to include as an allowable purpose preserving the historical, architectural, archaeological or cultural aspects of real property and by changing the definition of "holder" to include federally recognized Indian tribes.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

BOND ISSUES

HOUSING

LR: 2895 Sponsor: Senator Curry, C of Waldo

Title: An Act to Increase the Cap on Bonds Issued by the Maine State Housing Authority to Reflect Current Housing Production Needs in the State

Comment: This bill would increase the cap on bonds issued by the Maine State Housing Authority to reflect current housing production needs in the State.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

CORRECTIONS DEPT

PROCEDURES

LR: 2649 Sponsor: Representative Ducharme, J of Madison
Title: An Act Regarding Department of Corrections Payment for Health Care Services
Comment: This bill would require the Department of Corrections to provide reports to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety matters regarding the status of 3rd-party contractor payments for health care services affected by the bankruptcy of certain Department of Corrections contractors. The bill would also create a reserve account to reimburse hospitals and providers for certain unpaid balances from contractors.

CRIMES

MOTOR VEHICLE

LR: 2666 Sponsor: Senator Stewart, T of Aroostook
Title: An Act to Prohibit a Person with an Expired Tourist Visa from Operating a Motor Vehicle in Maine
Comment: This bill would prohibit a person whose B-2 tourist visa has expired from operating a motor vehicle in this State.

CRIMES

SEX OFFENSES

LR: 2644 Sponsor: Representative Hasenfus, T of Readfield
Title: An Act to Update the State of Mind Requirement for Certain Provisions of the Law Regarding the Crime of Gross Sexual Assault
Comment: This bill would update the state of mind requirement for certain provisions of the law regarding the crime of gross sexual assault.

CRIMES

TRESPASS

LR: 2776 Sponsor: Senator Farrin, B of Somerset
Title: An Act Relating to Criminal Trespass
Comment: This bill would amend the laws governing criminal trespass.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE

LR: 2725 Sponsor: Representative Roberts, T of South Berwick
Title: An Act to Require Electronic Monitoring of an Excessive or Habitual Speeder's Motor Vehicle as a Condition of License Reinstatement

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE

Comment: This bill would require the installation of a global positioning system device designed to actively limit a motor vehicle's speed to posted or preset speed limits in the vehicle of a person whose license has been suspended for excessive or habitual speeding as a condition of reinstatement of that person's license. The driver would be responsible for the cost of leasing, installing, removing and maintaining the device, with discounts available to partially offset these costs for qualifying low-income individuals.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

SYSTEM

LR: 2923 Sponsor: Representative Lookner, G of Portland

Title: An Act to Continue Training Programs for Emergency Medical Services

Comment: This bill would provide funding for training emergency medical technicians and paramedics.

Potential JR 217: LD 969 Representative Golek, C

EMERGENCY SERVICES

PERSONNEL

LR: 2783 Sponsor: Representative Bunker, S of Farmington

Title: An Act to Extend the Probationary Period for Public Safety Dispatchers

Comment: This bill would extend the probationary period for public safety dispatchers from 6 months to one year.

LR: 2892 Sponsor: Senator Curry, C of Waldo

Title: An Act to Promote Public Safety and Retain Essential First Responders by Funding the Maine Length of Service Award Program

Comment: This bill would provide ongoing funding to the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission of \$500,000 beginning in fiscal year 2025-26 to provide length of service awards to eligible volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services personnel.

FIRE SAFETY

PREVENTION

LR: 2593 Sponsor: Representative Nutting, R of Oakland

Title: An Act to Update the Definition of "Novelty Lighter"

Comment: This bill would remove the exemption of mechanical or electrical devices primarily used to ignite fuel for fireplaces or for charcoal or gas grills from the definition of "novelty lighter."

JAILS

ADMINISTRATORS

LR: 2823 Sponsor: Senator Talbot Ross, R of Cumberland

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

JAILS

ADMINISTRATORS

Title: An Act to Provide Local Control over Jail Capacity Decisions

Comment: This bill would clarify that county sheriffs have the authority to determine when jails under their authority have the capacity to safely accept additional detainees.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

PERSONNEL

LR: 2911 Sponsor: Representative Moonen, M of Portland

Title: An Act to Add Positions to the Maine State Police Executive Protection Unit

Comment: This bill would fund 2 additional positions for the Maine State Police Executive Protection Unit.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

PROCEDURES

LR: 2591 Sponsor: Representative Lookner, G of Portland

Title: An Act to Increase Accountability of Law Enforcement by Prohibiting the Use of Masks That Conceal the Identities of Law Enforcement Officers

Comment: This bill would prohibit the use of masks that conceal the identities of law enforcement officers.

PUBLIC SAFETY

COMMUNICATIONS

LR: 2724 Sponsor: Representative Roberts, T of South Berwick

Title: An Act to Enable Survivors of Abuse to Disable Connected Vehicle Services

Comment: This bill would establish a process for survivors to request the termination or disabling of connected vehicle services that an abuser could misuse.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

ADULT EDUCATION

PROGRAMS

LR: 2935 Sponsor: Senator Hickman, C of Kennebec

Title: An Act to Support Maine Veterans Pursuing Secondary Education by Replacing Federal Funding for the Upward Bound Program at the University of Southern Maine

Comment: This bill would provide one-time state funding of \$309,505 to replace the United States Department of Education TRIO funding that has historically been awarded to the University of Southern Maine's Veterans Upward Bound Program.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2945 Senator Duson, J

LR: 2945 Sponsor: Senator Duson, J of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Replace Federal Funding for the University of Maine at Farmington's River Valley Upward Bound Program

Comment: This bill would provide one-time funding to replace the United States Department of Education TRIO funding that has historically been awarded to the University of Maine at Farmington's River Valley Upward Bound Program.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2935 Senator Hickman, C

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

POLICIES AND PROGRAMS

LR: 2728 Sponsor: Senator Pierce, T of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Amend the Education Laws Regarding the State Board of Education's Authority Concerning Degree-granting Institutions

Comment: This bill would exempt from the education statutes governing degree-granting institutions an institution that operates a branch or extension campus within the State that is affiliated with a nonprofit educational institution operating in another state as long as certain criteria are met.

COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

LR: 2919 Sponsor: Senator Stewart, T of Aroostook

Title: An Act Regarding Scholarship Granting Organizations

Comment: This bill would encourage the establishment in the State of scholarship granting organizations certified by the United States Internal Revenue Service and provide oversight for their operation, including registration, reporting, transparency and administration requirements.

CULTURAL AGENCIES

PUBLIC BROADCASTING

LR: 2630 Sponsor: Senator Pierce, T of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Improve Localization of Emergency Broadcast Messaging

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

CULTURAL AGENCIES

PUBLIC BROADCASTING

Comment: This bill would provide a one-time appropriation of \$600,000 for broadcast infrastructure equipment to enable localization of public safety information and emergency alert messaging on the statewide radio network operated by Maine Public Broadcasting Corporation.

EDUCATION DEPT

ADMINISTRATION

LR: 2645 Sponsor: Representative Frost, S of Belgrade

Title: An Act to Reinstate Content Specialists Within the Department of Education

Comment: This bill would remove the interdisciplinary instruction team and reinstate content specialists within the Department of Education.

EDUCATION DEPT

POWERS

LR: 2885 Sponsor: Representative Sargent, H of York

Title: Resolve, to Study the Use of Technology in Classrooms and Study Safeguards Related to Its Use

Comment: This resolve would require the Department of Education to contract with an education policy research institute to survey educators on the use of classroom technology, gather current guidance from state and national experts about best practices for safe instructional technology use for children and submit a report of the department's findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than December 2026.

LR: 2910 Sponsor: Senator Beebe-Center, A of Knox

Title: An Act to Support Children's School Readiness

Comment: This bill would establish regional childhood councils to coordinate services for young children in school. It would direct the Department of Education, in coordination with the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services, to create regional contracts to support the establishment of the regional childhood councils. It would direct the regional childhood councils to identify gaps and additional assessments to understand early childhood needs of children and families and to establish a public data dashboard as well as a strategic plan. It would direct the regional childhood councils to report annually to the Department of Education, which in turn with the Office of Child and Family Services would report annually to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs and the Children's Cabinet.

EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

CHARTER SCHOOLS

LR: 2761 Sponsor: Representative Brennan, M of Portland

Title: An Act to Limit the Number of Campuses or Buildings a Charter School May Have

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Comment: This bill would amend the laws governing public charter schools to limit the number of campuses or buildings a school may have to one per grade span. It would also prohibit a public charter school from expanding to additional sites or serving a grade level not included in the school's initial charter contract.

LIBRARIES

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

LR: 2899 Sponsor: Representative McCabe, J of Lewiston

Title: An Act to Ensure a Fair Process Exists for Reviewing Book Challenges at Public Libraries

Comment: This bill would ensure a fair process exists for reviewing book challenges at Maine public libraries and provide for maximal access to information and ideas.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS

LR: 2831 Sponsor: Representative Stover, H of Boothbay

Title: An Act to Amend the Charter of the Boothbay-Boothbay Harbor Community School District

Comment: This bill would amend the charter of the Boothbay-Boothbay Harbor Community School District regarding authority over the district's budget and borrowing authority.

LR: 2948 Sponsor: Representative Haggan, K of Hampden

Title: An Act to Enact the Public Education Financial Transparency Act

Comment: This bill would enact the Public Education Financial Transparency Act to require: public school districts to publish to their publicly accessible websites certain financial information; school board members to complete a financial literacy training program; and public school districts to adopt and implement certain control and fraud prevention measures.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

BOARDS

LR: 2715 Sponsor: Representative Lance, M of Paris

Title: An Act to Allow a Municipality to Appoint a Person to a School Board Temporarily After a Member Is Removed by a Recall Vote

Comment: This bill would allow a municipality to appoint a person to serve as a temporary school board member until an election can be held to fill a vacancy when that vacancy occurred because the former board member was removed by a recall vote.

Potential JR 217: LD 849 Representative Sayre, D

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

BUDGETS

LR: 2794 Sponsor: Representative Woodsome, D of Waterboro

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

BUDGETS

Title: An Act to Require Public School Budget Final Vote Ballots to Include the Total Amount of Funding for the School District

Comment: This bill would require that all public school budget final vote ballots include the total amount of funding for the school district.

Potential JR 217: LD 1586 Representative Bagshaw, B

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

DISTRICT REFERENDA

LR: 2732 Sponsor: Representative Crafts, L of Newcastle

Title: An Act to Dissolve the Great Salt Bay Community School District

Comment: This bill would dissolve the Great Salt Bay Community School District.

SCHOOL FACILITIES

BUILDINGS

LR: 2839 Sponsor: Senator Grohoski, N of Hancock

Title: An Act to Provide Funding to the Maine School of Science and Mathematics and Clarify Sending School Administrative Unit Obligations

Comment: This bill would fund, including for certain overdue repairs, the Maine School of Science and Mathematics and would require a sending school administrative unit that does not operate or contract with a secondary school to pay the cost of attending the Maine School of Science and Mathematics for students from the unit and clarifies that the cost includes room and board.

SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA

ADJUSTMENTS

LR: 2703 Sponsor: Representative Geiger, V of Rockland

Title: An Act to Increase Equity in the State Education Funding Formula by Including Median Income as a Component of the Formula

Comment: This bill would update the current funding formula for state education funding by including median income as a component of the funding formula.

SCHOOL PERSONNEL

HIRING

LR: 2853 Sponsor: Senator Rotundo, M of Androscoggin

Title: An Act to Protect Students by Ensuring Schools Have Complete Information About Applicants for Employment and School Employees

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

SCHOOL PERSONNEL

HIRING

Comment: This bill would clarify the duties of schools and the Department of Education in vetting applicants for school jobs and investigating school employees accused of alleged misconduct. It would clarify information that must be disclosed to schools by applicants and information schools must verify from applicants. It would require schools to report to the department if an employee leaves employment before an investigation of the employee's alleged misconduct can be completed, require a school to ask the department about any current or previous investigations and clarify that a school must begin an investigation upon any notice of misconduct, even if not a formal complaint.

SCHOOL POLICIES

COMPUTERS

LR: 2752 Sponsor: Representative McIntyre, M of Lowell

Title: An Act to Implement the Education Recommendations of the Maine Artificial Intelligence Task Force

Comment: This bill would implement the education recommendations of the Maine Artificial Intelligence Task Force.

SCHOOL POLICIES

CURRICULUM

LR: 2766 Sponsor: Representative Lyman, S of Livermore Falls

Title: An Act to Protect Children from Uncurated Media Content

Comment: This bill would require that videos from the United States Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights disseminated to public taxpayer-funded schools be approved by Maine's Department of Education and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs matters.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

NUTRITION PROGRAMS

LR: 2904 Sponsor: President Daughtry, M of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Expand Access to Early Childhood Nutrition Programs

Comment: This bill would expand existing early childhood nutrition programs to include students in classrooms outside of school buildings.

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

LR: 2612 Sponsor: Representative Pluecker, B of Warren

Title: An Act to Ensure Agricultural Interests Are Represented on the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System

Comment: This bill would add to the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System a person with knowledge of and experience in Maine's agricultural industries.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

COASTAL AREAS

SEA WALLS

LR: 2685 Sponsor: Representative Hall, R of Wilton

Title: An Act to Allow Property Owners to Protect Their Existing Coastal Dwellings

Comment: This bill would amend the Natural Resources Protection Act to authorize the Department of Environmental Protection to issue a permit for the fortification of a residential building located wholly or partially in, on or over a coastal sand dune system or coastal wetland as long as certain specified conditions are met.

Potential JR 217: LD 488 Representative Hall, R

CONTAINERS - RETURNABLE

BOTTLES

LR: 2845 Sponsor: Representative Campbell, D of Orrington

Title: An Act to Clarify the Department of Environmental Protection's Approval Process for the Operating Plan of the Maine Beverage Recycling Group

Comment: This bill would clarify that the Department of Environmental Protection's review of the plan submitted by the commingling cooperative formed pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 3107 is not a department licensing procedure. The bill would also provide that the October 1, 2026 deadline for completing transitions in beverage container sorting methods required under Public Law 2025, chapter 241 does not apply unless 90% of the initiators of deposit registered to sell beverages in the State have submitted auditable sales data to the cooperative on or before June 30, 2026.

Potential JR 217: LD 1564 Representative Soboleski, M

LR: 2854 Sponsor: Senator Brenner, S of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Invest in Maine's Natural Resources Economy

Comment: This bill would direct a portion of the unclaimed deposits from the beverage container law toward investment in the State's farmland and lakes beginning October 1, 2026.

CONTAINERS - RETURNABLE

PLASTIC BAGS

LR: 2722 Sponsor: Representative Gramlich, L of Old Orchard Beach

Title: An Act to Reduce the Use of Plastic and Polystyrene

Comment: This bill, beginning January 1, 2027, would expand the plastic grocery bag ban to include all bags made of plastic film of any thickness; require retail food facilities and delivery platforms to provide single-use plastic accessories only upon request; and eliminate the sale and distribution of expanded polystyrene coolers. The bill would require plastic water bottle caps to be tethered to the container by January 2028 and also prohibit the sale and provision of single-use plastic water bottles in all lodging establishments by January 1, 2031.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

CONTAINERS - RETURNABLE

PLASTIC BAGS

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2943 Senator Grohoski, N
Potential JR 217: LD 69 Representative Bagshaw, B
Potential JR 217: LD 1928 Representative Gramlich, L
Potential JR 217: LD 1122 Representative Warren, S

DAMS

LICENSING

LR: 2930 Sponsor: Representative Kessler, C of South Portland
Title: An Act to Replace the Maine Waterway Development and Conservation Act with the Maine Energy Development and Conservation Act
Comment: This bill would replace the Maine Waterway Development and Conservation Act with the Maine Energy Development and Conservation Act, which would streamline permitting and reflect updated power generation technology and current state economic and energy policy.

DAMS

MAINTENANCE

LR: 2749 Sponsor: Senator Libby, J of Cumberland
Title: An Act to Place a Moratorium on Dam Removals
Comment: This bill would place a 10-year moratorium on dam removals in the State by prohibiting a state agency, municipality, private entity or nonprofit organization from authorizing, funding or implementing the removal of any dam in the State in the 10 years following the effective date of this bill.
Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 846 Representative Blier, M
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2921 Representative Soboleski, M
Potential JR 217: LD 430 Representative Campbell, D
LR: 2921 Sponsor: Representative Soboleski, M of Phillips
Title: An Act to Protect Maine River Dams
Comment: This bill is a concept draft that would protect river dams in the State.
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2749 Senator Libby, J

SOLID WASTES

MANAGEMENT

LR: 2726 Sponsor: Senator Tepler, D of Sagadahoc
Title: An Act to Improve the Management of Wastewater Treatment Plant Sludge at the State-owned Juniper Ridge Landfill

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

SOLID WASTES

MANAGEMENT

Comment: This bill would require the installation, by August 1, 2028, of facilities or equipment at the state-owned Juniper Ridge Landfill in Old Town necessary to provide for the substantial drying or dewatering of wastewater treatment plant sludge received at the landfill for disposal.

LR: 2733 Sponsor: Representative Gramlich, L of Old Orchard Beach

Title: An Act to Promote the Responsible Management of State-owned Landfills by Requiring the Submission of Certain Safety, Accountability and Financial Information in the Competitive Bidding Process

Comment: This bill would require that any request for proposals issued for a new or extended contract for the management of a state-owned landfill include provisions addressing engineering and operational practices; environmental and climate safeguards; community impact and public health; financial transparency and fair pricing; regulatory and compliance history; accountability measures; and innovation and integration of sustainable economic practices.

LR: 2748 Sponsor: Representative Dill, J of Old Town

Title: An Act to Prohibit Landfill Expansion into Wetlands

Comment: This bill would prohibit the expansion of landfills into wetlands.

LR: 2925 Sponsor: Representative Osher, L of Orono

Title: An Act to Provide Transparency in the Operation of Waste Management Facilities

Comment: This bill would require annual reports from waste management facilities to be submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection and be made available on the department's and the facility's website for any major licensed solid waste facility. It would provide that operators of major landfills must pay for a biennial independent environmental engineering review. It would require a report of the Casella Waste System's ability to obtain construction and demolition debris and bulky waste that originates from Maine to eliminate ongoing importation of out-of-state waste that the Casella Waste System asserts is required to stabilize sludge.

WASTE FACILITIES

TRANSFER

LR: 2640 Sponsor: Representative Lemelin, M of Chelsea

Title: An Act to Provide Transparency and Accuracy at Transfer, Trash and Recycling Facilities

Comment: This bill would require transfer, trash and recycling facilities to allow customers to see the scale weight reading before and after depositing materials at a facility.

WASTES

PLASTICS

LR: 2943 Sponsor: Senator Grohoski, N of Hancock

Title: An Act to Reduce Microplastics in Marine Environments

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASTES

PLASTICS

Comment: This bill would require attached caps on single-use bottles, microfiber filters in new washing machines and warning labels for clothing made of synthetic fibers.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2722 Representative Gramlich, L

WASTES

RECYCLING

LR: 2602 Sponsor: Senator Bennett, R of Oxford

Title: An Act to Support the Forest Products Industry by Amending the Definition of "Compostable Packaging Material" Within the Extended Producer Responsibility Program

Comment: This bill would amend the law governing the extended producer responsibility program to expand the types of packaging materials that are considered compostable.

WASTES

TIRES

LR: 2659 Sponsor: Representative Campbell, D of Orrington

Title: An Act to Direct Existing Fees for Tire Disposal to Tire Disposal Processors

Comment: This bill would direct existing statutory fees charged for disposal of tires to the persons or entities processing the disposal of tires in this State.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

SOLAR ENERGY

LR: 2758 Sponsor: Representative Friedmann, G of Bar Harbor

Title: An Act to Make Small, Portable, Plug-in Solar Generation Devices Accessible for All Maine Residents to Address the Energy Affordability Crisis

Comment: This bill would amend the law governing residential solar energy generation and interconnection requirements to create a new category for small, portable, plug-in solar generation devices of 1,200 watts or less. It would create a waiver for interconnection requirements for small, portable, plug-in solar generation devices and establish their basic safety requirements. It would also require all new construction of properties of more than 4 residential dwelling units to be made ready to use these devices and direct the Electricians' Examining Board to provide guidance on the requirements for their installation.

ELECTRIC UTILITIES

DELIVERY

LR: 2849 Sponsor: Representative Runte, Jr., W of York

Title: An Act to Authorize Municipalities and Counties to Form Community Choice Aggregation Programs to Procure Electricity

Comment: This bill would authorize municipalities and counties to form community choice aggregation programs to purchase electricity on behalf of participants. The programs would allow residents to opt out. The bill would also establish a purchase of receivables program requiring utilities to purchase the accounts receivable from community choice aggregation programs at a discount rate.

ELECTRIC UTILITIES

PLANNING

LR: 2610 Sponsor: Representative Kessler, C of South Portland

Title: An Act Regarding the Participation of Transmission and Distribution Utilities with ISO-New England

Comment: This bill would provide that a transmission and distribution utility serving more than 50,000 retail customers may not own or control transmission facilities within the State unless the utility participates with electricity markets administered by ISO-New England, which is the regional transmission organization responsible for the New England bulk power system as designated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

LR: 2851 Sponsor: Representative Runte, Jr., W of York

Title: An Act to Establish a Long Range Electricity Grid Planning Group

Comment: This bill would form a planning group within the Public Utilities Commission for the purpose of long range electricity grid planning to reduce costs and increase grid efficiency. The group would be charged with developing a 10-year road map for modernizing Maine's electric grid and submitting biennial reports to the Legislature.

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 1730 Senator Grohoski, N

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

ELECTRIC UTILITIES

TRANSMISSION LINES

LR: 2751 Sponsor: Senator Cyrway, S of Kennebec

Title: An Act to Promote Environmentally Sound Energy Transmission Infrastructure Siting in the State

Comment: This bill would establish provisions governing the siting of electric transmission facilities, including the placement of high-voltage transmission lines near state highways.

ENERGY CONSERVATION

EFFICIENCY MAINE TRUST

LR: 2934 Sponsor: Representative Kessler, C of South Portland

Title: An Act Regarding the Appointment of the Director of the Efficiency Maine Trust

Comment: This bill would require that an appointment of the Director of the Efficiency Maine Trust be reviewed by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy matters and approved by the Senate.

ENERGY CONSERVATION

PLANNING

LR: 2931 Sponsor: Senator Tepler, D of Sagadahoc

Title: An Act to Reduce Household Energy Costs and Increase Appliance Affordability in Response to Federal Cuts

Comment: This bill would protect existing energy efficiency appliance rebates.

NUCLEAR POWER

DEVELOPMENT

LR: 2750 Sponsor: Senator Libby, J of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Authorize Nuclear Power Generation in Maine

Comment: This bill would require the Secretary of State to hold a statewide referendum to provide voters with the opportunity to authorize the construction and operation of nuclear power plants.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

LR: 2936 Sponsor: Senator Grohoski, N of Hancock

Title: An Act to Enact the Public Sector Recommendations of the Maine Artificial Intelligence Task Force

Comment: This bill would enact the public sector recommendations of the Maine Artificial Intelligence Task Force when it completes its work.

LR: 2937 Sponsor: Senator Grohoski, N of Hancock

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Title: An Act to Enact the Potential Harms Recommendations of the Maine Artificial Intelligence Task Force

Comment: This bill would enact the potential harms recommendations of the Maine Artificial Intelligence Task Force when it completes its work.

UTILITY DISTRICTS

CHARTER CHANGES

LR: 2825 Sponsor: Senator Lawrence, M of York

Title: An Act to Raise the Ogunquit Sewer District Debt Limit

Comment: This bill would amend the charter of the Ogunquit Sewer District to raise the debt limit to complete ongoing and planned projects.

WATER DISTRICTS

BONDING

LR: 2604 Sponsor: Representative Lyman, S of Livermore Falls

Title: An Act to Eliminate the Debt Limit of the North Jay Water District

Comment: This bill would remove the debt limit of the North Jay Water District.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

FINANCIAL PRACTICES

CONSUMER CREDIT CODE

LR: 2897 Sponsor: Senator Curry, C of Waldo

Title: An Act to Provide Additional Vehicle Financing Options to Maine Customers

Comment: This bill would update the Maine Consumer Credit Code to allow for financing terms that include unequal payments while maintaining customer protections.

FINANCIAL PRACTICES

DEBT COLLECTION

LR: 2603 Sponsor: Senator Bailey, D of York

Title: An Act to Strengthen Consumer Protections by Prohibiting Liens on Principal Residences and Wage Garnishments for Medical Debt

Comment: This bill would prohibit liens on principal residences and wage garnishments for medical debt.

FINANCIAL PRACTICES

STATEMENTS

LR: 2743 Sponsor: Senator Bailey, D of York

Title: An Act to Clarify the Prohibition on Paper Statement Fees for Financial Institutions

Comment: This bill would clarify that the prohibition on charging paper statement fees, as amended by Public Law 2025, chapter 35, applies only to the regular monthly account statement that financial institutions are required to provide to members. The bill would make clear that the prohibition does not extend to requests for replacement paper statements, for which financial institutions may charge a fee.

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

HOSPITALS

LR: 2774 Sponsor: Representative Graham, A of North Yarmouth

Title: An Act to Impose a Temporary Moratorium on the Closure of Hospital Labor and Delivery Units

Comment: This bill would prevent a hospital from closing inpatient obstetrical hospital services beginning January 1, 2027.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2913 President Daughtry, M

LR: 2913 Sponsor: President Daughtry, M of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Prevent the Reduction of Services at Acute Care Hospitals

Comment: This bill would require acute care hospitals to maintain obstetrics, birthing, pediatrics and surgical services, and maintain existing services, as a condition of licensure. The bill would also require an acute care hospital that does not provide the required services to submit a service compliance plan to the Department of Health and Human Services on or before January 1, 2027.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2774 Representative Graham, A

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL

DENTAL

LR: 2700 Sponsor: Representative Mastraccio, A of Sanford
Title: An Act to Expand the Scope of Practice of Independent Practice Dental Hygienists
Comment: This bill would expand the scope of practice of independent practice dental hygienists to allow them to administer local anesthesia or nitrous oxide analgesia.

HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL

NURSE ANESTHETISTS

LR: 2872 Sponsor: Senator Harrington, M of York
Title: An Act to Allow Nurse Anesthetists to Practice Independently in Urban Settings
Comment: This bill would allow nurse anesthetists to practice independently in urban settings. The bill would also change the prescriptive authority of nurse anesthetists.

HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

LR: 2828 Sponsor: Representative Boyer, M of Cape Elizabeth
Title: An Act to Increase Access to Primary Care from Physician Associates
Comment: This bill would remove the requirement for a practice agreement for a physician associate when the physician associate is the principal clinical provider in a practice that does not include a physician.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

BILLING

LR: 2788 Sponsor: Representative Arford, P of Brunswick
Title: An Act to Address the Prepay Billing Practices of Health Care Providers
Comment: This bill would prohibit health care providers, including hospitals, from billing for health care services prior to the services being rendered to a patient and from requiring that a patient prepay for those services. The bill would also prohibit health care providers from sending a bill at the same time a patient receives a good faith cost estimate prior to services being rendered and from requiring or requesting that the patient prepay any part of the estimate.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

LR: 2886 Sponsor: Senator Tipping, M of Penobscot
Title: An Act to Reduce the Cost of Medications by Requiring Public Payors to Cap Drug Reimbursement Amounts

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Comment: This bill would require public payors, except for MaineCare, to use the maximum fair prices for drugs negotiated by Medicare to cap reimbursement amounts. This bill would direct the Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board with the Office of Affordable Health Care and the Maine Health Data Organization to provide an analysis of savings achieved by public payors using maximum fair prices for prescription drugs negotiated under Medicare Part D.

LR: 2906 Sponsor: Senator Bailey, D of York

Title: An Act Regarding Mail Order Delivery of Prescription Drugs

Comment: This bill would provide for direct access to prescription drugs when mail order deliveries are late or the prescription drugs are in an unusable condition.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

VACCINES

LR: 2608 Sponsor: Representative Cluchey, S of Bowdoinham

Title: An Act to Expand Access to Vaccines Approved by the Food and Drug Administration by Allowing Pharmacists to Prescribe, Dispense and Administer Vaccines and Require First-dollar Insurance Coverage Regardless of Whether the Vaccine Is Prescribed for On-label or Off-label Use

Comment: This bill would expand access to vaccines approved by the Food and Drug Administration by allowing pharmacists to prescribe, dispense and administer vaccines and require first-dollar insurance coverage regardless of whether the vaccine is prescribed for on-label or off-label use.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2611 Senator Tipping, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2613 Representative Roeder, A

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2805 Representative Arata, A

LR: 2805 Sponsor: Representative Arata, A of New Gloucester

Title: An Act to Improve Individual Medical Freedom by Allowing Pharmacists to Order and Administer Vaccines

Comment: This bill would allow licensed pharmacists to order and administer any vaccines that are licensed by the United States Food and Drug Administration. It would allow the Maine Board of Pharmacy to adopt rules to enable this.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2608 Representative Cluchey, S

INSURANCE

HEALTH INSURANCE

LR: 2611 Sponsor: Senator Tipping, M of Penobscot

Title: An Act to Ensure Full Health Insurance Coverage for Immunizations

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

INSURANCE

HEALTH INSURANCE

Comment: This bill would require insurance coverage of immunizations recommended by the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control and Prevention as well as those immunizations recommended by the federal Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2608 Representative Cluchey, S

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2613 Representative Roeder, A

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2696 Representative Shagoury, D

LR: 2613 Sponsor: Representative Roeder, A of Bangor

Title: An Act to Require All Insurance Companies in the State to Cover the Cost of Any Current or Future COVID-19 Vaccine

Comment: This bill would require all insurance companies in the State to cover the cost of any current or future COVID-19 vaccine.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2608 Representative Cluchey, S

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2611 Senator Tipping, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2696 Representative Shagoury, D

LR: 2695 Sponsor: Representative Shagoury, D of Hallowell

Title: An Act to Ensure That All Member Organizations of the State Employee Health Commission Are Eligible for the State Employee Health Insurance Program

Comment: This bill would ensure that all organizations represented on the State Employee Health Commission are eligible to take part in the state employee health insurance program, for which the commission serves as trustee.

Potential JR 217: LD 91 Representative Shagoury, D

LR: 2841 Sponsor: Representative Gattine, D of Westbrook

Title: An Act to Lower Insurance Costs, Reduce Barriers to Care and Ensure Fair Prices

Comment: This bill would establish a commercial reimbursement floor of 110% of the relevant Medicare price for primary care and mental health care professional services. It would limit the allowed amount that hospitals can charge to no more than 225% of the Medicare rate for the same service at the same hospital. It would limit the annual aggregate growth in facility prices to the Medicare Inpatient Prospective Payment System market basket index. It would require reasonable limitations on certain prior authorizations in order to access caps on service-level prices.

LR: 2902 Sponsor: Senator Reny, C of Lincoln

Title: An Act to Ensure Affordable Health Care Coverage in the Absence of Federal Support

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

INSURANCE

HEALTH INSURANCE

Comment: This bill would create state-level affordability programs to reduce the cost of health insurance purchased through the State's marketplace. It would authorize supplemental premium and cost-sharing subsidies for individuals who already receive federal tax credits under the federal Affordable Care Act.

LR: 2944 Sponsor: Senator Grohoski, N of Hancock

Title: An Act to Encourage Timely Contract Negotiations Between Major Health Insurers and Hospital Systems by Establishing a Daily Fine in an Amount Equal to the Annual Compensation Package of the Entities' Respective Chief Executive Officers Per Day That the Contract Lapses

Comment: This bill would encourage timely contract negotiations between major health insurers and hospital systems by establishing a daily fine in an amount equal to the annual compensation package of the entities' respective chief executive officers. The fee would only apply to health insurers and hospital systems above certain size thresholds, to be determined.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BUSINESS PRACTICES

SALES

- LR: 2832 Sponsor: Representative Julia, C of Waterville
Title: An Act to Clarify Resale Ticket Fee Limitations
Comment: This bill would clarify the law that prohibits a ticket reseller or ticket issuer from charging more than 10% of the total price of the ticket.
- LR: 2879 Sponsor: Representative Roberts, T of South Berwick
Title: An Act to Make Certain Changes to the Subscription Cancellation Law
Comment: This bill would update the laws regarding consumer subscription cancellation requirements by requiring a seller of an automatic subscription to provide an online method for canceling the subscription and eliminating the requirement that a seller obtain express consent from a consumer prior to enrolling the consumer in an automatic subscription. The bill would also require the seller to provide a notice of a subscription renewal no less than 30 days and no more than 60 days prior to the cancellation deadline.

BUSINESS PRACTICES

UNFAIR TRADE

- LR: 2870 Sponsor: Representative Julia, C of Waterville
Title: An Act to Clarify Contractual Rights of Personal Sports Mobile Dealers
Comment: This bill would update the laws prohibiting unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive practices by a manufacturer of personal sports mobiles by requiring a fair and equitable basis of allocation of new personal sports mobiles to a dealer, requiring a manufacturer to provide a 90-day notice to a dealer in the case of a proposed modification to a franchise agreement and providing civil remedies for a franchisee or dealer who has been adversely affected by an unfair method of competition or an unfair or deceptive practice.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

- LR: 2829 Sponsor: Senator Pierce, T of Cumberland
Title: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Small Enterprise Growth Program
Comment: This bill would allow the Small Enterprise Growth Board to enter into agreements with 3rd parties to help administer funds and increase the ceiling on the size of qualifying small businesses to 500 employees or gross sales of \$10,000,000.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

- LR: 2755 Sponsor: Representative Rielly, M of Westbrook
Title: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Citizen Trade Policy Commission
Comment: This bill would amend the provisions of law governing the Citizen Trade Policy Commission.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

PLANNING

LR: 2782 Sponsor: Representative Sayre, D of Kennebunk

Title: An Act to Adopt the Economic Recommendations of the Maine Artificial Intelligence Task Force

Comment: This bill would adopt the economic recommendations of the Maine Artificial Intelligence Task Force, including expanding entrepreneurial assistance for artificial intelligence-enabled startups, spur national leadership in artificial intelligence innovation, help private sector firms, community nonprofits and other organizations enhance cybersecurity, improve access to advanced computing resources, provide regulatory predictability and continue to strengthen the State's broadband and energy infrastructure.

LR: 2900 Sponsor: Senator Baldacci, J of Penobscot

Title: An Act to Create the Bangor Mall Redevelopment District

Comment: This bill would establish the Bangor Mall Redevelopment District to allow developers to access tax increment financing to create a possible mixed-use residential, retail, community and arts space in a public-private partnership.

LR: 2922 Sponsor: Senator Talbot Ross, R of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Develop Strategies to Eliminate Economic Disparities in Maine

Comment: This bill would direct the Department of Economic and Community Development and the Department of Labor to compile a report on data regarding the historical and ongoing economic disparities faced by residents of the State. The report would include strategies to eliminate these disparities, including tools to address wage gaps and housing and home ownership, education and business ownership disparities.

HOUSING

ASSISTANCE

LR: 2639 Sponsor: Representative Gere, T of Kennebunkport

Title: An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Municipal Reporting on Residential Building Permits, Dwelling Units Permitted and Demolished and Certificates of Occupancy Issued

Comment: This bill would amend the laws that were enacted in Public Law 2025, chapter 388 governing municipal reporting on residential building permits, dwelling units permitted and demolished and certificates of occupancy issued. It would change the reporting deadline and the information required to be reported and direct the Maine Office of Community Affairs to encourage, but not require, municipalities with fewer than 4,000 residents to participate in the reporting.

LR: 2883 Sponsor: Senator Nangle, T of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Keep Maine Veterans Housed

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING

ASSISTANCE

Comment: This bill would build off existing programs of a Portland-based homeless shelter by providing funding to support permanent supportive housing for veteran populations, landlord engagement activities, landlord incentives and housing retention case management.

LR: 2884 Sponsor: Representative Farrin, W of Jefferson

Title: An Act to Reduce the Cost to Maine Families of Purchasing a Home

Comment: This bill would create a program administered by the Maine State Housing Authority for low-income and middle-income individuals. The program would pay up to \$15,000 per home purchase to reduce the interest rate of the loan for the purchase. The bill would also amend the income tax laws to allow homeowners with modified adjusted gross incomes below \$60,000 to take an income tax deduction for private mortgage insurance paid on their primary residences. Income tax filers would not have to itemize deductions to be eligible for this deduction.

HOUSING

CONSTRUCTION

LR: 2846 Sponsor: Representative Gere, T of Kennebunkport

Title: An Act to Assist Communities with Repurposing Vacant School Buildings into Housing

Comment: This bill would establish a program to assist communities with repurposing vacant school buildings into housing units and authorize the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority to take the title of vacant school properties with the approval of a municipality for the purpose of coordinating developer bidding and overseeing housing projects.

LR: 2893 Sponsor: Senator Curry, C of Waldo

Title: An Act to Support Homeowners in Building Affordable Accessory Dwelling Units

Comment: This bill would establish the Maine Accessory Dwelling Unit Incentive Program to create year-round rental units affordable for 5 years, accelerate accessory dwelling unit production to advance workforce housing and aging in place, provide incentives directly to property owners to build affordable rental accessory dwelling units and create a self-replenishing revolving loan fund.

LR: 2916 Sponsor: Representative Ducharme, J of Madison

Title: An Act to Update Certain Duties of the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board

Comment: This bill would remove the requirement that the edition of a code or standard adopted by the Technical Building Codes and Standards Board as part of the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code be the most recent or the edition previous to the most recent edition of the code or standard required. The bill would also remove the requirement that the board maintain an appendix to the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code as an optional part of the code that contains energy conservation and efficiency requirements that exceed the established energy code requirements.

LR: 2927 Sponsor: Representative Montell, K of Gardiner

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING

CONSTRUCTION

Title: An Act to Require Radon Testing and Remediation of Newly Constructed Buildings

Comment: This bill would require that all newly constructed buildings in the State, before being transferred from the builder to the end user or before receiving a certificate of occupancy or habitability, be tested for radon. If the radon level is found to be above state-established standards, the bill would require that the building be remediated before transfer to the end user or a certificate is issued. Buildings not generally used for or expected for long-term human occupancy, including, but not limited to, warehouses, barns and storage facilities, would be exempt from this requirement.

HOUSING

EMERGENCY SHELTER

LR: 2826 Sponsor: Senator Talbot Ross, R of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Ensure Long-term Solutions for Emergency Shelters Within Maine's Homeless Service System

Comment: This bill would increase funding for statewide emergency shelter operations through a \$3,000,000 annualized increase from the General Fund in 2026 and a \$2,000,000 annualized increase from the General Fund in 2027, to be allocated through the Maine Housing Authority's Emergency Shelter and Housing Assistance Program, to support the sustainability of Maine's essential statewide shelter network, beds and services.

Potential JR 217: LD 1190 Senator Baldacci, J

HOUSING

MANUFACTURED HOUSING

LR: 2701 Sponsor: Senator Reny, C of Lincoln

Title: An Act to Protect Affordability in Mobile Home Parks and Manufactured Housing Communities

Comment: This bill would protect affordability in mobile home parks and manufactured housing communities.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2770 Representative Golek, C

Potential JR 217: LD 255 Senator Baldacci, J

Potential JR 217: LD 365 Senator Curry, C

Potential JR 217: LD 1067 Senator Bradstreet, D

LR: 2770 Sponsor: Representative Golek, C of Harpswell

Title: An Act to Clarify Certain Laws Regarding Rent or Fee Increases for Manufactured Housing Communities

Comment: This bill would clarify certain provisions of law governing the requirement for owners of manufactured housing communities to participate in mediation if the owner intends to raise fees or rent and the residents of the community request the mediation.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING

MANUFACTURED HOUSING

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2701 Senator Reny, C
Potential JR 217: LD 255 Senator Baldacci, J
Potential JR 217: LD 365 Senator Curry, C
Potential JR 217: LD 1067 Senator Bradstreet, D

LR: 2834 Sponsor: Representative Julia, C of Waterville

Title: An Act to Include Certain Practices by Mobile Home Park Owners as Unfair Trade Practices

Comment: This bill would classify certain bad practices by mobile home park owners, such as failure to provide adequate water or repair roads, as violations of the Maine Unfair Trade Practices Act.

LR: 2896 Sponsor: Senator Curry, C of Waldo

Title: An Act to Support Rehabilitation and Development of Affordable Manufactured Housing Communities

Comment: This bill would amend the laws governing Maine State Housing Authority construction loans to allow the authority to make loans to privately owned or cooperative-owned manufactured housing communities for the rehabilitation or development of home sites. The bill would also allow the authority to make construction loans without using an escrow agent if a project's financing requires the authority to issue tax-exempt bonds to generate automatic federal low-income housing tax credits.

HOUSING

REGULATION

LR: 2683 Sponsor: Senator Bennett, R of Oxford

Title: An Act to Simplify Building Codes for Multifamily Dwellings

Comment: This bill would direct the Maine Office of Community Affairs to study and report on building codes for multifamily dwellings, in order to consolidate the building codes, including those for multifamily modular dwellings, into one code. The bill would require recommendations to be made and provide a \$50,000 appropriation to hire a consultant to conduct the study and produce the report.

LR: 2693 Sponsor: Senator Brenner, S of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Exclude Agricultural Leases from the Definition of "Subdivision"

Comment: This bill would explicitly exempt agricultural leases from the definition of "subdivision" as long as they do not convey fee simple ownership or create permanent residential dwellings beyond seasonal farm labor housing.

LR: 2757 Sponsor: Representative Collamore, A of Pittsfield

Title: An Act to Clarify the Laws Regarding Housing and Accessory Dwelling Units

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING

REGULATION

Comment: This bill would update certain laws regarding municipal land use requirements, including clarifying requirements for sprinklers, height allowances, subsurface waste standards, lot sizes and density.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2771 Speaker Fecteau, R

Potential JR 217: LD 1272 Speaker Fecteau, R

LR: 2771 Sponsor: Speaker Fecteau, R of Biddeford

Title: An Act to Clarify the Laws Governing Rate of Growth Ordinances, Affordable Housing Density, Residential Areas Generally, Accessory Dwelling Units and Subdivisions

Comment: This bill would clarify the laws governing rate of growth ordinances, affordable housing density, residential areas generally, accessory dwelling units and subdivisions.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2757 Representative Collamore, A

Potential JR 217: LD 1396 Representative Roberts, T

HOUSING

RENTAL HOUSING

LR: 2730 Sponsor: Representative Golek, C of Harpswell

Title: An Act to Promote Home Ownership for Tenants

Comment: This bill would give a group of tenants or a tenants' association the right of first refusal to purchase a rental property that the rental property owner intends to sell.

LICENSING

COMMERCIAL LANDSCAPERS

LR: 2727 Sponsor: Representative Mitchell, C of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Address Environmental and Public Safety Concerns Involving Commercial Landscapers

Comment: This bill would address environmental and public safety concerns involved with commercial landscapers. It would require a commercial landscaper seeking licensure to obtain continued education with a state landscape and nursery association. It would focus on requiring a hardscape and plant installations license for commercial and residential projects with a contract price exceeding \$15,000. It would also define the term "professional landscaper."

LICENSING

PLUMBERS

LR: 2592 Sponsor: Representative Lance, M of Paris

Title: An Act to Allow Master Plumbers to Certify Their Own Work for Certain Homes

Comment: This bill would allow licensed master plumbers to inspect and certify their own plumbing work in single-family and duplex homes.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

MEMBERSHIP

LR: 2599 Sponsor: Senator Hickman, C of Kennebec

Title: An Act Regarding the Membership of the Real Estate Commission

Comment: This bill would prohibit members of the Real Estate Commission from generating an income from or holding ownership in businesses that provide state continuing education credits for members of the real estate profession.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- LR: 2694 Sponsor: Representative Faircloth, S of Bangor
Title: An Act to Criminalize Intentional or Knowing Failure to Make a Report, Preventing a Report and Making a False Report of Abuse or Neglect
Comment: This bill would make it a Class E crime to intentionally or knowingly fail to make a report of abuse or neglect, prevent another person from making such a report or make a false report of abuse or neglect.
- LR: 2901 Sponsor: Representative Meyer, M of Eliot
Title: An Act to Clarify Maine's Mandated Reporting Laws
Comment: This bill would clarify Maine's mandated reporting laws.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

CHILD CARE

- LR: 2763 Sponsor: Senator Ingwersen, H of York
Title: An Act to Secure and Sustain the Maine Child Care Affordability Program
Comment: This bill would amend the laws governing the Maine Child Care Affordability Program to provide that eligible subsidy recipients must be employed in a licensed child care facility or family child care program, their children must receive care in licensed programs, awards must be provided directly to the facility or provider and the Department of Health and Human Services may adopt rules regarding award amounts, waiting list management, quality standards and limitations on the number of children supported. It would enable the department to hire an additional staff person to oversee programming. It would also increase the program's funding from \$2.5 million to \$3 million annually.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

SOCIAL SERVICES

- LR: 2949 Sponsor: Senator Curry, C of Waldo
Title: An Act to Establish a Pilot Project to Stabilize Housing for Former Foster Children
Comment: This bill would establish a statewide pilot project within the Department of Health and Human Services to address the critical needs of former foster youth that includes housing stabilization, health outreach and workforce support within a public-private partnership framework.

DEATH

RECORDS

- LR: 2866 Sponsor: Representative Roeder, A of Bangor
Title: An Act to Require That Death Certificates of Individuals with No Fixed Address Indicate Domicile Unknown
Comment: This bill would require that the death certificate of an individual who dies in Maine with no fixed address indicate "domicile unknown."

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ELDERLY

CONTINUING CARE COMMUNITIES

LR: 2855 Sponsor: Senator Tepler, D of Sagadahoc
Title: An Act to Require the Department of Health and Human Services to Create a System of Penalties for Residential Facilities That Provide Care That Violate State Guidelines
Comment: This bill would direct the Department of Health and Human Services to establish a system of penalties up to and including license removal for private nonmedical institutions, memory care facilities and nursing homes that violate state rules or guidelines regarding the safety and care of residents and in the hiring and training of staff.

FOOD STAMPS

SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM

LR: 2759 Sponsor: Speaker Fecteau, R of Biddeford
Title: An Act to Prevent Federal Cuts to Food Assistance for Families and Seniors
Comment: This bill would direct the Department of Health and Human Services to implement a system to detect and correct erroneous eligibility determinations for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program food allotments in order to reduce error rates as calculated by the United States Department of Agriculture.

LR: 2765 Sponsor: Representative Quint, T of Hodgdon
Title: An Act to Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services to Apply for a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Waiver to Restrict Purchase of Nonnutritious Items
Comment: This bill would authorize the Department of Health and Human Services to follow the lead of other states and apply for a waiver to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to restrict the purchase of nonnutritious foods such as soda and candy.

LR: 2773 Sponsor: Representative Pluecker, B of Warren
Title: An Act to Ensure Access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program in Maine
Comment: This bill would ensure that Maine residents have access to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program despite federal changes to the program related to working adults and legal residents.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

ELIGIBILITY

LR: 2653 Sponsor: Representative Chapman, Q of Auburn
Title: An Act to Limit Eligibility Under the Municipal General Assistance Program
Comment: This bill would cap housing assistance to a maximum of 3 months within a 12-month period, limit municipalities from exceeding maximum levels for nonhousing needs and require work for aid.

Potential JR 217: LD 1066 Senator Bernard, S

LR: 2654 Sponsor: Representative Chapman, Q of Auburn

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

ELIGIBILITY

Title: An Act to Reduce Property Taxes by Restricting General Assistance to Residents and Qualified Nonresidents

Comment: This bill would allow a municipality to impose a minimum 60-day residency requirement before a person can receive assistance, with exceptions for one-time emergencies.

Potential JR 217: LD 1046 Representative Quint, T

LR: 2822 Sponsor: Representative DeBrito, F of Waterville

Title: An Act to Clarify the Application of Presumptive Eligibility for General Assistance to a Person Sheltered in an Emergency Homeless Shelter

Comment: This bill would resolve confusion regarding the application of certain provisions governing eligibility for general assistance by clarifying that a person is presumptively eligible for general assistance if that person is sheltered at an emergency homeless shelter.

Potential JR 217: LD 1029 Senator Talbot Ross, R

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPT

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

LR: 2753 Sponsor: Representative Gattine, D of Westbrook

Title: An Act to Support Quality Health Care Through the Statewide Health Information Exchange

Comment: This bill would establish a health information technology fund within the Department of Health and Human Services to collect voluntary private contributions from health care-related entities. The funds would be used to fund the state share requirements for receiving federal operating funds for the state-designated statewide health information exchange.

HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

NURSING FACILITIES

LR: 2932 Sponsor: Senator Grohoski, N of Hancock

Title: An Act to Preserve and Improve Access to Nursing Facility Services in the State

Comment: This bill would establish a system to maintain and increase access to nursing home services statewide and address strategies to recruit and retain a strong workforce.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

CHILDREN

LR: 2857 Sponsor: Representative McCabe, J of Lewiston

Title: An Act to Sustain Access to Children's Residential Care Services

Comment: This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services to initiate an emergency rate determination process for children's residential care services and implement the new rates within 60 days. It would also establish an emergency stabilization fund to prevent closures of providers and to ensure continued access to in-state care.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

CHILDREN

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

DELIVERY

LR: 2792 Sponsor: Representative Hepler, A of Woolwich

Title: An Act to Respond to the Emergent Epidemic of Co-occurring Brain Injury and Overdose and Substance Use Disorder

Comment: This bill would direct the Department of Health and Human Services and the department's Office of Behavioral Health to partner with the Brain Injury Association of America-Maine and the Acquired Brain Injury Advisory Council to plan a response to emergent brain injury co-occurring with overdose and substance use disorder, focusing on identifying key treatment settings and priorities for building capacity to respond to the emergent epidemic, including through screening for brain injury, staff training and technical assistance, neuro-resource facilitation, peer support and strengthening online brain injury resources.

LR: 2881 Sponsor: Representative McCabe, J of Lewiston

Title: An Act to Establish the Health Care Cybersecurity Task Force

Comment: This bill would direct the Department of Health and Human Services to establish the Health Care Cybersecurity Task Force to analyze cybersecurity standards of the health care sector in the State and propose related legislation.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

LR: 2736 Sponsor: Senator Reny, C of Lincoln

Title: An Act to Improve Access to Affordable Medication in Underserved Areas

Comment: This bill would direct the Department of Health and Human Services to provide funding support for federally qualified health centers to develop or expand the centers' capacity to provide access to affordable prescription drugs for patients.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

PREVENTION PROGRAMS

LR: 2903 Sponsor: President Daughtry, M of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Increase Access to Critical Vaccinations

Comment: This bill would increase access to critical vaccinations in Maine by clarifying the state vaccine recommendation system, supporting the supply chain of state recommended childhood vaccines and establishing a statutory standard of care for negligence claims against pharmacists.

MEDICAID

MAINECARE

LR: 2605 Sponsor: Senator Stewart, T of Aroostook

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MEDICAID

MAINECARE

Title: An Act to Improve Access to Pediatric Dental Care

Comment: This bill would increase the reimbursement rate for general anesthesia in treating children who need dental care and receive MaineCare benefits.

LR: 2696 Sponsor: Representative Shagoury, D of Hallowell

Title: An Act to Ensure That Maine Residents Have Timely Access to Vaccines

Comment: This bill would require the MaineCare program and insurers who operate in the State to pay the cost of vaccines as if they were following federal recommendations when the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends the administration of vaccines on an earlier schedule or with greater availability than federal recommendations.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2611 Senator Tipping, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2613 Representative Roeder, A

LR: 2747 Sponsor: Speaker Fecteau, R of Biddeford

Title: An Act to Improve Dental Care Access for Maine Children and Adults

Comment: This bill would increase the MaineCare reimbursement for anesthesia provided at ambulatory surgery centers with a payer mix of at least 50% MaineCare patients.

LR: 2760 Sponsor: Representative Sachs, M of Freeport

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Amend Its Rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 21: Home and Community Benefits for Members with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism Spectrum Disorder

Comment: This resolve would direct the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its Rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 21: Home and Community Benefits for Members with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism Spectrum Disorder in order to allow recipients of services to continue to receive services even though they live in a 2-person licensed home with a vacancy by extending current deadlines.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2843 Representative Stover, H

Potential JR 217: LD 1509 Representative Stover, H

LR: 2772 Sponsor: Speaker Fecteau, R of Biddeford

Title: An Act to Offset Federal Cuts to Health Insurance for Families and Seniors

Comment: This bill would address the Federal Government's reductions to the MaineCare program by funding the program with state dollars.

LR: 2793 Sponsor: Representative DeBrito, F of Waterville

Title: An Act to Expand Reimbursement for On-scene Medical Treatment, Community Paramedicine and Transport to a Medical Facility That Is Not an Emergency Department

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MEDICAID

MAINECARE

Comment: This bill would require carriers that provide coverage for emergency medical services to reimburse care provided on scene, care provided by a community paramedicine program and transportation of a patient to an appropriate destination for care other than a hospital emergency department. It would also direct the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt rules related to this legislation and to allocate sufficient funds under the MaineCare program to support the reimbursements required by this legislation.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2894 Senator Curry, C

Potential JR 217: LD 1530 Senator Curry, C

Potential JR 217: LD 1192 Senator Baldacci, J

LR: 2843 Sponsor: Representative Stover, H of Boothbay

Title: Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Adopt and Publish Rules Regarding Rates for Home and Community-based Services Under the MaineCare Program

Comment: This resolve would direct the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt and publish rules regarding rates for home and community-based services under the MaineCare program for which the department initiated a rate determination process in 2024.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2760 Representative Sachs, M

Potential JR 217: LD 1509 Representative Stover, H

LR: 2894 Sponsor: Senator Curry, C of Waldo

Title: An Act to Strengthen Emergency Medical Services by Increasing MaineCare Reimbursement Rates for Ambulance Services

Comment: This bill would provide a \$5,000,000 General Fund appropriation to support increased MaineCare reimbursement rates for ambulance services and direct the Department of Health and Human Services to apply for the Medicare match.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2793 Representative DeBrito, F

Potential JR 217: LD 35 Senator Curry, C

Potential JR 217: LD 1429 Representative Fredette, K

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

CHILDREN

LR: 2705 Sponsor: Senator Ingwersen, H of York

Title: An Act to Provide One-time Funds to Support the Construction of a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility for At-risk Youth

Comment: This bill would provide one-time funds to support the construction of a psychiatric residential treatment facility serving at-risk youth under 21 years of age.

Potential JR 217: LD 791 Senator Baldacci, J

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

COMMUNITY-BASED

LR: 2827 Sponsor: Representative Supica, L of Bangor

Title: An Act to Establish an Advisory Committee on Supporting People with Severe and Persistent Mental Health Concerns

Comment: This bill would establish an advisory committee to advise the Legislature, the Governor and state agencies on the internal structures and policies relating to support for people with severe and persistent mental health concerns who cannot otherwise be supported by community-based resources. It would also provide ombudsman services to the adults and families regarding adult protective services and guardianship.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

DELIVERY

LR: 2723 Sponsor: Representative Gramlich, L of Old Orchard Beach

Title: An Act to Address Artificial Intelligence and Mental Health

Comment: This bill would establish strong protections against unethical and unsafe use of artificial intelligence in clinical settings, ensuring that licensed professionals deliver mental health care. It would add consumer protections for users of unregulated so-called mental health chatbots that use artificial intelligence technology for clients seeking services, which would include disclosure obligations. It would regulate the practice of chatbots' providing nonclinical advice by setting guidelines for the use of artificial intelligence in mental health treatment.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2838 Representative Kuhn, A

LR: 2836 Sponsor: Senator Ingwersen, H of York

Title: Resolve, to Establish a Working Group to Prioritize Mental Health and Wellness Resources Within Maine's Heritage Industries

Comment: This resolve would establish a working group to develop recommendations to improve access to mental health and wellness resources for individuals involved in the fishing, forestry and agricultural industries.

LR: 2838 Sponsor: Representative Kuhn, A of Falmouth

Title: An Act to Regulate the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Providing Mental Health Services

Comment: This bill would identify permitted and prohibited uses of artificial intelligence in the provision of mental health services in the State.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2723 Representative Gramlich, L

PUBLIC HEALTH

DISEASE CONTROL

LR: 2924 Sponsor: Representative Macias, R of Topsham

Title: Resolve, Directing State Agencies to Increase Awareness, Accountability and Preparedness Regarding Long COVID

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

PUBLIC HEALTH

DISEASE CONTROL

Comment: This bill would direct state agencies to increase awareness, accountability and preparedness regarding long COVID through the development of accommodations for students and workers, consumer protections, expanded in-state treatment capacity, provider training, modernized public facilities and preparation for future airborne disease threats.

PUBLIC SAFETY

SAFE DRINKING WATER

LR: 2820 Sponsor: Representative Ankeles, D of Brunswick

Title: An Act to Protect Private Well Owners from Toxic Chemicals

Comment: This bill would increase ongoing Department of Environmental Protection funding by \$1,000,000 in each fiscal year of the biennium for the purpose of assisting residents whose water is supplied by private wells for testing for and remediation of hazardous chemicals including perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS; installation and maintenance of PFAS filtration systems; connection to local water district networks; and provision of bottled drinking water.

SMOKING

TOBACCO PRODUCTS

LR: 2898 Sponsor: Senator Curry, C of Waldo

Title: An Act to Support Small and Rural Pharmacies While Preserving Tobacco Sales Restrictions

Comment: This bill would allow tobacco product sales by small independent host grocers that lease space, with anti-evasion guardrails, to a separately owned pharmacy.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2909 Representative Moonen, M

LR: 2909 Sponsor: Representative Moonen, M of Portland

Title: An Act to Provide an Exemption for Certain Grocery Stores from the Prohibition of the Sale of Tobacco Products in Pharmacies

Comment: This bill would exempt "host grocery establishments," as defined, from the prohibition against the sale of tobacco products in pharmacies.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2898 Senator Curry, C

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

EDUCATION

LR: 2651 Sponsor: Representative Chapman, Q of Auburn

Title: An Act to Limit Hypodermic Apparatus Exchange Programs to a One-for-one Exchange

Comment: This bill would limit the number of hypodermic apparatuses that may be exchanged by a hypodermic apparatus exchange program certified by the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention to one per participant for each one exchanged by that participant.

Potential JR 217: LD 219 Representative Mastraccio, A

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

HUNTING

LICENSES

LR: 2698 Sponsor: Senator Hickman, C of Kennebec

Title: An Act to Expand Lifetime Access to Hunting and Fishing Opportunities

Comment: This bill would direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to create a lifetime super pack license that includes all the features of the current super pack license, including moose and antlerless deer permit lottery entries, and is governed by the rules and timelines of lifetime hunting and fishing licenses. The department would determine through rulemaking the cost of such a license. The bill would remove the prohibition on lifetime license holders from obtaining a super pack license.

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE DEPT

ADMINISTRATION

LR: 2597 Sponsor: Representative Woodsome, D of Waterboro

Title: An Act to Review Current Hunting and Fishing Laws, Violations and Fines

Comment: This bill would require the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to review current hunting and fishing laws, violations and fines under the jurisdiction of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

RECREATION

WATERCRAFT

LR: 2830 Sponsor: Representative Hepler, A of Woolwich

Title: An Act to Safely Remove Derelict and Abandoned Boats in the State

Comment: This bill would create a process for removing abandoned boats and establish penalties for owners who do not reimburse municipalities or the State for the removal of abandoned boats. A dedicated fund would be created for the removal of abandoned boats, with boat registration fees increasing by \$1 per year.

LR: 2856 Sponsor: Representative Eaton, H of Deer Isle

Title: An Act to Improve Water Safety at Public Landings in Response to Drowning Emergencies

Comment: This bill would require publicly maintained landings, boat ramps and swim access points to include basic lifesaving infrastructure. The bill would also support community water safety through swim lesson access and personal flotation device drop boxes.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

JUDICIARY

ABUSE

PROTECTION ACTIONS

LR: 2585 Sponsor: Representative Poirier, J of Skowhegan

Title: An Act to Strengthen Maine's Extreme Risk Protection Order Process by Supporting Crisis Receiving Centers, Requiring School Resource Officer Education and Establishing the Yellow Flag Public Safety Fund

Comment: This bill would amend the law requiring court orders prohibiting the purchase or possession of a dangerous weapon, require school resource officers to receive training on the extreme risk protection order process and establish a fund to support implementation of the extreme risk protection order process and address the underlying mental health concerns that require the use of such an order.

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 1378

ACTIONS

RECOVERY

LR: 2908 Sponsor: Representative Osher, L of Orono

Title: An Act to Provide Relief for Maine Residents and Small Businesses Affected by Severe Storms

Comment: This bill would allow access to legal recourse for Maine businesses and communities affected by extreme weather by providing a legal right of action. The bill would define the situations in which claimants may pursue damages from a corporate entity or entities responsible for climate-attributable damage caused by an extreme weather event in the State, with a 3-year statute of limitations.

ATTORNEY GENERAL DEPT

POWERS

LR: 2869 Sponsor: Representative Brennan, M of Portland

Title: An Act to Establish the Maine Nonprofit Security Grant Program

Comment: This bill would establish the Maine Nonprofit Security Grant Program to provide resources to help at-risk nonprofits improve security at their locations to protect against hate crimes and extremist attacks. It would direct the Office of the Attorney General to administer the program.

CIVIL PROCEDURE

TRESPASS

LR: 2833 Sponsor: Representative Julia, C of Waterville

Title: An Act to Provide a Right to Cure Nonpayment Evictions in Mobile Home Parks

Comment: This bill would provide that a tenant or homeowner in a mobile home park who is facing eviction for nonpayment has the right to cure the arrearage at any time before issuance of the writ of possession.

LR: 2840 Sponsor: Senator Grohoski, N of Hancock

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

JUDICIARY

CIVIL PROCEDURE

TRESPASS

- Title: An Act to Establish Administrative Review Procedures for State Property Access Restrictions
- Comment: This bill would establish a formal review process for individuals who receive access restrictions from state facilities that provide public services by requiring state entities to provide written justification for access denials based on specific criteria, granting individuals the right to challenge these restrictions in court, mandating expedited court hearings for challenges and defining the procedures of the court proceedings.

COURTS

FACILITIES

- LR: 2641 Sponsor: Representative Fredette, K of Newport
- Title: An Act to Direct the Judicial Branch to Reopen a Courthouse in the Town of Newport
- Comment: This bill would direct the judicial branch to reopen a courthouse in the Town of Newport.
- Potential JR 217: LD 924 Representative Fredette, K
- LR: 2882 Sponsor: Representative Henderson, R of Rumford
- Title: An Act to Require the Judicial Branch to Track When the Courts Are Closed Due to Weather
- Comment: This bill would require the judicial branch to track when the courts are closed due to weather.

COURTS

SUPERIOR COURT

- LR: 2714 Sponsor: Senator Duson, J of Cumberland
- Title: An Act to Create a Right to Emergency Review to Demonstrate the Status of Persons Erroneously Detained
- Comment: This bill would allow a person who is detained in a state facility on the basis of an allegation of being unlawfully present in the United States to appear in state court and present evidence that the person is erroneously detained or that the person is lawfully present or otherwise demonstrate that person's immigration status. After a hearing, the court may order the release of the person. This provision does not apply in the case of an alleged violation of criminal law or a violation of state law for which detention is authorized. The bill would allow the court to award a person actual and punitive damages for erroneous detainment.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

APPOINTED COUNSEL

- LR: 2847 Sponsor: Senator Carney, A of Cumberland
- Title: An Act to Provide Required Funding for the Reimbursement of Assigned Counsel and to Develop the Public Defender Office for Cumberland County

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

JUDICIARY

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

APPOINTED COUNSEL

Comment: This bill would provide one-time funding in fiscal years 2025-26 and 2026-27 to the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services to address an anticipated funding shortfall. The bill would also fund the development of a public defender office in Cumberland County. The new positions in Cumberland County would begin April 1, 2026.

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 456 Senator Carney, A

DOMESTIC RELATIONS

DOMESTIC PARTNERS

LR: 2756 Sponsor: Representative Collamore, A of Pittsfield

Title: An Act to Clarify the Definition of "Domestic Partnership"

Comment: This bill would clarify the definition of "domestic partnership" to include unregistered domestic partners who can show evidence of cohabitation for at least 7 consecutive years.

FIREARMS

POSSESSION

LR: 2787 Sponsor: Representative Arford, P of Brunswick

Title: An Act to Allow a Municipality to Adopt a Model Ordinance That Prohibits the Possession of Firearms in Municipal Buildings Where Municipal Public Proceedings Take Place

Comment: This bill would modify the current state preemption on firearm regulation by allowing a municipality, through its normal process, to adopt a model ordinance that would prohibit firearm possession in a municipal building where a municipal public proceeding, meeting or voting takes place. The bill would establish the parameters of what is allowed in the model ordinance, including exemptions, notices and penalties.

Potential JR 217: LD 1743 Representative Arford, P

FREEDOM OF ACCESS

PUBLIC RECORDS

LR: 2929 Sponsor: Senator Nangle, T of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Provide Transparency in Freedom of Access Act Request Cost Estimates

Comment: This bill would require a state or local agency to provide a detailed written breakdown of estimated charges for a Freedom of Access Act request when the estimated charge exceeds \$300.

HUMAN RIGHTS

FREE SPEECH

LR: 2940 Sponsor: Senator Talbot Ross, R of Cumberland

Title: An Act Requiring School Boards to Develop Policies to Ensure Educators' Free Speech Rights Are Protected

Comment: This bill would require school boards to develop policies to ensure educators' free speech rights are protected.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

JUDICIARY

HUMAN RIGHTS

FREE SPEECH

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 426 Representative Kuhn, A

HUMAN RIGHTS

PRIVACY

LR: 2625 Sponsor: Senator Libby, J of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Protect Maine Residents from Deceptive Audio and Digital Depictions of Persons

Comment: This bill would establish the crime of fraudulent use of deepfakes, establish a cause of action for fraudulent use of deepfakes and prohibit the registration of lobbyists who have been found to have fraudulently used deepfakes in certain cases. The bill would define "deepfake" as a video, audio or any other media of a person in which the person's face, body or voice has been digitally altered so that the person appears to be someone else, the person appears to be saying something that the person has never said or the person appears to be doing something that the person has never done.

LR: 2650 Sponsor: Representative Faircloth, S of Bangor

Title: An Act to Enhance the Safety of Judicial and Elected Officials, Prosecutors and Law Enforcement Officers

Comment: This bill would require that the home address of an elected official, judicial official, prosecutor or law enforcement officer must be redacted from public records before those records may be viewed by the public and would otherwise prohibit a state or local agency or other person from knowingly publishing that home address.

LR: 2652 Sponsor: Representative Roeder, A of Bangor

Title: An Act to Make Artificial Intelligence-generated Child Pornography Illegal

Comment: This bill would apply the law prohibiting and providing punishments for the possession, creation and dissemination of child pornography to those activities involving child pornography created or enhanced by artificial intelligence.

Potential JR 217: LD 230 Representative Campbell, D

JUVENILE OFFENDERS

DETENTION

LR: 2915 Sponsor: Representative Caruso, E of Caratunk

Title: An Act to Make Changes to the Maine Juvenile Code Regarding Detention and the Timing of Competency Examinations

Comment: The bill would amend the Maine Juvenile Code regarding detention and the timing of competency examinations.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

INTERAGENCY RELATIONS

LR: 2939 Sponsor: Representative Sato, E of Gorham

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

JUDICIARY

LAW ENFORCEMENT

INTERAGENCY RELATIONS

Title: An Act to Improve Constitutional Protections Against Unreasonable Search and Seizure in Public Schools and Public Health Facilities

Comment: This bill would place limits on cooperation by certain educational and health care institutions with federal law enforcement agencies. The bill would also require the Attorney General to publish, and certain educational and health care facilities to adopt, policies ensuring the privacy and safety of all students and patients.

REAL ESTATE

CONDOMINIUMS

LR: 2594 Sponsor: Representative Bell, A of Yarmouth

Title: An Act to Amend the Percentage of Votes Needed for an Amendment of a Declaration in the Maine Condominium Act

Comment: This bill would change the voting requirement under the Maine Condominium Act to amend a declaration to create or increase special declarant rights, increase the number of units or change the boundary of any unit, the allocated interests of a unit or the uses to which any unit is restricted from unanimous consent to 80% consent.

VICTIMS OF CRIME

SERVICES

LR: 2918 Sponsor: Senator Nangle, T of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Support Victims of Trafficking in Maine in Response to Federal Funding Cuts

Comment: This bill would provide \$317,000 in one-time funds to support the Preble Street Anti-trafficking Services program, which would replace federal funding that has been unexpectedly delayed.

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 1139 Senator Carney, A

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2835 Representative Stover, H

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2844 Representative Stover, H

VICTIMS OF CRIME

SEX CRIMES

LR: 2835 Sponsor: Representative Stover, H of Boothbay

Title: An Act to Create a Council to Support a Statewide Multidisciplinary Response to Human Trafficking and Exploitation

Comment: This bill would establish an ongoing council to support a statewide multidisciplinary response to human trafficking and exploitation.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2844 Representative Stover, H

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2918 Senator Nangle, T

LR: 2844 Sponsor: Representative Stover, H of Boothbay

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

JUDICIARY

VICTIMS OF CRIME

SEX CRIMES

Title: An Act to Increase Accountability of Those Engaged in Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking and to Support Victims

Comment: This bill would establish fines on those engaged in commercial sexual exploitation and human trafficking. The money received from the fines would be used to address issues of trafficking and exploitation and to provide individuals experiencing and survivors of human trafficking and sexual exploitation with supports and services.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2835 Representative Stover, H

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2918 Senator Nangle, T

VICTIMS OF CRIME

VICTIMS RIGHTS

LR: 2691 Sponsor: Representative Gramlich, L of Old Orchard Beach

Title: An Act to Improve Response to Crime Victims

Comment: This bill would improve response to crime victims by codifying a centralized process for crime victims to make complaints, codifying the right of a crime victim to receive timely notice concerning subpoenas for their privileged medical or mental health records or cellular telephone records, clarifying crime victims' right to be represented by counsel and codifying a right to be notified as to the filing, scheduling and outcome of criminal appeals.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

LABOR

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

LEAVE

- LR: 2739 Sponsor: Representative Roberts, T of South Berwick
- Title: An Act to Amend the State's Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program Regarding Eligibility Determinations, Employee Protections and Wage Deductions
- Comment: This bill would require the Department of Labor to determine whether Maine residents whose wages are not reported to the unemployment insurance system qualify for a benefit. It would prohibit employers from reclassifying remote positions to avoid paid family and medical leave contributions, require employers to make restitution and repay contributions if such a reclassification occurs and protect employees from retaliation. It would make these and other changes apply retroactively to January 1, 2025, with a 12-month window beginning January 1, 2026 for affected employees to submit claims under the new laws.
-
- LR: 2741 Sponsor: Representative Roberts, T of South Berwick
- Title: An Act to Support Seasonal Businesses and Retain Foreign Workers in the State's Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program
- Comment: This bill would amend the law governing the State's paid family and medical leave benefits program to provide for undue hardship for seasonal businesses that also retain foreign workers.

Potential JR 217: LD 1712 Representative Roberts, T

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

BENEFITS

- LR: 2606 Sponsor: Representative Archer, M of Saco
- Title: An Act to Establish a Maximum Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance and Provide for Employer Credits
- Comment: This bill would establish a maximum balance in the Unemployment Compensation Fund and require that funds in excess of this balance be applied as a credit to employers who make contributions to the fund.

JOB TRAINING

PROGRAMS

- LR: 2778 Sponsor: Representative Sayre, D of Kennebunk
- Title: An Act to Adopt the Workforce Recommendations of the Maine Artificial Intelligence Task Force
- Comment: This bill would adopt the workforce recommendations of the Maine Artificial Intelligence Task Force, including actively evaluating artificial intelligence's real-time effects on Maine's workers and labor markets, expanding training opportunities, readying Maine's workforce investment strategy and reemployment policies, leveraging artificial intelligence tools to expand state workforce programs, engaging workers to ensure that artificial intelligence improves careers and equipping students and trainees for the future workplace.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

LABOR

STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM

ADMINISTRATION

LR: 2914 Sponsor: Senator Nangle, T of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Prevent Political Influence in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System by Prohibiting Certain Investments

Comment: This bill would prevent political influence in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System by prohibiting the system from investing in entities in which a covered elected official has a controlling ownership interest or making investments that would result in a substantial material benefit to a covered elected official. Covered elected officials would include state legislators, statewide elected officers, members of the United States Congress and the President of the United States. The bill would not prevent investment in publicly traded stocks, like Google, for example, simply because a covered elected official owns some shares. Investments that present potential conflicts of interest would have to be reported to the Legislature's government oversight committee and the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability.

STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM

BENEFITS

LR: 2850 Sponsor: Representative Malon, II, M of Biddeford

Title: An Act to Update the Calculation of Retirement Benefits for State Employees

Comment: This bill would update the calculation of retirement benefits to clarify that the cap on salary or wage increases that applies to employees covered by a collective bargaining agreement applies to state employees who are not covered by the collective bargaining agreement.

STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM

SPECIAL PLANS

LR: 2858 Sponsor: Senator Tipping, M of Penobscot

Title: An Act to Include Certain Community Mental Health Workers Under the 1998 Special Plan for Retirement

Comment: This bill would add certain classifications of employees of the Department of Health and Human Services who are employed on October 1, 2025 or hired thereafter to the 1998 Special Plan of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 579 Senator Tipping, M

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2907 Senator Hickman, C

LR: 2907 Sponsor: Senator Hickman, C of Kennebec

Title: An Act to Include in the 1998 Special Retirement Plan Certain State Employees Who Provide Crisis Services to Disabled Adults

Comment: This bill would amend the 1998 special retirement plan to include certain employees of the Department of Health and Human Services who provide crisis outreach and crisis services to adults with developmental or intellectual disabilities.

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 579 Senator Tipping, M

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session
Bill Requests For Screening
Sorted By Subject

LABOR

STATE RETIREMENT SYSTEM
SPECIAL PLANS

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2858 Senator Tipping, M

WORKERS COMPENSATION
BENEFITS

LR: 2588 Sponsor: Senator Hickman, C of Kennebec

Title: An Act to Require Notices of Discontinuance and Reduction of Compensation to Be Sent via Certified Mail

Comment: This bill would require that any notice of discontinuance form or reduction of compensation form be sent to an individual receiving workers' compensation benefits via certified mail.

WORKERS COMPENSATION
LIABILITY

LR: 2871 Sponsor: Representative Beck, M of South Portland

Title: An Act to Clarify Indemnification When Seeking Remedy for Labor Law Violations

Comment: This bill would amend labor laws to make subcontractors and general contractors jointly and severally liable for damages owed to subcontractor's employees as the result of the subcontractor's violation of certain employment laws. Unless otherwise provided in an enforceable contract between the subcontractor and general contractor, the subcontractor would be required to indemnify the general contractor for any wages, damages, interest, penalties and attorney's fees owed as a result of the subcontractor's violations. The same conditions would apply to the relationship between an employer and employment agency with the employment agency bearing responsibility to indemnify the employer.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

MARINE RESOURCES

COMMERCIAL FISHING

LICENSES

LR: 2601 Sponsor: Representative Tuell, W of East Machias

Title: An Act to Support Shellfish Harvesters Who Are Veterans of the United States Military

Comment: This bill would direct the Department of Marine Resources to offer half-price discounts on commercial shellfish licenses to honorably discharged veterans of the United States military.

LOBSTERS

LICENSING

LR: 2734 Sponsor: Senator Lawrence, M of York

Title: An Act to Support the Licensing of Persons Who Fish for Lobster

Comment: This bill would allow a person who fishes for lobster who held a license in previous years but did not renew that license in the current year to appeal to the Commissioner of Marine Resources for a license to continue fishing for lobster in the previously authorized limited-entry zone.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

COUNTIES

BONDING AUTHORITY

LR: 2731 Sponsor: Senator Moore, M of Washington
Title: An Act to Allow a Political Subdivision to Enter into Federal Bankruptcy Proceedings
Comment: This bill would allow a political subdivision to enter into federal bankruptcy proceedings.

COUNTIES

FUNDING

LR: 2821 Sponsor: Representative Woodsome, D of Waterboro
Title: An Act to Require County Budgets to Be Approved by the Voters of Each County
Comment: This bill would require county budgets to be approved by the voters of each county. The total amount of the county budget must be listed on the ballot.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2643 Representative Tuell, W

LR: 2867 Sponsor: Senator Moore, M of Washington
Title: An Act Regarding the Finances of Washington County
Comment: This bill would provide \$8,000,000 to Washington County to fund critical services.

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 461 Senator Moore, M

COUNTY BUDGETS

OMNIBUS

LR: 2643 Sponsor: Representative Tuell, W of East Machias
Title: An Act to Require County Budgets to Be Approved by a Countywide Referendum
Comment: This bill would require that county budgets be approved by a countywide referendum prior to the start of the county's fiscal year and that a public hearing be held in each county commissioner's district prior to the referendum vote.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2821 Representative Woodsome, D

LEGISLATURE

CAPITOL COMPLEX

LR: 2928 Sponsor: Representative Montell, K of Gardiner
Title: An Act to Establish a Long-term Plan for the Remediation of Radon in the State House
Comment: This bill would establish a procedure to implement the recommendations of a required engineering report regarding high radon levels in portions of the State House. The bill would establish reasonable timelines to implement a permanent solution to address radon levels above state standards. The bill would also establish a system to regularly test all areas of the State House for radon.

Potential JR 217: LD 1776 Representative Montell, K

LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATORS

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATORS

LR: 2865 Sponsor: Representative Kessler, C of South Portland
Title: An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Legislative Reimbursement for Security Purposes
Comment: This bill would allow for a \$4,500 allowance per biennium for Legislators for security-related expenditures.

MUNICIPALITIES

LAND USE

LR: 2837 Sponsor: Representative Kuhn, A of Falmouth
Title: An Act to Clarify the Laws Regarding Municipal Land Use
Comment: This bill would amend the law governing residential areas to change density bonus eligibility to either growth areas as identified in a state-approved comprehensive plan or areas where there is sewer and water if the municipality does not have such a plan. It would also change the implementation date to 6 months after final rulemaking.

MUNICIPALITIES

ORDINANCES

LR: 2669 Sponsor: Senator Stewart, T of Aroostook
Title: An Act to Prohibit the Imposition of a Fine on an Owner of Commercial Rental Property Who Is Unable to Rent that Property
Comment: This bill would prohibit a municipality from fining an owner of commercial rental property who is unable to rent the property at market rates.

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

ADMINISTRATION

LR: 2878 Sponsor: Representative Libby, L of Auburn
Title: An Act Banning the Issuance of Digital Identification Documents by State or Local Governments
Comment: This bill would ban the issuance of digital identification documents by state or local governments that would be used for proving a person's identity.

STATE GOVERNMENT

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

LR: 2804 Sponsor: Senator Black, R of Franklin
Title: An Act to Eliminate the Requirement for Municipalities to Provide Public Notice in a Newspaper
Comment: This bill would eliminate the requirement for municipalities to provide public notice in a newspaper.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2891 Representative Henderson, R

LR: 2860 Sponsor: Senator Tepler, D of Sagadahoc

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

STATE GOVERNMENT

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Title: Resolve, to Create a Study Commission to Improve the Health and Safety of Maine's People and Environment by Improving Communication Between Executive Branch Departments with Shared Responsibilities

Comment: This resolve would create a study commission to improve the health and safety of Maine's people and environment by improving communication between executive branch departments with shared responsibilities.

LR: 2891 Sponsor: Representative Henderson, R of Rumford

Title: An Act to Make Public Notice Newspaper Publishing Voluntary

Comment: This bill would remove the requirement that a public notice be published in a newspaper.

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2804 Senator Black, R

STATE GOVERNMENT

CIVIL SERVICE

LR: 2684 Sponsor: Senator Farrin, B of Somerset

Title: An Act to Support Military Spouse Employment Opportunities

Comment: This bill would define the term "eligible service member" as a person serving on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, including the Reserves of the United States Armed Forces and the National Guard, and add spouses of eligible service members who meet a classified service position's minimum qualifications to the list of those who will be offered an interview for the position.

STATE GOVERNMENT

PURCHASES

LR: 2699 Sponsor: Representative Ankeles, D of Brunswick

Title: Resolve, Directing the State to Purchase Certain Properties in the Cities of Portland and Westbrook by Eminent Domain

Comment: This resolve would direct the State to purchase certain properties in Portland and Westbrook. It would further direct that all structures on the properties be razed and that the properties be turned into green space and conserved in perpetuity.

STATE GOVERNMENT

STATE COMMEMORATIONS

LR: 2586 Sponsor: Representative Tuell, W of East Machias

Title: An Act Designating July 21st as Remembrance Day for Those Who Fish Commercially in Maine

Comment: This bill would designate July 21st as Remembrance Day for Those Who Fish Commercially in Maine to honor those persons of this State who fish commercially and who have lost their lives at sea, whether lobstering, digging clams, scalloping or actively participating in any other commercial fishery.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

STATE GOVERNMENT

STATE COMMEMORATIONS

LR: 2587 Sponsor: Representative Tuell, W of East Machias
Title: An Act Designating June 12th as Margarett Day
Comment: This bill would designate each June 12th as Margarett Day in honor of the first naval battle of the Revolutionary War, the Battle of the Margarett, fought on June 11 and 12, 1775 in Machias Bay.

LR: 2848 Sponsor: Representative Smith, K of Palermo
Title: An Act Regarding January 6, 2021 Commemorations
Comment: This bill would require that during every January 6, 2021 commemoration that occurs in the State a statement must be published alongside any proclamation. It would require the statement to note that over 275 Federal Bureau of Investigation agents were in the crowd at the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021, that these representatives of the Biden administration did nothing to protect nor to stem any conflicts and that their purpose at the event remains unclear.

STATE GOVERNMENT

STATE EMBLEMS

LR: 2607 Sponsor: Representative Jackson, C of Oxford
Title: An Act to Name the Potato as the Official State Vegetable
Comment: This bill would designate the potato as the state vegetable.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

TAXATION

INCOME TAX CREDITS

- LR: 2589 Sponsor: Representative Caruso, E of Caratunk
Title: An Act to Allow a Tax Credit for Parents of a Stillborn Child
Comment: This bill would allow a refundable credit to a parent who experienced the stillbirth of a child.
- LR: 2717 Sponsor: Representative Malon, II, M of Biddeford
Title: An Act to Address the Housing Crisis by Extending the Affordable Housing Income Tax Credit
Comment: The State's income tax credit for affordable housing was created to provide \$10,000,000 in tax credits annually for 8 years. The credit expires in 2028. This bill would remove the expiration date of the credit, extending the \$10,000,000 annual credit indefinitely.
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2737 Representative Rana, A
- LR: 2729 Sponsor: Senator Pierce, T of Cumberland
Title: An Act to Allow for the Transferability of Biofuel Production and Renewable Chemicals Tax Credits
Comment: This bill would provide for the transfer of the biofuel commercial production and commercial use and the renewable chemicals tax credits to 3rd parties.
- LR: 2737 Sponsor: Representative Rana, A of Bangor
Title: An Act to Make Permanent the Affordable Housing Income Tax Credit
Comment: This bill would make the affordable housing income tax credit permanent.
Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2717 Representative Malon, II, M
- LR: 2769 Sponsor: Representative Mathieson, K of Kittery
Title: An Act to Provide a Premium Tax Credit for Eligible Maine Health Insurance Marketplace Policyholders
Comment: This bill would provide a premium tax credit for eligible Maine Health Insurance Marketplace policyholders similar to the federal credit that is set to expire December 31, 2025.
- LR: 2852 Sponsor: Representative Webb, K of Durham
Title: An Act to Establish the Electricity Cost Fairness Refundable Tax Credit
Comment: This bill would establish a refundable tax credit of up to \$600 structured in the same manner as the sales tax fairness credit to provide relief to low-income and middle-income households associated with the increased cost of electricity in Maine.
- LR: 2905 Sponsor: Senator Rotundo, M of Androscoggin
Title: An Act to Create an Income Tax Credit for Eligible Local News Organizations
Comment: This bill would create an income tax credit for eligible local news organizations.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session
Bill Requests For Screening
Sorted By Subject

TAXATION

**INCOME TAX
CREDITS**

**INCOME TAX
RATE**

LR: 2917 Sponsor: Representative Lookner, G of Portland
Title: An Act to Create a Tax on Net Investment Income
Comment: This bill would create a net investment income tax that conforms to federal law.
Potential JR 217: LD 1047 Representative Lookner, G

**MISCELLANEOUS TAXES
CAPITAL GAINS TAX**

LR: 2941 Sponsor: Representative Pluecker, B of Warren
Title: An Act Regarding the Qualified Small Business Stock Tax Exemption
Comment: This bill would remove all tax exemptions for cashing out early-stage investments.

**MISCELLANEOUS TAXES
REAL ESTATE TRANSFER TAX**

LR: 2746 Sponsor: Representative Gattine, D of Westbrook
Title: An Act to Stabilize Emergency Shelter Funding
Comment: This bill would reduce the share of real estate transfer tax revenue retained by the State's counties from 10% to 8.2%. The difference in revenue would go to the shelter operating subsidy line item in the state budget.

**PROPERTY TAX
EXEMPTIONS**

LR: 2583 Sponsor: Senator Hickman, C of Kennebec
Title: An Act to Exempt from Property Tax Fully Disabled Veterans
Comment: This bill would increase the property tax exemption for fully disabled veterans of the United States Armed Forces to 100% of the taxes imposed.
Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 888 Representative Hymes, B
Potential JR 217: LD 892 Senator Farrin, B
Potential JR 217: LD 934 Representative Wood, S
Potential JR 217: LD 1857 Senator Tipping, M
Potential JR 217: LD 909 Senator Pierce, T

LR: 2668 Sponsor: Senator Bickford, B of Androscoggin
Title: An Act to Limit Increases in the Assessed Value of Residential Property

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

TAXATION

PROPERTY TAX

EXEMPTIONS

Comment: This bill would limit reassessments in the value of property for which a homestead exemption has been issued to the lesser of 3% or the rate of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

PROPERTY TAX

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

LR: 2697 Sponsor: Representative Ankeles, D of Brunswick

Title: An Act to Triple the Homestead Property Tax Exemption

Comment: This bill would triple the homestead property tax exemption and fully compensate municipalities for the lost revenue.

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 140 Senator Baldacci, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2704 Representative Geiger, V

Potential JR 217: LD 7 Senator Bennett, R

Potential JR 217: LD 658 Representative Faulkingham, B

LR: 2704 Sponsor: Representative Geiger, V of Rockland

Title: An Act to Protect Year-round Residential Property Owners by Increasing the Homestead Property Tax Exemption

Comment: This bill would increase the homestead property tax exemption from \$35,000 to \$100,000.

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 140 Senator Baldacci, J

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2697 Representative Ankeles, D

Potential JR 217: LD 7 Senator Bennett, R

Potential JR 217: LD 658 Representative Faulkingham, B

PROPERTY TAX

RELIEF

LR: 2859 Sponsor: Senator Stewart, T of Aroostook

Title: An Act to Provide Property Tax Relief for Seniors

Comment: This bill would appropriate \$40,000,000 for property tax relief for seniors.

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 715 Representative Milliken, N

Potential JR 217: LD 7 Senator Bennett, R

Potential JR 217: LD 1541 Senator Martin, J

PROPERTY TAX PROCEDURES

FORECLOSURE

LR: 2861 Sponsor: Representative Gere, T of Kennebunkport

Title: An Act to Enhance Municipal Stewardship of Tax-foreclosed Property

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

TAXATION

PROPERTY TAX PROCEDURES

FORECLOSURE

Comment: This bill would seek a review of the existing process for managing tax-acquired property to ensure that the process is fair and equitable and supports the effective use of limited municipal resources.

PROPERTY TAX PROCEDURES

MUNICIPALITIES

LR: 2740 Sponsor: Representative Bishop, S of Bucksport

Title: An Act to Reestablish Property Tax Levy Limits for Large Maine Towns

Comment: This bill would establish annual limits, based on inflation and real property growth, on municipal property tax levy increases. It would allow a municipality to exceed the levy limit in the case of an extraordinary event or through a local vote. It would require any surplus raised beyond the levy limit to be used for future tax relief. It would exempt municipalities with fewer than 1,000 residents, plantations and the unorganized territory. It would also create a private right of action for resident taxpayers to challenge unlawful tax levies. It would make these changes effective for municipal fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2027.

Potential JR 217: LD 542 Representative Adams, J

PROPERTY TAX PROCEDURES

VALUATION

LR: 2868 Sponsor: Senator Martin, J of Oxford

Title: An Act to Provide Fair and Predictable Property Taxation for Landowners in the Unorganized Territory

Comment: This bill would require the State Tax Assessor to maintain valuations for forest land once every 10 years beginning in the 2030 tax year and freeze current valuations at 2024 tax year levels. The bill would provide that the tax levy may not be changed until the 2030 valuation and may not increase by more than the percentage increase in the federal social security cost-of-living adjustment for the corresponding year. The bill would specify that, if there is no cost-of-living adjustment, the tax levy may not increase. This legislation would apply to property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2026.

TAX ASSESSMENT

VALUATION

LR: 2648 Sponsor: Representative Geiger, V of Rockland

Title: An Act to Establish a State Property Tax Directed Toward 2nd Homes for the Purposes of Funding Education, Early Childhood Programs and the Land for Maine's Future Trust Fund

Comment: This bill would establish a state property tax directed toward 2nd homes for the purposes of funding education, early childhood programs and the Land for Maine's Future Trust Fund.

Potential JR 217: LD 1885 Representative Geiger, V

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session
Bill Requests For Screening
Sorted By Subject

TAXATION

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING

REVISED

LR: 2912 Sponsor: Representative Gere, T of Kennebunkport

Title: An Act to Amend the Affordable Housing Tax Increment Financing Program to Support the Development of Homes

Comment: This bill would allow approved housing development projects to be eligible for state tax increment financing.

Potential JR 217: LD 1657 Representative Kuhn, A

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

TRANSPORTATION

MOTOR CARRIERS

SAFETY

LR: 2629 Sponsor: Representative White, J of Guilford
Title: An Act to Align the Law Governing Emergency Equipment for Trucks and Truck-tractors with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Act
Comment: This bill would align the law governing emergency equipment for trucks and truck-tractors with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Act by removing references to lanterns and emergency reflectors and replacing them with references to reflective triangles.

MOTOR VEHICLES

DRIVERS EDUCATION

LR: 2863 Sponsor: Senator Stewart, T of Aroostook
Title: An Act Regarding Online Driver Education
Comment: This bill would allow for a complete online driver education course authorized by the Secretary of State.

MOTOR VEHICLES

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

LR: 2920 Sponsor: Senator Nangle, T of Cumberland
Title: An Act to Support Highway Infrastructure by Establishing a Fee on Electricity Dispensed at Public and Commercial Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
Comment: This bill would charge a per-kilowatt-hour fee on electricity dispensed at public and commercial electric vehicle charging stations to be collected by charging providers and credited to the Highway Fund, similar to the gasoline tax.

MOTOR VEHICLES

LICENSE PLATES

LR: 2624 Sponsor: Senator Moore, M of Washington
Title: An Act to Allow Drivers to Keep the Chickadee License Plate
Comment: This bill would allow a person to keep the chickadee license plate if that person chooses to do so and pays a fee.

LR: 2667 Sponsor: Senator Stewart, T of Aroostook
Title: An Act to Require a Municipality to Reimburse the State for the Cost of Special Police Registration License Plates
Comment: This bill would require a municipality to reimburse the State for the cost of special police registration plates issued at the request of the chief law enforcement official of that municipality.

LR: 2745 Sponsor: Representative Dill, J of Old Town
Title: An Act to Generate Revenue by Creating a New License Plate Option

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

TRANSPORTATION

MOTOR VEHICLES

LICENSE PLATES

Comment: This bill would create a new license plate option featuring a black background and white characters. The plate would carry an annual fee of \$60, \$25 of which would be directed to the General Fund and \$35 of which would be allocated to a new fund established in the bill, which would support projects at the discretion of the Legislature on a 2-year rotational basis.

LR: 2862 Sponsor: Representative Bagshaw, B of Windham

Title: An Act to Allow Custom-built Vehicles on Roads

Comment: This bill would create a motor vehicle license plate to allow custom-built vehicles on the State's roads.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

BUSES

LR: 2647 Sponsor: Senator Pierce, T of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Enhance the Safety of Public Transit Bus Operators Through the Installation of Vehicle Security Barriers

Comment: This bill would provide for the installation of barriers in municipal buses in order to protect drivers from abuse.

RAILROADS

CROSSINGS

LR: 2600 Sponsor: Senator Hickman, C of Kennebec

Title: An Act Regarding the Safety of Railroad Crossings

Comment: This bill would require state and local entities responsible for plowing roads to direct plow drivers to raise their plows above the surface of railroad crossings to reduce the possibility of accidents with oncoming traffic.

ROADS

BRIDGES

LR: 2590 Sponsor: Representative Caruso, E of Caratunk

Title: Resolve, to Name a Bridge in West Forks Plantation the Gordon Clifton Berry, Sr. Bridge

Comment: This resolve would name a bridge in West Forks Plantation the Gordon Clifton Berry, Sr. Bridge.

LR: 2706 Sponsor: Representative Hepler, A of Woolwich

Title: Resolve, to Name a Bridge in Woolwich the Woolwich Veterans Memorial Bridge

Comment: This resolve would name a bridge in the Town of Woolwich the Woolwich Veterans Memorial Bridge.

LR: 2764 Sponsor: Representative Perkins, C of Dover-Foxcroft

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

TRANSPORTATION

ROADS

BRIDGES

Title: Resolve, to Name the New Main Street Bridge in Dover-Foxcroft in Honor of Private Willard Merrill and Private Barton Merrill, Jr.

Comment: This resolve would name the new Main Street bridge in Dover-Foxcroft in honor of Private Willard Merrill and Private Barton Merrill, Jr.

ROADS

NAMING

LR: 2806 Sponsor: Representative Faulkingham, B of Winter Harbor

Title: Resolve, to Designate a Portion of Route 3 in Trenton as the Deputy Luke Gross Memorial Highway

Comment: This resolve would designate a portion of Route 3 in Trenton as the Deputy Luke Gross Memorial Highway.

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

ENFORCEMENT

LR: 2682 Sponsor: Senator Ingwersen, H of York

Title: An Act to Protect Residents from the Dangers of Reckless Driving by Strengthening Enforcement and Increasing Penalties

Comment: This bill would strengthen enforcement of and increase penalties for racing and exhibition driving. It would amend existing laws targeting driving to endanger and motor vehicle violations resulting in death. These changes are an urgent response to the increase in racing, exhibition driving, stunt driving and other driving behaviors that endanger people in the State.

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

PARKING

LR: 2938 Sponsor: Senator Nangle, T of Cumberland

Title: An Act to Modify Provisions of Law Governing Parking Enforcement on Lots Accessible to the Public

Comment: This bill would amend provisions enacted in Public Law 2025, chapter 350 regarding enforcement of parking violations to remove the requirement that fines be posted on signs at the entrance and exit of a parking lot. The bill would also require that written notice of a violation be affixed to the vehicle at the time of the violation.

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

TOWING

LR: 2864 Sponsor: Representative Crafts, L of Newcastle

Title: An Act to Improve Safety in Towing

Comment: This bill would allow tow trucks to use variable message boards to increase notice to the public and improve safety while engaging in towing operations.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

LICENSING

LR: 2942 Sponsor: Senator Grohoski, N of Hancock
Title: An Act to Clarify Certain Laws Governing Licenses for the Sale of Liquor by Manufacturers
Comment: This bill would clarify the amount of time a license holder that is in violation of the law has to become compliant and would allow a brewery license holder to operate a facility that is licensed for retail if the license holder does not sell products manufactured by the brewery at the retail location.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

LIQUOR

LR: 2709 Sponsor: Representative Geiger, V of Rockland
Title: An Act to Modify Provisions of Law That Negatively Impact Distilleries
Comment: This bill would modify provisions of law negatively impacting the profitability and continued operation of distilleries in this State.

CANNABIS

CULTIVATION AND DISTRIBUTION

LR: 2754 Sponsor: Senator Bickford, B of Androscoggin
Title: An Act to Protect Cannabis Employees and Provide Transparency to Cannabis Consumers
Comment: This bill would clarify that cannabis cultivation and manufacturing facility licensees may treat cannabis only with radiation or ozonation equipment that has been registered with the State's Department of Health and Human Services. It would require licensees to obtain preapproval from the Office of Cannabis Policy before bringing radiation or ozonation equipment onto their licensed premises. It would align labeling requirements for products treated with radiation or ozonation equipment with the requirements for those products produced by extraction by requiring labeling regarding that treatment and including the license number of the facility where treated and the registration number of the equipment used. It would direct the office to maintain a searchable database of licensees that have received approval to use radiation or ozonation equipment.

Potential JR 217: LD 1567 Representative Boyer, Jr., D

CANNABIS

TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL

LR: 2721 Sponsor: Representative Dill, J of Old Town
Title: An Act to Regulate Beverages Containing Tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

CANNABIS

TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL

Comment: This bill would establish a fee of \$1.25 per gallon on beverages containing Tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, to be paid by producers of the THC-containing beverages. It would also place a 5¢ deposit on containers of beverages containing tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, and would regulate the containers under the laws governing returnable beverage containers. A portion of the funds obtained from the fees on producers would be used to hire an appropriate number of inspectors in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations to enforce the laws governing THC-containing beverages in accordance with standards similar to those enforced by the bureau's alcoholic beverage inspectors. An inspector position under this bill would be responsible for both inspection and enforcement. The remainder of the production fees would go to the General Fund.

Closely Related Carryover Req: LD 1983 Senator Ingwersen, H

Closely Related Legislator Req: LR 2933 Senator Talbot Ross, R

DEFENSE VETERANS AND EMER MGT SERV DEPT ADMINISTRATION

LR: 2642 Sponsor: Representative Lookner, G of Portland

Title: An Act to Prevent Funding of the Maine National Guard's Participation in Campaigns of Mass Expulsion

Comment: This bill would cut off all state funding to the Maine National Guard for any period it is deployed by the President of the United States to enforce federal immigration laws, specifically to prevent Maine's resources from being used in mass expulsion operations.

ELECTIONS

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

LR: 2842 Sponsor: Senator Grohoski, N of Hancock

Title: An Act to Amend Maine's Campaign Finance Laws Regarding Foreign Government Influence

Comment: This bill would amend the State's law prohibiting foreign government campaign spending by modifying the definitions and thresholds that determine which entities are subject to these restrictions. The bill would address legal concerns while maintaining the prohibitions on foreign influence in Maine elections and referenda. The bill would preserve existing penalties and enforcement mechanisms, including disclosure requirements for policy communications and due diligence obligations for media platforms.

GAMBLING

RAFFLES

LR: 2609 Sponsor: Senator Hickman, C of Kennebec

Title: An Act Regarding Internet Raffles for Eligible Organizations

Comment: This bill would allow credit card payments for online raffles conducted by nonprofit organizations, subject to a \$500 per transaction limit.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session

Bill Requests For Screening

Sorted By Subject

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

GAMBLING

RAFFLES

Potential JR 217:

LD 1086 Representative Ardell, D

GAMBLING

SPORTS WAGERING

LR: 2768 Sponsor: Representative Malon, II, M of Biddeford

Title: An Act to Protect Consumers by Prohibiting the Use of Credit Cards in Sports Wagering

Comment: This bill would prohibit the use of credit cards in sports wagering.

LOBBYISTS

RESTRICTIONS

LR: 2877 Sponsor: Representative Libby, L of Auburn

Title: An Act to Safeguard Elections from Corruption and Special Interest Influence

Comment: This bill would prohibit lobbyists and their associates from providing professional services or deriving any income, directly or indirectly, in connection with any election for Governor or the Legislature.

132st Legislature - Second Regular Session
Bill Requests For Screening
Sorted By Subject

Total number of bills screened: 258