

REP. RYAN D. FECTEAU
CHAIR

SEN. MATTHEA E.L. DAUGHTRY
VICE-CHAIR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUZANNE M. GRESSER



132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. TERESA S. PIERCE
SEN. JILL DUSON
SEN. HAROLD "TREY" STEWART, III
SEN. MATTHEW HARRINGTON
REP. MATTHEW MOONEN
REP. LORI GRAMLICH
REP. BILLY BOB FAULKINGHAM
REP. KATRINA SMITH

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
MEETING SUMMARY**
January 22, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Speaker Fecteau called the January 22, 2026 meeting of the 132nd Legislative Council to order at 1:39 p.m. in the Legislative Council Chamber.

ROLL CALL

Senators: President Daughtry, Senator Duson, Senator Stewart (arrived after roll call, via Zoom), and Senator Harrington (via Zoom)

Representatives: Speaker Fecteau, Representative Moonen (arrived after roll call, via Zoom), Representative Gramlich, Representative Faulkingham, and Representative Smith

Absent: Senator Pierce

Legislative Officers: Suzanne Gresser, Executive Director of the Legislative Council
Darek Grant, Secretary of the Senate
Michelle Dunphy, Assistant Clerk of the House
Ed Charbonneau, Revisor of Statutes
Danielle Fox, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Christopher Nolan, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review
Nik Rende, Director, Office of Legislative Information Technology

Speaker Fecteau convened the meeting at 1:39 p.m. with a quorum of members present.

Speaker Fecteau announced his intention to take items out of order, and hearing no objection, moved to New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: Consideration of Requests for After-Deadline Bills and Certain Joint Resolutions

With respect to two (2) bills, the chair ruled them out of order given their similarity to those sponsor's pre-cloture bills requests, which were rejected at the Legislative Council meeting held on November 20, 2025. The Speaker advised that the sponsors of those two bills instead request reconsideration of the Council's decisions on the original pre-cloture bill requests. The Legislative Council proceeded to consider and vote on the remaining sixteen (16) after deadline bill requests and two (2) Joint Resolutions. Of those after-deadline bill requests, the Legislative Council accepted five (2) bills for introduction, and tabled eleven (11). In addition, the Council tabled two (2) requests for Joint Resolutions. The Legislative Council rejected one of the requests for reconsideration, and tabled the other request for reconsideration. The Legislative Council's action on the requests is attached to this meeting summary.

Item #2: Update on State House HVAC Study

Director Gresser reviewed the history of the State House HVAC Study conducted in accordance with Public Law 2023, chapter 392, which required the Executive Branch, Bureau of General Services to test the air in the State House for the presence of radon and provide a report on measures to mitigate radon if discovered. The architectural/engineering firm that conducted the work issued its report on December 16, 2025, and included several options for permanent mitigation of the radon. Director Gresser reviewed the options that were included in the report, and informed the Council members that DAFS has included funding for State House HVAC improvements in the 2026A Maine Governmental Facilities Association bond that will issue in the late spring of 2026.

Item #3: Acceptance of Report of Commission to Recommend Methods for Preventing Deed Fraud

Motion: That the Report of Commission to Recommend Methods for Preventing Deed Fraud be accepted and placed on file. Motion by Representative Gramlich. Second by Senator Duson. **Motion passed (6-0-0-4,** with President Daughtry, Senator Pierce, Senator Stewart, and Representative Moonen recorded as absent).

Item #4: Acceptance of Report of Commission Evaluate Scope of Regulatory Review and Oversight over Health Care Transactions that Impact the Delivery of Health Care Services in the State

Motion: That the Report of Commission Evaluate Scope of Regulatory Review and Oversight over Health Care Transactions that Impact the Delivery of Health Care Services in the State be accepted and placed on file. Motion by Representative Gramlich. Second by Senator Duson. **Motion passed (6-0-0-4,** with President Daughtry, Senator Pierce, Senator Stewart, and Representative Moonen recorded as absent).

Item #5: Acceptance of Report of Commission to Expand Access to Oral Health Care by Studying Alternative Pathways for Obtaining a License to Practice Dentistry

Motion: That the Report of Commission to Expand Access to Oral Health Care by Studying Alternative Pathways for Obtaining a License to Practice Dentistry be accepted and placed on file. Motion by Representative Gramlich. Second by Senator Duson. **Motion passed (6-0-0-4,** with President Daughtry, Senator Pierce, Senator Stewart, and Representative Moonen recorded as absent).

Item #5-A: Acceptance of 20th Annual Report of the Right to Know Advisory Committee

Motion: That the 20th Annual Report of the Right to Know Advisory Committee be accepted and placed on file. Motion by Representative Gramlich. Second by Senator Duson. **Motion passed (6-0-0-4,** with President Daughtry, Senator Pierce, Senator Stewart, and Representative Moonen recorded as absent).

Item #6: Implementation of Executive Branch Notification System for Notification of Events

Director Gresser explained that the Executive Branch uses a notification system called “Everbridge” to notify individuals of events occurring in and around the Cross State Office Building, and said that it functions similar to the Legislature’s LENS notification system. Director Gresser explained that when she receives notices about such occurrences, she forwards them on to the Legislature, and inquired whether the Council wanted members of the Legislature to receive those notices from Everbridge directly to their legislative email addresses. Sen. Duson suggested that, as a pilot project, perhaps Everbridge notices could be sent directly to a limited group, such as the 10 members of the Legislative Council. Sen. Stewart suggested that the pilot group also include the Council members’ chiefs of staff.

Motion: That the Executive Director work with the Executive Branch to add the legislative email addresses of the Legislative Council members and their chiefs of staff to the Executive Branch’s Everbridge system. Motion by Senator Duson. Second by Representative Gramlich. **Motion passed (7-0-0-3,** with President Daughtry, Senator Pierce, and Representative Moonen recorded as absent).

Because the last item of new business will be taken up in Executive Session, the Speaker announced that he would return to items at the beginning of the printed agenda.

SUMMARY OF THE NOVEMBER 20, 2025 MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Motion: That the Meeting Summary for November 20, 2025 be accepted and placed on file. Motion by Senator Duson. Second by Representative Gramlich. **Motion failed (5-0-1-4,** with Representative Faulkingham abstaining, and President Daughtry, Senator Pierce, Senator Stewart, and Representative Moonen recorded as absent).

REPORTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND COUNCIL OFFICES

Fiscal Report

Christopher Nolan, Director of the Office of Fiscal and Program Review, presented the fiscal report found in the agenda packet.

Studies Report

Danielle Fox, Director of the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis, presented the studies report found in the agenda packet.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Personnel Committee

Speaker Fecteau reported that the Personnel Committee earlier today to consider the following matters:

1. Step Increases for the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House

The committee voted to approve step increases for both the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House.

2. Step Increases for Constitutional Officers and State Auditor

The committee reviewed and approved step increases for the three officers who are eligible for step increases: The State Treasurer, the State Auditor, and the Secretary of State.

3. Performance Evaluations and Step Increases

The committee voted to approve step increases for the following nonpartisan office directors: Jessica Lundgren, Director, Law and Legislative Reference Library; Danielle Fox, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis; Christopher Nolan, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review; Edward Charbonneau, Revisor of Statutes; and Suzanne Gresser, Executive Director of the Legislative Council.

The members of the Council discussed the reasons that votes concerning the step increases for Constitutional Officers and the State Auditor are taken in Executive Session. In response to a question from Rep. Smith, Director Gresser described the method of setting the salaries and authorizing step increases for Constitutional Officers and the State Auditor, and the differences between the process in the First Regular Session and the the Second Regular Session. The Council members discussed the Legislature’s unique role regarding setting and approving increases to the salaries of the Constitutional Officers, and acknowledged that there may be alternatives to that which is set forth in current law and Legislative Council rules.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Council Actions Taken by Ballot

Legislative Council Decisions:

Motion: That the Legislative Council Authorize the Commission to Evaluate the Scope of Regulatory Review and Oversight over Health Care Transactions that Impact the Delivery of Health Care Services in the State to hold one additional commission meeting prior to December 10, 2025

Motion by: Speaker Ryan D. Fecteau

Date: November 24, 2025

Vote: 6-0-0-4 Passed (with Senator Stewart, Senator Harrington, Representative Faulkingham, and Representative Smith recorded as absent)

Motion: That the Legislative Council Approve the Maine National Speech and Debate Association’s request to hold the Maine High School Debate Tournament in legislative space in the State House Complex on Saturday, January 17, 2026

Motion by: Speaker Ryan D. Fecteau

Date: December 19, 2025

Vote: 7-0-0-3 Passed (with Senator Harrington, Representative Faulkingham, and Representative Gramlich recorded as absent)

Requests for Introduction of Legislation:

LR 2971 An Act to Require All Public School Buses to Be Equipped with School Bus Crossing Arms

Submitted by: Representative Valli Geiger
Date: December 12, 2025
Vote: 6-0-0-4 Passed (with Senator Duson, Senator Stewart, Senator Harrington, and Representative Faulkingham recorded as absent)

LR 2965 Resolve, to Rename a Bridge in Roxbury the Roxbury-Frye Veterans Memorial Bridge

Submitted by: Senator Joseph Martin
Date: January 7, 2026
Vote: 7-0-0-3 Passed (with Senator Duson, Representative Smith, and Representative Faulkingham recorded as absent)

The Speaker announced that the Legislative Council would not come back into public meeting following the conclusion of the Executive Session. With no other public business to consider or further announcements at 3:44 p.m., the Speaker requested a motion to enter into executive session.

Item #7: Update on State House Security Measures (Executive Session)

Motion: That in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 405, subsection 6, and Title 1, section 402, subsection 3, paragraph L, the Legislative Council enter into an executive session for the purpose of receiving information related to security plans Motion by President Daughtry. Second by Representative Gramlich. **Motion passed (6-0-0-4**, with Senator Pierce, Senator and Representative Moonen and Representative Faulkingham recorded as absent).

Protocols for Review of Legislative Study Proposals
132nd Legislature
Legislative Council Meeting
April 14, 2026

Background: Requirements Relevant to Studies in the Second Regular Session

Under the terms of the Joint Rules of the 132nd Legislature, Joint Rule 353, all joint orders and legislation proposing legislative studies regardless of funding source must be placed on a special study table. The Legislative Council must review proposed studies and establish priorities for allocation of budgetary and staffing resources.

For studies authorized by the Legislative Council, the Legislative Council must provide funds sufficient to enable the committee to reasonably conduct and complete the requirements of the studies.

Also under the Joint Rules, the Legislative Council must adopt a policy relating to preparing study legislation. On April 24, 2025, the Legislative Council unanimously adopted a policy on legislative studies for the 132nd Legislature. Joint Rules and the related Council policy specify the manner of appointment, selection of chair, compensation of members, report date and other relevant information as part of study legislation. Copies of Joint Rule 353 and the Legislative Council Policy on Legislative Studies are in your notebook (see appendices).

Decision: Suggested Protocol for Authorizing Legislative Studies

- The Legislative Council will review study requests, which are presented in separate binders in LD order and grouped by funding source.
- Voting will be by a show of hands or roll call vote, and each Legislative Council member's vote will be recorded. The record of each vote will be made available for public inspection following the meeting.
- Committee chairs and others are welcome to observe the council's deliberations on the study requests, but discussion of the requests will be confined to council members. However, Legislative Council members may ask questions of committee chairs and other legislators regarding the proposed study if needed.
- With respect to studies approved by the Legislative Council, the Council shall specifically review those elements of the studies that do not conform to applicable standards and policies approved by the Council. The Council will include as part of its motion to authorize a study acceptance of any non-conforming elements of the study. Floor amendments to authorized studies making Council-authorized changes will be prepared in the name of the Senate Majority Leader, except for studies tabled in the House, which will be in the name of the House Majority Leader.

Issues: Policy Issues Needing Decision

1. **Number of authorized meetings and meeting location-Recommendation:** Unless otherwise specified by the Legislative Council, the number of study meetings is not to exceed four (4) and meetings are to be held in the Augusta area.
2. **Studies conducted using non-General Fund sources-Recommendation:** When a study committee is required to be funded by outside funds, the study committee may not convene until sufficient funds are received to pay for the study.
3. **Interim committee meetings-Recommendation:** When authorized by law or joint order or approved jointly by the presiding officers, joint standing and joint select committees may meet during the legislative interim. The number of authorized days may not exceed availability of budgeted funds. Except as approved, committee clerks are not authorized to staff interim committee meetings or studies. Joint standing and joint select committees must complete all assigned work within their authorized meeting days.

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**Legislative Council Policy on
Legislative Studies for the
132nd Maine Legislature**

1. Introduction

On March 22, 2007, the Legislative Council unanimously endorsed revisions to Joint Rule 353 and revisions to Legislative Council policies proposed by a Legislative Council subcommittee established to study the legislative study process. On May 15, 2007, the Legislative Council's proposed revisions to Joint Rule 353 were adopted by the House and the Senate, as amended by the Joint Select Committee on Joint Rules. Joint Rules adopted by each successive legislature have included Joint Rule 353.

Joint Rule 353, Section 11, requires the Legislative Council to adopt policies governing legislative studies at the beginning of each legislative biennium. Pursuant to that authority, the Legislative Council adopts this policy on legislative studies to establish policies and procedures governing the Legislative Council's authorization of legislative studies, conditions on the funding of legislative studies, exceptions to the definition of legislative study, legislative study drafting standards and other provisions necessary to satisfy the requirements of Joint Rule 353.

2. Council authorization of legislative studies

Legislative studies are authorized only upon the approval of a majority of the Legislative Council during its review of the study table, except that approval of 2/3 of the Legislative Council is required to authorize a legislative study that is required to submit a report to a subsequent Legislature.

3. Funding of legislative studies

The Legislative Council shall establish a study line in a legislative account to which legislative studies are budgeted and study expenses charged. That study line must include funds appropriated by the Legislature for those purposes and funds allocated by the Legislature from other departmental accounts to the legislative account for the purposes of funding a legislative study. The Legislative Council shall also establish budgets and provide sufficient money from the Legislative account for studies to be conducted by joint standing committees, joint select committees and other study committees of the Legislature. The Legislative Council shall provide sufficient money to enable the committees to reasonably conduct and complete the requirements of the studies.

4. Acceptance of private contributions to support legislative studies

Private financial or in-kind contributions to support the work of legislative studies may not be accepted from any party having a pecuniary or other vested interest in the outcome of the study. Any person, other than a state agency, authorized and desiring to make a financial or in-kind contribution must certify to the Legislative

Council that it has no pecuniary or other vested interest in the outcome of the study. All such contributions are subject to the approval of the Legislative Council. All contributions accepted must be forwarded to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council along with an accounting record that includes the amount of contributions, the date the contributions were received, from whom the contributions were received and the purpose of and any limitation on the use of those contributions. The Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall administer the contributions and shall notify the chairs of the legislative study committee when those contributions have been received. If funding for a legislative study is contingent upon receipt of private contributions and sufficient contributions have not been received within 30 days after the effective date of the study instrument, then no meetings of the study are authorized and no study-related expenses of any kind may be incurred or reimbursed.

5. Exceptions to Joint Rule 353

The following limited exemptions to Joint Rule 353 are provided.

- A. Boards and commissions created in statute and codified in Title 5, chapter 379 are exempted from the provisions of this Joint Rule, except that the use of new legislative financial resources or Legislative Council staffing by a new board or commission or as the result of an amendment to an existing board or commission must be referred to a special study table for review and approval by the Legislative Council regarding the use of those resources;
- B. Legislation directing an agency or a group of stakeholders to study and report to the Legislature on any matter may include the appointment of not more than two members of the Legislature, provided that the report of the agency or group is required to be submitted within the biennium in which the legislation is introduced, that there are no other legislative appointments required, that the legislators are appointed consistent with subsection 3 and that no other legislative resources are required. Legislation creating such groups must be referred to a special study table for review and approval by the Legislative Council regarding the use of those resources.
- C. Notwithstanding Joint Rule 353, section 8, a joint select committee established in a manner consistent with Joint Rule 351 may, if so authorized in joint order establishing the joint select committee, introduce legislation to implement its recommendations.

6. Council review of committee requests to vary from Joint Rule 353

Pursuant to Joint Rule 353, the Legislative Council must specifically review and approve as an exception any legislative study that is inconsistent with that joint rule.

7. Authority and effective date

Pursuant to its authority under Joint Rule 353, Section 11, the Legislative Council hereby adopts this policy governing legislative studies on this 24th day of April, 2025.

This policy takes effect immediately.

BY:


Suzanne M. Gresser, Executive Director

Rule 353. Legislative Studies.

To assist in the exercise of its duties, the Legislature may establish legislative study committees or may alternatively refer matters to joint standing committees or subcommittees of joint standing committees for study. This Joint Rule establishes standards that govern the drafting of legislative study instruments and the authorization of legislative studies. All legislative studies must be consistent with this Joint Rule and with Legislative Council policies adopted under this Joint Rule. Any bill, resolve or joint order proposing a legislative study that is inconsistent with this rule must be reviewed and approved by the Legislative Council.

1. Definitions. For the purposes of this Joint Rule, the following terms have the following meanings:

A. The term “legislative study” or “legislative study committee” means any group of individuals established in an Act, Resolve or Joint Order or by the Legislative Council, except those exempted under policies adopted by the Legislative Council, whose duties include studying and reporting to the Legislature on any matter or advising the Legislature on any matter and that requires the use of legislative resources; and

B. The term “legislative resources” means the expenditure of any funds appropriated or allocated to the Legislative Account, the inclusion of one or more legislators as members of the legislative study committee or the use of Legislative Council staff.

2. Establishing legislative studies. A legislative study may only be created by joint study order, unless the instrument directs an agency or a person who is not a legislator to take an action or has an existence that extends beyond the Legislature in which it is introduced. A joint standing committee may report out a joint study order requesting that a study be conducted.

3. Appointment of members. A majority of legislative study members must be legislators and the legislative study committee must be chaired by legislators appointed in a manner consistent with subsection 4. The legislative study committee must include members of the 2 parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature. All members of legislative study committees established by joint study order must be appointed by the presiding officers: Senate members by the President and House members by the Speaker. Members of a legislative study created by joint study order who are not legislators must be appointed either by the President or the Speaker. Legislative studies may include a minority of non-legislative members appointed by someone outside the Legislature. Joint appointment of members is not permitted.

4. Appointment of chairs. Legislative studies having more than 5 members must be cochaired by legislators. The first appointed Senate member must be the Senate chair and the first appointed House member must be the House chair. Legislative studies having 5 or fewer members must have a single legislative chair appointed by the presiding officer of the body of the originating study order or legislation. The chair of a legislative study having 5 or fewer members shall appoint a chair pro tem from among the appointed members to serve in the chair's absence.

5. Committee size. Legislative study committees may consist of no fewer than 3 and no more than 13 members.

6. Staffing. Unless the Legislative Council directs otherwise, Legislative Council staff will only be assigned to legislative studies that conform to this Joint Rule.

7. Reporting dates. All reports of legislative study committees that are to be submitted to a first regular session must be completed and submitted not later than the first Wednesday in November preceding the convening of the first regular session of the next legislature. All reports of legislative study committees that are to be submitted to a second regular session must be completed and submitted not later than the first Wednesday in December preceding the convening of the second regular session. Upon request of the study committee, the Legislative Council may extend the reporting date, except that the extension may not go

beyond December 15th in odd numbered years or beyond the first Wednesday of December in even numbered years.

8. Legislation may not be introduced by legislative studies. Legislative study committees or groups may include proposed legislation in their reports to the Legislature, but are not authorized to introduce legislation. Upon receipt of a report submitted by a legislative study committee or group, the joint standing committee to which the report is submitted, or the appropriate joint standing committee of jurisdiction in the event that the report is submitted to the Legislature as a whole, may introduce a bill during the session to which the report is submitted to implement its recommendations on matters relating to the study.

9. Compensation. Legislative members are entitled to receive the legislative per diem and reimbursement of necessary expenses for their attendance at authorized meetings of a study committee. Public members not otherwise compensated by their employers or other entities whom they represent are entitled to receive reimbursement of necessary expenses and, upon demonstration of financial hardship, a per diem equal to the legislative per diem for their attendance at authorized meetings of a study committee.

10. Study table. All joint study orders or legislation proposing legislative studies must be placed on a special study table in the Senate or House. The Legislative Council shall review the proposed studies and authorize the allocation of budgetary and staffing resources for those studies.

11. Legislative Council study policies. The Legislative Council shall adopt policies governing legislative studies at the beginning of each legislative biennium. Those policies may include conditions on the funding of legislative studies, exceptions to this Joint Rule, drafting standards or other provisions necessary to satisfy the requirements of this Joint Rule.

**132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REVIEW OF PROPOSED STUDIES
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
PROPOSED STUDIES SUMMARY**

Notes re: conformity with JR 353, Council policies and other considerations

LD (or other)	Emergency/Non-Emergency	Current Status	Policy Area	Study Name	Purpose	Membership	Report Date(s)	Staff	Jt. Rule and Council Policies	Compensation and # mtgs.	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Previously Authorized Studies (red tab)														
LD 2244 (amends LD 1770 from 132nd First Special Session)	Emergency	Enacted, Resolve 2025, c. 108, as amended by LD 2244 (On Senate Study Table; Passed to be Engrossed in Senate with Senate "A"; Enacted in House with Senate "A") First year of study has been completed	TAX	Real Estate Property Tax Relief Task Force	Examine the assessment of property taxes and property tax relief programs and make recommendations for improving the process involved in determining, levying and paying property taxes and reducing the tax burden and examine the effects of state-level property tax policy on municipalities.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 from min. party and 1 with taxation expertise) House: 2 (1 from min. party and 1 with taxation expertise) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative May invite nonvoting members of the task force; Chairs may appoint subcommittees	January 15, 2026 (interim report) to Tax Committee; December 15, 2026 (final report) to TAX Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions) Chairs may select contracted entity for research and analytical support AG, SOS, GOPIF, DAFS, DECD and Treasurer shall provide information to the Task Force	Non-conforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 13) *Non-voting members - chairs may invite non-voting members of the task force *Report date - report date is later than joint rule 353 established date	Legislative per diem and expenses; no more than 8 meetings; at least one meeting to be held jointly with TAX Committee	\$ 1,400	\$ 2,800		
Proposed Studies to be Funded from the General Fund Miscellaneous Studies Budget (clear tab)														
LD 374	Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally passed in House with Committee "A")	JUD	Commission to Make Recommendations for Equity in the Compensation of Prosecutors and Public Defenders in the State	Gather and examine information regarding the compensation packages and benefits available to both new and experienced attorneys who serve as prosecutors in the AG's office, DA offices across the State and public defenders employed by the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services, including examining benefits available to prosecutors and public defenders that may assist with recruitment and retention of qualified individuals for these positions, including eligibility for loan forgiveness, collective bargaining and other employment benefits.	TOTAL: 11 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative; President and Speaker to confer to ensure one chair from each maj. party	November 4, 2026 to JUD	Legislative Council (not during regular or special session)	Non-conforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 11)	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,650		

**132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REVIEW OF PROPOSED STUDIES
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
PROPOSED STUDIES SUMMARY**

Notes re: conformity with JR 353, Council policies and other considerations

LD (or other)	Emergency/Non-Emergency	Current Status	Policy Area	Study Name	Purpose	Membership	Report Date(s)	Staff	Jt. Rule and Council Policies	Compensation and # mtgs.				
										FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	
LD 395	Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Engrossed with Committee "A" in House; failed final passage in House; in non-concurrence)	JUD	Working Group to Develop Recommendations for Extending Federal Beneficial Laws to Wabanaki Nations	Develop consensus recommendations for extending the benefits of federal beneficial laws to the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Mi'Maq Nation, the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation.	TOTAL: 9 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative May invite nonvoting ex officio members including the Governor, the AG, and Managing Director of the Maine Indian Tribal State Commission	December 2, 2026 to the JUD Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special session)	Non-conforming *Report date - report date is later than joint rule 353 established date	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,650		
LD 838	Non-Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Passed to be Enacted in House with Committee "A")	EUT	Commission to Study Options for Public Financing of Transmission and Distribution Infrastructure, Generation Projects and Energy Storage Projects	Examine various aspects of public financing of energy projects, including approaches to public financing used by other states.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First	December 2, 2026 to the EUT Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 13) *Report date - report date is later than joint rule 353 established date	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 3,050		
LD 847	Non-Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally passed in House with Committee "A")	JUD	Commission to Improve Tenant-Landlord Relationships and Increase the Use of Housing Vouchers	Examining issues relating to housing discrimination based on the issue of income-based rental assistance and incentivizing landlords to rent to tenants who rely on income-based rental assistance programs such as so-called "Section 8" housing vouchers and municipal general assistance.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	November 4, 2026 to HED and JUD Committees	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 13)	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 3,050		
LD 877	Non-Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally passed in House with Committee "A")	LAB	Commission to Study the Employment Practices and operations of Transportation Network Companies Operating in the State	Collect and review aggregate data and information regarding the employment practices and operation processes of transportation network companies that operate in the State and develop recommendations for legislation related to findings of the study, including legislation relating to the compensation of transportation network company drivers and the deactivation process.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	November 4, 2026 to the LAB Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 12)	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 3,050		

**132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REVIEW OF PROPOSED STUDIES
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
PROPOSED STUDIES SUMMARY**

Notes re: conformity with JR 353, Council policies and other considerations															
LD (or other)	Emergency/Non-Emergency	Current Status	Policy Area	Study Name	Purpose	Membership		Report Date(s)	Staff	Jt. Rule and Council Policies	Compensation and # mtgs.	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
LD 2121	Non-emergency	Senate Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" and House "A"; House Finally Passed with Committee "A" and House "A"	JUD	Working Group to Study Methods for Enhancing the Safety of Judicial and Elected Officials	Study methods for enhancing the safety of judicial officers and elected officials.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 2 Sen: 1 (1 leg. of the two leg. members must be from the maj. party) House: 1 (1 leg. of the two leg. members must be from the second maj. party) Not specified Chairs: *President and Speaker to confer to ensure that of the two designated legislators, one is from each maj. party		No report due	Secretary of State	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (2 of 13) *Staffing - legislators serve on a departmental work group staffed by an executive department	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$1,400		

132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REVIEW OF PROPOSED STUDIES
 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
 PROPOSED STUDIES SUMMARY

Notes re: conformity with JR 353, Council policies and other considerations

LD (or other)	Emergency/Non-Emergency	Current Status	Policy Area	Study Name	Purpose	Membership	Report Date(s)	Staff	Jt. Rule and Council Policies	Compensation and # mtgs.	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
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Additional Legislative Staff Resources Needed for Interim Work (orange tab)

Transition of Responsibility for Regulating Manufactured Housing Communities from Manufactured Housing Board to the Maine Office of Community Affairs (recodification)	LD 364	Requires ROS and OPLA to assist the Maine Office Of Community Affairs to develop legislation to transfer the statutory responsibility for the oversight of manufactured housing manufacturers from the Manufactured Housing Board to the Office of Community Affairs	On Senate Study Table; Passed to be Engrossed in Senate with Committee "A"; Finally Passed in House with Committee "A"											
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Advisory Committee to the Child Advocate (establishes a Title 5 on-going advisory committee)	LD 1893	2 legislators on the advisory committee - no general fund implications	Removed from SAT to be enacted with Committee A; Passed to Enacted in House with Committee "A"											
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Right to Know Advisory Committee	1 MRSA §411	Legislative Council Staff		State Compensation Commission	3 MRSA §2-B Legislative Council Staff *Appointments not made for 2025									
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**132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REVIEW OF PROPOSED STUDIES
CARRIED OVER ON TABLES FROM FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
PROPOSED STUDIES SUMMARY**

Notes re: conformity with JR 353, Council policies and other considerations														
LD (or other)	Emergency/Non-Emergency	Current Status	Policy Area	Study Name	Purpose	Membership	Report Date(s)	Staff	Jt. Rule and Council Policies	Compensation and # mtgs.	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Proposed Studies to be Funded from the General Fund Miscellaneous Studies Budget (yellow tab)														
LD 169	Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally Passed with Committee "A" in House); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	HHS	Commission to Study MaineCare Estate Recovery	Study issues associated with MaineCare estate recovery procedures.	TOTAL: 10 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	December 3, 2025 to HHS Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 10) *Report date - report due in <u>2025</u>	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 3,050			
LD 634	Non-Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally Passed with Committee "A" in House); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	SLG	Commission to Study the Reduction of Unfunded and Outdated Municipal and County Mandates (two-year study)	Review unfunded and outdated municipal and county mandates to provide recommendations and report out a list of mandates for the Legislature to consider eliminating or revising.	TOTAL: 15 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First named Senator and Representative	December 3, 2025 - interim report to SLG Committee; November 4, 2026 - final report to the SLG Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 15)	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 3,050	\$ 3,050		
LD 646	Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Engrossed with Committee "A" in House; failed final passage in House; in non-concurrence); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	ENR	Commission to Study Unmanaged Storm Water Pollution	Review, study and analyze existing scientific literature and data on storm water pollution gathered from stakeholder input and how it has affected or potentially will affect the State's valuable waters, habitats and species along the coast.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 5 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 3 (at least one from each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	December 3, 2025 to the ENR Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (5 of 13) *Report date - report is due in <u>2025</u>	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 3,750			

**132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REVIEW OF PROPOSED STUDIES
CARRIED OVER ON TABLES FROM FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
PROPOSED STUDIES SUMMARY**

Notes re: conformity with JR 353, Council policies and other considerations															
LD (or other)	Emergency/Non-Emergency	Current Status	Policy Area	Study Name	Purpose	Membership		Report Date(s)	Staff	Jt. Rule and Council Policies	Compensation and # mtgs.	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
LD 760	Non-Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally Passed with Committee "A" in House); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	HED	Commission to Study the Need to Codify or Recodify Laws Regarding Residential Community Ownership Associations by Adopting the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act	Review data on existing condominium and noncondominium community ownership association in the State; review state statutes that govern and case law that affects condominium and noncondominium community ownership association developments in the State; review efforts in other states to address problems with community ownership associations; and consider whether adoption of the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act or other laws may be suitable for the State.	TOTAL: 12 Legis: 5 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 3 (at least 1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representatives	December 3, 2025 to the HED Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (5 of 12) *Report date - report is due in <u>2025</u>	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 3,750				
LD 793	Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally Passed with Committee "A" in House); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	ACF	Working Group to Review and Update the Laws Governing Harness Racing	Review the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 8, chapter 11 and prepare a partial or complete revision of that chapter and any other sections of law reasonably related to harness racing in the State as may be necessary to modernize and sustain the sport of harness racing and to provide support for gambling addiction.	TOTAL: 12 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party; of the two, one must be on VLA Committee) House: 2 (1 each maj. party; of the two, one must be on ACF Committee) Chairs: Senate member who serves on VLA Committee and House member who serves on ACF committee	December 3, 2025 to VLA Committee and ACF Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions) May request that experts in the field serve as consultants	Non-conforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 12) *Report date - report is due in <u>2025</u>	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 3,050				
LD 1107	Non-Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Passed to be Enacted in the House with Committee "A"); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	TAX	Incentive Data Task force (two-year study)	Developing a plan for the centralization and standardization of data related to state tax expenditures and incentives and examining barriers to the access and disclosure of state tax expenditures and incentives information to the public.	TOTAL: 11 Legis: 6 Sen: 3 (2 maj. party; 1 min. party) House: 3 (2 maj. party; 1 min. party) Chairs: Senator from TAX Committee and Representative from the GOC Committee	October 30, 2026 to TAX Committee, HED Committee and the GOC Committee	OPEGA	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Appointing authority - minority leaders in Senate and House each appoint 1 member (2 total)	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings during the first year of the study and 2 meetings during the second year of the study	\$ 4,200	\$ 2,350			

**132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REVIEW OF PROPOSED STUDIES
CARRIED OVER ON TABLES FROM FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
PROPOSED STUDIES SUMMARY**

Notes re: conformity with JR 353, Council policies and other considerations

LD (or other)	Emergency/Non-Emergency	Current Status	Policy Area	Study Name	Purpose	Membership		Report Date(s)	Staff	Jt. Rule and Council Policies	Compensation and # mtgs.	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	
LD 1286	Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally Passed with Committee "A" in House); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	HCIFS	Commission to Study the Impact of Blockchain Technology and Cryptocurrency on Maine's Economy and the Risks of Fraud and Theft to Maine Consumers	Review data and information on the scope of the use of blockchain technology and cryptocurrency throughout the country; determine the current status of the use of blockchain technology and cryptocurrency in relation to related laws in the State and the occurrences of theft and fraud associated with blockchain technology and cryptocurrency in this State; study nonfungible tokens, including their use, prevalence and functions; and compile potential legislation to help develop a regulatory and taxation framework for blockchain technology and cryptocurrency in this State.	TOTAL: 14 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 1 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative		January 1, 2026 to HCIFS Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions) May request that experts in the field serve as consultants	Non-conforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 14) *Report date - report due during 132nd Second Regular Session	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 3,050				
LD 1297	Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Engrossed with Committee "A" in House; failed final passage in House; in non-concurrence); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	ACF	Committee to Study the Use of Sunflower Crops to Produce Biofuels and Other Products	Study the feasibility of using the State's sunflower crops to produce biofuels, food-grade oil and livestock feed and review current and past legislation and biofuels projects in Hawaii as a potential model for use in the State.	TOTAL: 9 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party; 1 must be from EUT committee and one from Aroostook County) House: 2 (1 each maj. party; 1 must be from ACF committee and one from Aroostook County) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative		December 1, 2025 to EUT Committee and ACF Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 9) *Report date - report is due in <u>2025</u>	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 3,050				
LD 1347	Non-emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally Passed with Committee "A" in House); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	JUD	Commission to Study the Maine Tort Claims Act	Review the Maine Tort Claims Act to determine whether any additional negligent acts or omissions by a governmental agency should be excepted from tort claim immunity, including an assessment of schools and school field trips; whether to increase the cap on damages or change the structure of available damages awards; and other states' use of medical pay coverage, in addition to any damages from those states' tort claims laws.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative		December 3, 2025 to EDU Committee, JUD Committee and the SLG Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 13) *Report date - report is due in 2025	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 3,050				

**132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REVIEW OF PROPOSED STUDIES
CARRIED OVER ON TABLES FROM FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
PROPOSED STUDIES SUMMARY**

Notes re: conformity with JR 353, Council policies and other considerations

LD (or other)	Emergency/Non-Emergency	Current Status	Policy Area	Study Name	Purpose	Membership	Report Date(s)	Staff	Jt. Rule and Council Policies	Compensation and # mtgs.	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
LD 1420	Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Engrossed with Committee "A" in House; failed final passage in House; in non-concurrence); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	EUT	Commission to Ensure a Just and Equitable Energy Transition for Maine's Workforce	Review and evaluate the State's current energy workforce, including compensation levels and benefits that are provided for workers in the energy industry; consider the economic impacts that the energy transition has on low-income ratepayers, including but not limited to strategies to mitigate economic hardship to low-income ratepayers; consider the benefits of a well-compensated workforce in the State as the benefits pertain to careers that help the State meet its energy policy and goals; and examine how a coordinated and holistic statewide effort to ensure a just and equitable energy transition for individuals employed in the State's energy industry could benefit from the establishment of a state entity, a state framework or a coordinated effort by the State dedicated to that purpose and how such an entity, framework or coordinated effort could also help meet the needs of employers in the energy industry.	TOTAL: 16 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	December 15, 2025 to EUT Committee and LAB Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 16) *Report Date - Report is due in <u>2025</u>	Legislative per diem and expenses; 6 meetings	\$ 3,050			
LD 1618	Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally Passed with Committee "A" in House); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	JUD	Study Group to Research the Feasibility of Establishing a Dedicated Family Court in Maine	Comprehensively evaluate the feasibility, potential benefits and challenges associated with establishing a dedicated family court system.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	December 3, 2025	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 13) *Report date - report is due in <u>2025</u>	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 3,050			

**132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REVIEW OF PROPOSED STUDIES
CARRIED OVER ON TABLES FROM FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
PROPOSED STUDIES SUMMARY**

Notes re: conformity with JR 353, Council policies and other considerations															
LD (or other)	Emergency/Non-Emergency	Current Status	Policy Area	Study Name	Purpose	Membership		Report Date(s)	Staff	Jt. Rule and Council Policies	Compensation and # mtgs.	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
LD 1640	Non-Emergency	Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" and Senate "A" in Senate; Enacted in the House with Committee "A" and Senate "A") Carried over on the Special Appropriations Table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session (removed from the SAT during the Second Regular Session)	VLA	Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission (reestablishes prior commission)	Study the effects of exposure to harmful chemicals on individuals who trained at the Canadian military support base in Gagetown, New Brunswick, Canada as a member of the United States Armed Forces, as a member of the reserve component of the United States Armed Forces or as a member of the National Guard of any state from the United States Department of Defense and other federal agencies.	TOTAL: 12 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	November 4, 2026 to the VLA Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Membership - legislative members may be former legislators and majority of members are not legislators	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings		\$ 3,050	\$ -		
LD 1649	Non-Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally Passed with Committee "A" in House); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	SLG	Commission to Study and Recommend Solutions for Modernizing and Improving the Effectiveness of the Legislature	Study the existing structure and operations of the Legislature for the purpose of determining the adequacy and effectiveness of the structure and operations and to identify changes to modernize the Legislature in order to improve efficiency and effectiveness; provide better information to inform decisions; help prioritize legislative activity; develop, implement and coordinate a strategic plan; and reinforce political trust and support in the Legislature.	TOTAL: 10 Legis: 9 Sen: 4 (2 each maj. party) House: 5 (2 each maj. party; one without a party affiliation) Chairs: First-appointed Senator and Representative Appointed members may be former legislators	December 3, 2025 to the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions) *Supported by a nonpartisan staff working group and a public citizen working group	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Membership - legislative members may be former legislators *Report date - report is due in <u>2025</u> *Membership - membership of working groups is in addition to commission membership *Staff - legislative staff as a member of the commission	Legislative per diem and expenses; monthly meetings; public citizen working group may hold at least 5 public meetings throughout the State	\$ 14,860				
LD 1696	Non-emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally Passed with Committee "A" in House); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	ENR	Commission to Study Maine's Absolute Dominion and Beneficial Use Laws Relating to Water Rights	Review the report submitted to the Legislature by the Commission to Study the Role of Water as a Resource in the State; review the history and current legal status of groundwater rights and ownership in Maine; and review the approaches taken by other states in regulating groundwater rights and ownership.	TOTAL: 17 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative	December 3, 2025 to the ENR Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 17) *Report date - report is due in 2025	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 3,050				

**132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REVIEW OF PROPOSED STUDIES
CARRIED OVER ON TABLES FROM FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
PROPOSED STUDIES SUMMARY**

Notes re: conformity with JR 353, Council policies and other considerations

LD (or other)	Emergency/Non-Emergency	Current Status	Policy Area	Study Name	Purpose	Membership		Report Date(s)	Staff	Jt. Rule and Council Policies	Compensation and # mtgs.				
											FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	
LD 1810	Non-Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally Passed with Committee "A" in House); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	JUD	Commission to Study the Judicial Disciplinary Process	Examine the existing rules adopted by the Supreme Judicial Court regarding judicial discipline of probate court, District Court, Superior Court and Supreme Judicial Court judges and justices to determine whether the rules are adequate or whether changes should be made to those rules to enhance public trust and respect for the judicial system and the delivery of justice in the State.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative		December 3, 2025 to the JUD Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 13) *Report date - report is due in <u>2025</u>	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 3,050			
LD 1894	Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Engrossed with Committee "A" in House; failed final passage in House; in non-concurrence); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	HED	Commission to Study Consumer Grocery Pricing Fairness	Study the terms and conditions of sale and other conditions of grocery supply chain in the State and the impact of product availability and price to the consumer and the competitiveness and viability of independent grocery stores, considering the growth of so-called food deserts in the State; the factors that influence affordable access to groceries for residents of the State; and federal and state antitrust laws affect on so-called food deserts or the grocery store supply chain.	TOTAL: 20 (17 voting and 3 non-voting) Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative		December 3, 2025 to the HED Committee and the ACF Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 20) *Membership - membership includes three non-voting members *Report date - report is due in <u>2025</u>	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 3,050			
LD 1943	Non-Emergency	On Senate Study table (Finally passed with Committee "A" in Senate and House); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	HED	Commission to Study the Role of Private Equity in Maine's Economy and in Key Economic Sectors	Examine the overall portion of the State's equity, markets and economy controlled by private equity, with particular attention to the portion that remains nontransparent to investors, markets, policy makers and the public; the effect of private equity firms that carry out business in the State on state and local economies; and the extent of the involvement of private equity firms in key sectors of the State, including energy, child care, health care, housing and nursing homes.	TOTAL: 18 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: First-named Senator and Representative		December 3, 2025 to HED Committee	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Membership - majority of members are not legislators (4 of 18) *Report date - report is due in <u>2025</u>	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$ 3,050			

**132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REVIEW OF PROPOSED STUDIES
CARRIED OVER ON TABLES FROM FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
PROPOSED STUDIES SUMMARY**

Notes re: conformity with JR 353, Council policies and other considerations

LD (or other)	Emergency/Non-Emergency	Current Status	Policy Area	Study Name	Purpose	Membership	Report Date(s)	Staff	Jt. Rule and Council Policies	Compensation and # mtgs.	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Proposed Studies Requiring a General Fund Appropriation to the General Fund Legislative Account (green tab)														
LD 1202	Non-Emergency	On Senate Special Appropriations Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Enacted in the House with Committee "A") Carried over on the Special Appropriations Table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	EDU	African American Studies Advisory Council (creates an on-going Title 5 commission)	Monitor and measure the implementation of African American studies.	TOTAL: 13 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 House: 2 Chairs: Elected by members; must be Legislators	January 15, 2027 to the EDU Committee and then annually by January 15 to the EDU Committee	DOE	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Membership -majority of members are not legislators (4 out of 13) *Appointments - Commissioner of DOE appoints 4 members *Staffing - legislators are members and chairs of an advisory council staffed by an executive department agency	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings per year	\$2,800 May seek outside funding *requires an appropriation of \$165,000 for state agency costs	\$2,800 May seek outside funding *requires an appropriation of \$165,000 for state agency costs	\$ 2,800	\$ 2,800
Proposed Studies to be Funded from Outside Funding Resources (pink tab)														
LD 624	Non-Emergency	On Senate Study Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally Passed with Committee "A" in House); Carried over on the study table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	SLG	Commission to Study a Legislative Internship Program	Study and develop a structure for an internship program to place a person attending an accredited postsecondary education institution in the State or a resident of the State who is a student at an accredited postsecondary institution in another state with a Legislator to assist with policy work immediately before, during and immediately after a legislative session.	TOTAL: 10 Legis: 6 Sen: 3 (1 each maj. party and 1 from EDU committee) House: 3 (1 each maj. party and 1 from EDU committee) Chairs: 2 appointed members from EDU committee	December 3, 2025 to the Legislative Council	Legislative Council (not during regular or special sessions)	Non-Conforming *Non-emergency *Outside funding is required to fund the Commission. *Report date - report is due in <u>2025</u>	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings	\$4,450 *Must seek outside funding to fully fund the study			
LD 1449	Non-Emergency	On Senate Special Appropriations Table (Passed to be Engrossed with Committee "A" in Senate; Finally Passed in the House with Committee "A") Carried over on the Special Appropriations Table at the end of the 132nd, First Special Session	SLG	Working Group on Modernizing State Grants, Contracts and Procurement (two-year study)	Examine the State's grant and public procurement practices and make recommendations to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services.	TOTAL: 14 Legis: 4 Sen: 2 (1 each maj. party) House: 2 (1 each maj. party) Chairs: DACF member chairs first meeting; working group selects the permanent chair at the first meeting; may not be a legislator	November 4, 2026 to SLG Committee, DAFS and State Auditor	DAFS, with support from DHHS, DOT, DACF and DOE	Non-conforming *Non-emergency *Membership - majority of member are not legislators (4 of 14) *Chairs - chairs may not be legislators *Staffing - executive agency provides staff support for a legislative study	Legislative per diem and expenses; 4 meetings the first year of the study and 2 meetings the second year of the study	\$2,360 *Must seek outside funding to fully fund the study	\$ 1,400		

132nd MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
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 CARRIED OVER ON TABLES FROM FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
 PROPOSED STUDIES SUMMARY

Notes re: conformity with JR 353, Council policies and other considerations

LD (or other)	Emergency/Non-Emergency	Current Status	Policy Area	Study Name	Purpose	Membership	Report Date(s)	Staff	Jt. Rule and Council Policies	Compensation and # mtgs.	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
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Additional Legislative Staff Resources Needed for Interim Work (orange tab)

Economic Impact Statement Pilot Project (two-year study)	LD 1673	Requires the Legislative Council to implement an economic impact statement process, including issuing an RFP for assistance with developing the economic impact statement.	On Senate Study Table; Carried over on study table from 132nd, First Special Session
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Summary of Projected Costs for Proposed Studies

General Fund Miscellaneous Studies - Budget	2025	2026	2027	Leg	Mtgs
Miscellaneous Studies Budget		\$ 17,696	\$ 17,696		
Resolve Chapter 120 (LD 1558) Commission to Update Maine's Public Policy on Higher Education Expended as of April 13, 2026		\$ 7,800	\$ 3,050	4	4 & 4
Available Unobligated Balance - Prior Years	\$ 41,338				
Annual Available Balance - General Fund Miscellaneous Studies	\$ 41,338	\$ (2,706)	\$ 14,646		
Cumulative Available Balance - General Fund Miscellaneous Studies		\$ 38,632	\$ 53,278		

NEW Proposed studies or adjustments to previously authorized studies		2025	2026	2027	Leg	Mtgs
LD 374	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Make Recommendations for Equity in the Compensation of Prosecutors and Public Defenders in the State		\$ 1,400	\$ 1,650	4	2 & 2
LD 395	Resolve, Establishing the Working Group to Develop Recommendations for Extending Federal Beneficial Laws to the Wabanaki Nations		\$ 1,400	\$ 1,650	4	2 & 2
LD 838	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study Options for Public Financing of Transmission and Distribution Infrastructure, Generation Projects and Energy Storage Projects			\$ 3,050	4	4
LD 847	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Improve Tenant-Landlord Relationships and Increase the Use of Housing Vouchers			\$ 3,050	4	4
LD 877	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Employment Practices and Operations of Transportation Network Companies Operating in the State			\$ 3,050	4	4
LD 1416	An Act to Establish a Commission to Study the Placement of Individuals Committed by a Court to the Custody of the Department of Health and Human Services and to Update a Cross-reference Regarding Such Placement		\$ 1,400	\$ 1,650	4	2 & 2
LD 1921	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study Pathways to Increase Efficiency in Resolving Legal Disputes Involving Housing Development Projects		\$ 1,400	\$ 3,050	4	2 & 4
LD 1941	Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Examine the Intersection of Parole and Current Sentencing Practices			\$ 3,750	5	4
LD 2121	Resolve, to Convene a Working Group to Study Methods for Enhancing the Safety of Judicial and Elected Officials			\$ 1,400	2	4
LD 2244	An Act to Implement Certain Preliminary Recommendations of the Real Estate Property Tax Relief Task Force and to Make Other Changes to Tax Law (Amends LD 1770)		\$ 1,400	\$ 2,800	4	Incr to 6 & 8

Total - Proposed General Fund Miscellaneous Studies \$ - \$ 7,000 \$ 25,100

Cumulative Balance General Fund Miscellaneous Studies Account \$ 31,632 \$ 21,178

CARRIED proposed studies

2025 2026 2027 Leg Mtgs

LD 169	Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Study MaineCare Estate Recovery		\$ 3,050		4	4
LD 634	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Reduction of Unfunded and Outdated Municipal and County		\$ 3,050	\$ 3,050	4	4 & 4
LD 646	Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Study Unmanaged Storm Water Pollution		\$ 3,750		5	4
LD 760	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Need to Codify or Recodify Laws Regarding Residential Community Ownership Associations by Adopting the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act		\$ 3,750		5	4
LD 793	Resolve, to Establish the Working Group to Review and Update the Laws Governing Harness Racing		\$ 3,050		4	4
LD 1107	An Act to Amend the Tax Expenditure Review Process and Centralize Incentive Data Collection		\$ 4,200	\$ 2,350	6	4 & 2
LD 1286	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Impact of Blockchain Technology and Cryptocurrency on Maine's Economy and Risks of Fraud and Theft to Maine Consumers		\$ 3,050		4	4
LD 1297	Resolve, to Establish the Committee to Study the Use of Sunflower Crops to Produce Biofuels and Other Products		\$ 3,050		4	4
LD 1347	Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Study the Maine Tort Claim Act		\$ 3,050		4	4
LD 1420	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Ensure a Just and Equitable Energy Transition for Maine's Workforce		\$ 3,050		4	6
LD 1618	Resolve, to Study the Feasibility of Establishing a Dedicated Family Court in Maine		\$ 3,050		4	4
LD 1640	An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission and to Reestablish the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission			\$ 3,050	4	4
LD 1649	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study and Recommend Solutions for Modernizing and Improving the Effectiveness of the Legislature		\$ 14,860		10	5
LD 1696	Resolve, to Study Maine's Absolute Dominion and Beneficial Use Laws Relating to Water Rights		\$ 3,050		4	4
LD 1810	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Judicial Discipline Process		\$ 3,050		4	4
LD 1894	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study Consumer Grocery Pricing Fairness		\$ 3,050		4	4
LD 1943	Resolve, to Establish a Commission to Study the Role of Private Equity in Maine's Economy and in Key Economic Sectors		\$ 3,050		4	4

Total - Carried General Fund Miscellaneous Studies \$ - \$ 63,160 \$ 8,450

Cumulative Shortfall General Fund Miscellaneous Studies Account \$ (31,528) \$ (50,432)

Proposed studies requiring an appropriation to the General Fund Legislative account

		2025	2026	2027	Leg	Mtgs
LD 1202	An Act to Establish the African American Studies Advisory Council and Provided Funding to Support African American Studies		\$ 2,800	\$ 2,800	4	4
Total - Studies Requiring a General Fund Appropriation		\$ -	\$ 2,800	\$ 2,800		

Proposed studies to be funded from outside funding resources.

LD 624	Resolve, to Create the Commission to Study a Legislative Internship Program		\$ 4,450		6	4
LD 1449	Resolve, Establishing the Working Group on Modernizing State Grants, Contracts and Procurement		\$ 2,360	\$ 1,400	4	4 & 2
Total - Proposed Studies Requiring Outside Funding		\$ -	\$ 6,810	\$ 1,400		

Other studies requiring the use of existing budget and staff resources.

LD 364	Resolve, Directing the Maine Office of Community Affairs to Submit Legislation and Take Other Actions To Effectuate the Transition of Responsibility for Regulating Manufactured Housing Communities and the Construction and Installation of Manufactured Homes from the Manufactured Housing Board to the Maine Office of Community Affairs (Recodification)
LD 1673	Resolve, to Establish a Pilot Project to Facilitate the Inclusion of Economic Impact Statements in the Legislative Process