
Category Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry
LD # 1534
PUBLIC HEARING: 5/17/11 1:00 PM Rm206CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority-OTP-AM/Minority-OTP-AM
AMENDMENT # H-561
LAW # **Resolve Chapter 113**
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

1534 Resolve, To Reform the Land Use and Planning Authority in the Unorganized Territory. (Rep. Gifford, Lincoln)(Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry Comm) (Eliminates the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission effective July 15, 2012, and establishes the Land Use Planning in the Unorganized Territory Transition Advisory Board to advise the AC&F Committee on matters relating to the transfer of authority over land use planning in the unorganized territory to the counties in which the land is located. The board is required to rendered it advice to the AC&F by December 2,2011. The board is dissolved by July 15, 2012.)(The adopted majority report replaces the bill. Establishes the Commission on Reform of the Governance of Land Use Planning in the Unorganized Territory, which will report to ACF Committee no later than Jan 4, 2012, and submit legislation to the 2nd Regular Session of the 125th.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs
LD # 100
PUBLIC HEARING: 1/24/11 10:00 Rm 228 SH
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM
AMENDMENT # C "A" H-2
LAW # **Public Law Chapter 1**
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2011. **(Emergency)** (Governor's Bill) (Rep. Flood, Winthrop) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (Includes a \$10 million reduction in the school construction debt limit. Current statutory debt service limit for school construction is \$126 million. At this time the actual costs for debt are around \$116 million--\$10 million below the cap.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs
LD # 280
PUBLIC HEARING:
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM
AMENDMENT # S-185
LAW # **Resolve Chapter 73**
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, Reauthorizing the Balance of the 2005 Maine Biomedical Research Fund and Marine Infrastructure and Technology Fund Bond Issues. (Sen. Rector, Know) **(Emergency)** (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm)

(Amendment adds Fiscal Note)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 807

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor*

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Repeal the Bonding Authority of the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority. (Rep. Waterhouse, Bridgton) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (This bill removes the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority's ability to issue bonds or negotiable securities beginning October 1, 2011.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 830

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-665

LAW # Private & Special Law Chapter 18

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Establish a Deb Limit for the State. (Rep. Chase, Wells) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (Establishes a debt limit for most general obligation bonds and Maine Governmental Facilities Authority bonds originally issued for a term of in excess of 5 years at 5% of the General Fund revenues for the previous fiscal year.)(The amendment establishes the allocations of the state ceiling on issuance of tax-exempt bonds for calendar years 2011 and 2012. Under federal law, a maximum of \$277,820,000 in tax-exempt bonds benefiting private individuals or entities may be issued in the State in 2011 and at least \$277,820,000 in tax-exempt bonds benefiting private individuals or entities may be issued in this State in 2012. The bill allocates the state ceiling among the state-level issuers of tax-exempt bonds. Fiscal Note.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 1153

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/16/11 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-317

LAW # Public Law Chapter 391

ARCH. POSITION: Oppose

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Regulate the Bonded Indebtedness of the State. (Sen. Thibodeau, Waldo) (Submitted by the State Treasurer) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (Requires that bonded indebtedness created or authorized by the Legislature either directly or through any authority created by the Leg must be approved by the voters, amount & purpose, unless exempted from the requirement. Requires that the total cost of principal and interest that will be paid at maturity per person based on the State's population from the latest Federal Decennial Census be added to the State Treasurer's statement that accompanies bonds on the ballot.) The amendment replaces the bill and provides that GARVEE bonds must be authorized by a 2/3 vote of each House of the Legislature. **New Title: An Act Related to Authorization of GARVEE Bonds.)**

Testimony by John Morris

Category Criminal Justice & Public Safety

LD # 123

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/7/11 10:00 Rm 436 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority-OTP-AM/Minority-ONTP

AMENDMENT # S-163

LAW # Public Law Chapter 349

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Assist Seasonal Entertainment Facilities with Public Safety Requirement. (Rep. Davis, Sangerville) (Criminal Justice & Public Safety Comm) (This bill prohibits the requirement of sprinkler systems in commercial places of assembly that open for no more than 50 days per calendar year. Commercial places of assembly include bars with live entertainment, dance halls, nightclubs, assembly halls with festival seating and restaurants.)

(The amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause.)

Category Criminal Justice & Public Safety

LD # 1302

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/25/11 9:00 AM Rm 436 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW # Public Law Chapter 398

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Extend Fire Code Rules to Single-family Dwellings Used as Nursing Homes for 3 or Fewer Patients. (Rep. Clarke, Bath) (Criminal Justice & Public Safety) (Submitted by the Dept of Public Safety) (Current law provides that certain fire code rules adopted by the Commissioner of Public Safety do not apply to nursing homes have 3 or fewer patients. This bill removes that limitation, therefore extending application of those rules to nursing homes with 3 or fewer patients.)

Category Education & Cultural Affairs

LD # 397

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/24/11 1:00 PM Rm202 CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-187

LAW # Public Law Chapter 352

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Competitive Bidding for School Construction and Repair. (Sen. Langley, Hancock) (Education & Cultural Affairs) (The bill changes the minimum amount of the cost of school construction, major alteration or repair requiring a competitive bid from over \$100,000 to over \$250,000. Proposed wording would be--Any contract for the construction, major alteration or repair of school buildings involving a total cost in excess of \$250,000, except contracts for professional, architectural and engineering services, must be awarded by competitive bids. The school district directors school comm, building comm or whatever agency has responsibility for the construction, major alteration or repair shall, after consultation with BPI Dir., seek sealed proposals...) (What is not underlined is already in statute)(Amend clarifies that contracts for energy conservation services in compliment w/MRS exempt from Comp bid requirement)

Category Education & Cultural Affairs

LD # 530

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/9/11 1:00 PM Rm 202CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-613,S-325

LAW # Private & Special Law Chapter 17

ARCH. POSITION: Testified Neither for Nor Against

ENG. POSITION: Monitor*

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Allow Alternative Delivery Methods for Locally Funded School Construction Projects. (Rep. Eberle, So. Portland) (Education & Cultural Affairs Comm) (The amendment, H-613, replaces the bill. It repeals those provisions of P&S Law 1999, Ch 79 that authorized school administrative units to utilize alternative delivery methods for school construction projects and enacts the substantive provisions of that law into the statutes governing public improvement construction contracts. The amendment allows a school admin unit to undertake a school construction project using the construction-manager-advisory methods, the design-build method or the construction-manager-at-risk method for school construction projects that are locally funded and have a minimum total project cost of \$1,000,000. Fiscal Note.) (2nd amendment strikes the first and return original bill)

AIA Maine testimony given by Alan Kuniholm, AIA

Category Education & Cultural Affairs

LD # 776

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/25/11 1:00 PM Rm202 CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-386

LAW # Pubic Law Chapter 279

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Create a Fair Process for Energy Service Companies Contracting with Maine Schools. (Rep. Richardson, Carmel) (E&C A Comm) (The amend. replaces the bill. It retains a school's authority to use a process other than a competitive bid process while revising the current laws to: increase the length of an agreement from 15 to 20 years; Define an energy services company and use that term in the statute; Increase the total contract cost allowed without going to competitive bidding from \$2,000,000 to \$2,500,000 and exclude private and federal grant funds from counting towards that maximum figure; Prohibit a RFQ or RFP from containing certain requirements that might exclude qualified energy service companies from competing; Establish performance criteria that must be included in an agreement for energy services; and require BGS to provide guidance to school administrative units.

Category Education & Cultural Affairs

LD # 782

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/25/11 1:00 PM Rm202 CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW # (DEAD)

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Expand Competitive Bidding for Energy Service Contracts with Schools. (Rep. Wintle, Garland) (Education & Cultural Affairs Comm) (This bill provides that school projects for the design, installation, operation, maintenance and financing of energy conservation or combined energy conservation and air quality improvements at existing school admin unit facilities are subject to competitive bidding requirements.)

Category Education & Cultural Affairs

LD # 1356

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/25/11 10:00 Rm202CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW # Public Law Chapter 153

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Laws Concerning the School Revolving Renovation Fund. (Sen. Langley, Education & Cultural Affairs Comm) (Submitted by the Dept of Education) (Amends he Maine Municipal Bond Bank Act to allow for funding fro the School Revolving Renovation Fund for hazardous material removal in schools and for repairs and improvements related to energy and water conservation.)

Category Education & Cultural Affairs

LD # 1540

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/12/11 1:00 PM Rm202CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-177

LAW # Public Law Chapter 346

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Encourage Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education. (Sen. Schneider, Penobscot) (Governor's Bill)(**Emergency**) (Education & Cultural Affairs Comm) (This bill establishes the Science, Tech, Engineering and Mathematics Council to develop strategies fro enhancing science, technology, engineering and mathematics education from prekindergarten through postsecondary education.)(The amendment adds an emergency clause, changes the membership of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Council composition and adds a fiscal note.)

Category Energy, Utilities & Technology

LD # 425

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/2/11 10:00 Rm 211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Stimulate Demand for Renewable Resources. (Sen. Rosen, Hancock) (Energy, Utilities & Technology Comm) (Current law establishes as a policy of the State the encouragement of the generation of electricity from renewable and efficient resources by requiring that each competitive electricity provider in this State demonstrate that of less than 30% of its portfolio of supply sources for retail electricity sales in this Sate is accounted for by eligible resources. This bill implements that policy by stimulating demand for electricity from generators fueled by municipal solid waste in conjunction with recycling. It amends the definition of renewable capacity resource" to add waste energy resources. Defines "waste energy resource as a source of electrical generation that is fueled by municipal solid waste in conjunction with recycling and whose total power capacity does not exceed 35 megawatts. The waste energy resource would have to meet Maine's air emissions standards.)

Category Energy, Utilities & Technology

LD # 553

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/4/11 11:00 Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-572

LAW # Public Law Chapter 400

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Reduce Maine's Dependence on Oil. (Rep. Fitts, Pittsfield) (Energy, Utilities & Technology Comm)
New Title: An Act To Improve Maine's Energy Security. (This amendment strikes the concept draft and replaces it. Establishes targets under the Gov's Office of Energy Independence and Security to reduce the State's consumption of oil by at least 30% from 2007 levels by 2030 and at least 50% from 2007 levels by 2050. Requires the Gov's Office of Energy Independence and Security to develop a plan to achieve those targets and to submit that plan to the Legislature by Dec 1, 2012. The biennial comprehensive state energy plan under the MRS, Title 2, section 9, subsection 3, paragraph C must include a section regarding the State's progress in meeting the oil dependence reduction targets. Fiscal note.)

Category Energy, Utilities & Technology

LD # 729

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/21/11 10:00 Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-193

LAW # Public Law Chapter 273

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Oppose

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Prohibit Electric Utilities from Entering into Long-term Supply Agreements. (Sen. Thomas, Somerset) (Energy, Utilities & Tech Comm) (This bill rescinds the PUC's authority to direct transmission and distribution utilities to enter into long-term contracts. It also corrects cross references.) (The amendment amends the long term contracting law to require that the price paid by the investor-owned transmission and distribution utility for the renewable energy credits must be lower than the price received for those renewable energy credits at the time they are sold by the transmission and distribution utility. It repeals the condition that the PUC cannot direct an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility to enter into a long-term contract until after major substantive rules are finally adopted.)

Category Energy, Utilities & Technology

LD # 761

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/21/11 10:00 Rm211 CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-455

LAW # Public Law Chapter 314

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Oppose

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide Rebates for the Purchase of Certain Solar and Wind Power Equipment. (Rep. Berry, Bowdoinham) (Energy, Utilities & Technology Comm)
(Emergency)(This bill reinstates the solar and wind energy rebate program, which provided rebates for the purchase of certain solar and wind energy equipment, until June 30, 2015. The program had expired December 31, 2010.) (The amendment allows for rebates for renewable energy technologies to be eligible for funding from the Renewable Resource Fund rather than reinstating as assessment on electricity for the purpose of proving rebates for certain solar and wind technology, as proposed in the bill. Also adds an appropriations and allocations section.)

Category Energy, Utilities & Technology
LD # 793
PUBLIC HEARING: 4/5/11 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM
AMENDMENT # S-194
LAW # **Public Law Chapter 277**
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Protect Ratepayers While Enhancing Energy Independence and Security. (Sen. Saviello, Franklin) (Energy, Utilities & Tech Comm) (The amendment replaces the bill and requires the State to withdraw from the regional greenhouse gas initiative if other states that participate in the regional greenhouse gas initiative and in the same wholesale electricity market administered and overseen by the regional transmission organization as Maine have a total carbon dioxide emissions budget for the calendar year 2009 that totals less than 35,000,000 tons.)

Archived NO

Category Energy, Utilities & Technology
LD # 802
PUBLIC HEARING: 3/21/11 10:00 Rm211 COSB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority-OTP-AM/Minority-OTP-AM
AMENDMENT # S-196, S-197
LAW # **Public Law Chapter 281**
ARCH. POSITION:
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Requirements for Electric Transmission Lines. (Sen. Bartlett, Cumberland) (Energy, Utilities & Technology Comm) (Amends the statute governing the issuance of certificates of public convenience and necessity for transmission lines. This bill provides that the PUC may not approve a certificate of public convenience and necessity for a transmission line unless it finds that the construction and operation of the proposed transmission line either reduces costs for consumers or is necessary to meet the reliability requirements imposed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or its designated electric reliability organization. Also corrects a conflict that was created by Public Law 2009, Chapter 615 and Chapter 655 by incorporating the changes made by both chaptered laws.)

Archived NO

Category Energy, Utilities & Technology
LD # 1264
PUBLIC HEARING: 5/12/11 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM
AMENDMENT # S-244 **Held Over by Governor**
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Improve the Energy Efficiency of Public Buildings and Create Jobs. (Sen. Bartlett, Cumberland) (EUT Comm) (The amendment replaces the bill. It extends existing standards for energy savings design consideration to include cost-effective load management systems. Adds consideration of cost-effective load management systems to existing standards for energy savings design considerations and targets for school construction projects and gives school admin units increased flexibility in contracting with energy service companies for energy efficiency and load management improvements. Expands counties' ability to contract with energy service companies to achieve energy savings to include load management systems. Expands the Maine Municipal Bond Bank's Efficiency Partners Program, which provides loans for efficiency upgrades to municipal and public school buildings 1264, to include load management projects...)

Archived NO

Category Energy, Utilities & Technology
LD # 1506
PUBLIC HEARING: 5/2/11 10:00 Rm211CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM
AMENDMENT # H-493
LAW # Public Law Chapter 300
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION:

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Remove Obstacles to the Use of Technological Advances for Heating in Multifamily Structures. (Rep. Fitts, Pittsfield) (Energy, Utilities & Tech Comm) (After Deadline) (Under current law, electric space heating equipment may not be installed as the primary heating system in construction that is funded using public funds. This bill specifically exempts electric thermal storage space heating equipment from this prohibition.)(The amendment defines "geothermal heat pump" and provides that geothermal heat pumps are not considered electric space heating equipment for the purposes of the laws governing electric heating systems in subsidized housing, thus allowing the pumps to be installed in multifamily residential structures funded by public funds.)

Category Energy, Utilities & Technology
LD # 1570
PUBLIC HEARING: 5/17/11 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM
AMENDMENT # S-272, S-310
LAW # Public Law Chapter 413
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Reduce Energy Prices for Maine Consumers. (Sen. Thibodeau, Waldo) (Governor's Bill) (Energy, Utilities & Tech Comm) (The amendment strikes the bill and replaces it. It provides a definition of "to refurbish" as it applies to new renewable capacity resources. It requires the PUC to conduct rulemaking to ensure that consumers will benefit from long-term contracts. It requires legislative approval for long-term contracts for energy efficiency capacity resources that result in a fee or an assessment on ratepayers. Also directs the PUC to conduct an in-depth analysis of the new renewable capacity resources portfolio requirements.)(Second amendment makes the exemption automatic and allows a qualified Pine Tree Development Zone business to request a waiver the the exemption. Allows the PUC to adopt routine technical rules to implement the exemption.)

Category Environment & Natural Resources
LD # 159
PUBLIC HEARING: 3/30/11 1:00 PM Rm216 CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM
AMENDMENT # S-139
LAW # Public Law Chapter 359
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Foster Economic Development by Improving Administration of the Laws Governing Site Location of Development and Storm Water Management. (Sen. Saviello, Franklin) (Environment & Natural Resources) (This bill revises the thresholds for rev by the DEP pursuant to the laws governing site location of development by changing the definitions of "subdivision" and "structure." It ensures consistency between the laws governing site location of dev and the Natural Res Protection Act in standards pertaining to a developments effects on existing uses, scenic character and protected natural resources. Also provides that rules adopted by the dept after 1-1-10 pursuant to the laws governing site location of dev and storm water management are major substantive rules as defined in the MRS Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A, with certain limited exception in the rules governing storm water management for minor clerical corrections and technical clarifications.)

Category Environment & Natural Resources

LD # 262

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/23/11 9:00 AM Rm216 CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-30

LAW # Public Law Chapter 435

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Expand Eligibility of Certain Municipal Landfills To Participate in the State's Remediation and Closure Program. (Rep. Johnson, Greenville) (Environment & Natural Resources Comm) (This bill allows municipal landfills that were allowed to remain in operation after Jan 1, 2000, but are subsequently ordered closed or encapsulated by Dec 31, 2015, because they do not meet current environmental protection standards to receive funding from the State's remediation and closure program for a portion of closure costs if funding is available. It also makes the State's cost-share program for municipal landfill closures applicable to municipal landfills that were originally licensed on or before Sept 1, 1989, and contingent on a finding that the landfill is contaminating groundwater and that corrective actions have not been successful.) (Amendment incorporates a Fiscal Note.)

Category Environment & Natural Resources

LD # 515

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/26/11 1:00 PM Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority-OTP-AM/Minority-ONTTP

AMENDMENT # S-130

LAW # Public Law Chapter 194

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Review State Water Quality Standards. (Sen. Saviello, Franklin) (Environment & Natural Resources Comm) (This concept draft would revise and update water quality standards utilized to establish waste discharge license parameters. This bill would also establish procedures for developing alternative state and site-specific water quality standards.)(The amendment replaces the bill. It allows mercury testing once per year. It establishes a new risk level for inorganic arsenic when the DEP is calculating ambient water quality criteria. Provides that the DEP may use any unallocated assimilative capacity that the dept has set aside for future growth if use of the unallocated assimilative capacity would avoid an exceedance or reasonable potential to exceed ambient water quality criteria. It provides that metals limits must be expressed as mass-based limits.)

Category Environment & Natural Resources

LD # 544

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/9/11 9:30 AM Rm 220CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority OTP;Minority OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # H-82, H-96

LAW # Public Law Chapter 96

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Eliminate Duplication of Paint Disclosure and Radon Requirements. (Rep. Cushing, Hampden) (Environment & Natural Resources Comm) (This bill eliminates the duplication of state and federal lead-based paint disclosure requirements and amends the law requiring radon testing of residential buildings to exempt buildings used exclusively for short-term or seasonal rentals of less than 100 days.)

Category Environment & Natural Resources

LD # 671

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/9/11 9:00 AM Rm 216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-274, H-314

LAW # Public Law Chapter 243

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Ground Water Oil Cleanup Fund. (Rep. Ayotte, Caswell) (Environment & Natural Resources Comm) (This bill changes the membership of the Fund Insurance Review Board, provides the board additional powers and authorizes the board to review and approve the budget of the Ground Water Oil Cleanup Fund.)(The amendment replaces the bill, and alters the duties of the review board to include reviewing DEP priorities for disbursements from the Ground Water Oil Cleanup Fund and making recommendations to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection on how the fund should be allocated. Also retains the provision in the bill that provides that total disbursement from the Ground Water Oil Cleanup Fund for administrative expenses may not exceed \$2,000,000 per fiscal year.)

Category Environment & Natural Resources

LD # 693

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/13/11 1:00 PM Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Concerning Solid Waste Facility Citizen Advisory Committees. (Rep. Duchesne, Hudson) (Environment & Natural Resources Comm) (Clarifies that a solid waste facility citizen advisory committee is to continue through the closure of the facility. It authorizes a citizen advisory committee to appeal licensing and permitting decisions and intervene in licensing and permitting proceedings if the disposition of the proceedings could impair the ability of the committee to carry out its responsibilities. Authorizes municipalities that appoint members to a citizen advisory committee to appeal licensing and permitting decisions and intervene in licensing and permitting proceedings. It directs the State Planning Office to provide financial and administrative support for citizen advisory committees. Also makes these provisions applicable to the citizen advisory comm established in connection with the Juniper Ridge landfill in Old Town and Alton.)

Category Environment & Natural Resources

LD # 862

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/25/11 9:00 AM Rm216 CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-56

LAW # Resolve Chapter 46

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, Directing the Department of Environmental Protection To Amend Its Rules Governing the Length of Time Certain Permits Are Valid. (Sen. Collins, York) (Environment & Natural Resources Comm) (This resolve directs the DEP to amend its rules governing the protection of natural resources,site location of development and storm water to provide that permits issued with respect to these areas are valid for 5 years after they are issued and that a person who holds such a permit has 10 years to complete a project pursuant to such a permit.)(The amendment clarifies that the DEP is required to amend its rules relating to the Natural Resources Protection Act. Also changes the time periods in the resolve to provide that permits issued with respect to the NRPA and laws governing site location of development and storm water are valid for 4 years after they are issued and that a person who holds such a permit has 7 yrs to complete a proj pursuant to permit)

Category Environment & Natural Resources

LD # 879

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/13/11 1:00 PM Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Ensure Adequate Landfill Capacity in the State for Solid Waste. (Rep. Curtis, Madison) (Environment & Natural Resources Comm) (Amends the law regarding expansion of commercial solid waste disposal facilities and biomedical waste disposal or treatment facilities by authorizing a commercial landfill facility that is not under an order or agreement to close to expand if the proposed expansion is contiguous with the existing facility and is located on property owned by the person holding the commercial solid waste disposal facility license. It clarifies that an expanded facility may not receive a property tax exemption on real or personal property, and it provides that the department may not process or act upon any application until certain conditions are met)

Category Environment & Natural Resources

LD # 1015

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/30/11 1:00 PM Rm216CSPB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-199

LAW # Public Law Chapter 120

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act to Reduce Unnecessary Reporting Requirements for the Department of Environmental Protection. (Rep. Duchesne, Hudson) (Environment & Natural Resources Comm) (Repeals a requirement that the DEP Commissioner annually conduct a review related to the permit by rule system and make any recommendation concerning additional categories of permits to the BEP. Repeals requirement that the DEP periodically evaluate whether the State should continue to implement and enforce California low-emission vehicle standards relating to the control of emissions. Removes a requirement that the DEP Commissioner hold hearings and report to the E&NR Comm matters concerning progress toward meeting with the instream color pollution standards under the Maine Rev Statutes, Title 38.) (Amendment exempts agricultural producers from the water withdrawal reporting prog & removes the Agric Commish from list to whom a h2o report may be submit)

Category Environment & Natural Resources

LD # 1129

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/29/11 1:30 PM Rm216CSPB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-421

LAW # Public Law Chapter 319

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide the Department of Environmental Protection with Regulatory Flexibility Regarding the Listing of Priority Chemical. (Rep. Hamper, Oxford) (Environment & Natural Resources Comm) (Amendment replaces the bill & makes a number of changes to the priority chemical program. Prohibits the DEP from initiating rulemaking under the MRS, Title 38, Ch16D, unless the chemical at issue has been included in a regulatory agenda disclosed to the Leg pursuant to the Maine Admin Procedure Act or the rulemaking is in response to a petition by a person to adopt or modify a rule pursuant to the Maine Admin Procedure Act. Changes the name of the list of "chemical of high concern." BY July 1/2012, a new list of up to 70 "chemicals of high concern" must be deve by DHHS & others. DEP, in rule, is required to specify appropriate de minimis levels for each chemical of high concern...)

Category Environment & Natural Resources

LD # 1278

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/13/11 1:00 PM Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Stabilize Solid Waste Management Funding. (Rep. Duchesne, Hudson) (Environment & Natural Resources Comm) (Creates a 3rd subsidiary account in the Maine Solid Waste Management Fund for the purpose of purchasing additional landfill disposal capacity. The bill imposes fees on the disposal of construction and demolition debris and construction and demolition debris processing residue and imposes higher fees on certain wastes that are disposed of at a landfill granted a license to expand after Oct 15, 2011. Also provides that a disposal fee may not be imposed on construction and demolition debris and construction and demolition debris processing residue that is disposed of at a municipal, regional association or generator-owned landfill.)

Category Environment & Natural Resources

LD # 1387

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/10/11 1:00 PM Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-317

LAW # Public Law Chapter 205

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Restore Exemptions in the Natural Resources Protection Act. (Rep. Cebra, Naples) (Environment & Natural Resources Comm) (Submitted by the DOT) (The bill amends the exemption for certain maintenance and repair activities in the Natural Resources Protection Act. Replaces the exemption for certain existing road culverts in the Natural Resources Protection Act. Also clarifies hat slip or invert lining of existing culverts is not considered a maintenance and repair activity, thus requiring a permit by rules for those activities. Requires DEP, DOT and other departments to present a final draft of a statewide aquatic conservation and restoration strategy plan to Environment & Natural Resources Comm by Jan 31, 2013. The plan may include recommended legislation.) (Amendment clarifies that the Natural Res Protection Act exemption applies to all existing crossings, not just road crossing.)

Category Environment & Natural Resources

LD # 1398

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/26/11 1:00 PM Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority-OTP-AM/Minority-OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # H-369

LAW # Public Law Chapter 206

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Laws Administered by the Department of Environmental Protection. (Rep. Hamper, Oxford) (**Emergency**)(Environment & Natural Resources Comm) (Submitted by DEP) (Makes several changes to the laws governing environmental protection. Changes include but not limited to repealing the exemption from the laws governing storm water management for waste facilities. It amends a provision that authorizes the DEP to establish a nonpoint source reduction program to allow an applicant to pay a compensation fee in lieu of meeting certain requirements. Repeals and replaces a section to provide that references to ambient air quality standards refer to national ambient air quality standards. Amends the wellhead protection laws to eliminate language regarding the applicability of wellhead siting restrictions to development under construction...)

Category Environment & Natural Resources

LD # 1575

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/20/11 9:00 AM Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority-OTP-AM/Minority-OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # H-201

LAW # Public Law Chapter 357

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Conform the Authority of the Department of Environmental Protection to Federal Law. (Sen. Pres Raye, Washington) (Gov's Bill) (Environment & Natural Resources Comm)(**Emergency**) (The bill removes a statutory restriction on a person's serving as Commissioner of Environmental Protection if the person has received a significant portion of income directly or indirectly from license or permit holders or applicants for a license or permit under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. Provides that the Commissioner, employees of the DEP and members of the BEP may participate in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System matters to the extent permitted under federal law and permits a commissioner who is restricted from participation to delegate duties to a department employee who is not restricted from participation.)

Category Health & Human Services

LD # 631

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/8/11 9:00 AM Rm209CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority-OPT-AM/Minority-ONTTP

AMENDMENT # H-143

LAW # Public Law Chapter 144

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Update the Radon Registration Act. (Rep. Sanborn, Gorham) (Health & Human Services Comm) (The bill amends the Radon Registration Act by updating the lead agency name, clarifying who the act applies to, making new construction comply with the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code and requiring the Dept of Health & Human Services to set fees by rule.) (The amendment deletes from the bill the language that requires the DHHS to set by rule the fees to defray the costs of the registration programs established under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, sections 774 and 775.)

Category Health & Human Services

LD # 790

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/25/11 9:00 AM Rm209CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-127 (Fiscal Note) H-371

LAW # Resolve Chapter 106

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, To Foster Energy Efficiency Improvements and Other Needed Renovations at Residential Care Facilities Funded by MaineCare. (Sen. Rosen, Hancock) (**Emergency**) (Health & Human Services Comm) (This resolve requires the DHHS to amend its rules regarding residential care facilities funded by MaineCare to provide that fixed or capital cost reimbursement for new construction, acquisitions, equipment, renovations or other improvements when the aggregate capital expenditure does not exceed \$350,000 in one fiscal year does not require prior approval. Capital expenditures for energy efficiency improvements, for replacement equipment, for information systems, for communications systems and for parking lots and garages must be excluded from the cost of the project in determining whether it is subject to review and prior approval. When capital costs subject to review exceed \$350,000 in one FY, facilities must submit plans, financial proposal...)

Category Health & Human Services

LD # 828

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/6/11 1:00 PM Rm209CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW # (DEAD)

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Maine Certificate of Need Act of 2002 for Nursing Facility Projects. Rep. Martin, Eagle Lake) (Health & Human Services Comm) (Amends the Certificate of Need Act of 2002 as it affects nursing facility projects--It increases the review threshold for nursing facility projects from \$1,000,000 to \$2,500,000 and restores n inflation adjustment factor. It removes the so-called MaineCare budget neutrality requirement and the nursing facility MarineCare funding pool. Makes nursing facility projects subject to all certificate of need approval criteria and requirements. Retains provisions of existing law that permit expedited approval of certain nursing facility projects. When a DHHS decision has not been issued within 150 days after the department declares an application complete, the application is automatically approved.)

Category Insurance & Financial Services

LD # 1333

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/27/11 1:00 PM Rm220CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority-OTP-AM/Minority-ONTP

AMENDMENT # H-186, S-96, S-99

LAW # Public Law Chapter 90

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Modify Rating Practices for Individual and Small Group Health Plans and To Encourage Value-based Purchasing of Health Care Services. (Rep. Richardson, Warren) (Insurance&Financial Services) (GOP-backed health insurance reform package)(the amendment replaces the bill. Permits insurers to transact individual health insurance in CT, MA, NH or RI to offer their individual health plans for sale in Maine if certain laws are met. It also provides a tax credit to employers of 20 or fewer employees for the expense of developing, instituting and maintaining wellness programs for their employees in the amount of \$100 per employee, up to a max of \$2000.)

Category Insurance & Financial Services

LD # 1497

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/10/11 1:00 PM Rm220CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Comply with the Health Insurance Exchange Provision of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. (Rep. McKane, Newcastle) (Insurance & Financial Services Comm) (Establishes the Maine Health Benefit Exchange pursuant to the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. The exchange is establishes as authorized by federal law to facilitate the purchase of health care coverage by individuals and small businesses. The bill requires coverage to be available through the exchange no later than Jan 1, 2014. the bill authorizes the use of an assessment or user fee on health insurance carriers to support the operations of the exchange.)

Category Insurance & Financial Services

LD # 1498

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/10/11 1:00 PM RM220CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act to Phase Out Dirigo Health and Establish the Maine Health Benefit Exchange for Small Businesses and Individuals. (Rep. Treat, Hallowell) (Insurance & Financial Services Comm) (Repeals Dirigo Health effective Jan 1, 2014, and in its place, establishes the Maine Health Benefit Exchange. The exchange is established as authorized by federal law to facilitate the purchase of health care coverage by individuals and small businesses. Requires coverage to be available through the exchange no later than Jan 1, 2014. Coverage for individuals and sm businesses under Dirigo will end on Jan 1, 2014, as coverage will transition to the exchange. The bill retains the Maine quality Forum established within the Dirigo Health program and transfers its oversight to the exchange. Requires health insurance carriers and 3rd-party administrators to pay an access payment on paid claims to support the operations of the exchange.)

Category Insurance & Financial Services

LD # 1582

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW # Resolve Chapter 105

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, Creating the Advisory Committee on Maine's Health Insurance Exchange. (Rep. Richardson, Warren, for the Committee on Insurance & Financial Services) **(Emergency)**(Resolve creates the Advisory Committee on Maine's Health Insurance Exchange. The charge of the advisory committee is to make recommendations to the Legislature and to the Governor o courses of action to ensure federal funding for the creation of a health insurance exchange and to provide draft enabling legislation for the creation of a health insurance exchange. Fiscal note included.)

Category Judiciary

LD # 1502

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/10/11 1:30 PM Rm 438 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-363

LAW # Public Law Chapter 274

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act to Amend the Maine Business Corporation Act. (Rep. Priest, Brunswick) (Judiciary Comm) (25-page bill amending the Maine Business Corporation Act to reflect recent changes made to the model act on which the Maine Business Corporation Act is based.) (The amendment provides that if ore than one form of communication is used, a notice or other communication is effective when the earliest of the applicable methods occurs. It specifically allows articles of incorporation and bylaws to authorize or require electronic notice of directors' meeting. Also provides that the execution of a certificate or articles containing one or more false statements constitutes unsworn falsification under the MRS, Title 17#A, section 453...)

Category Judiciary

LD # 1530

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/10/11 1:30 PM Rm 438 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Housing Provisions of the Maine Human Rights Act. (Sen. Hastings, Oxford) (Judiciary Comm) (Submitted by the Maine Human Rights Commission) (Amends the Maine Human Rights Act in order to maintain its substantial equivalency with the federal Fair Housing Act and to update the accessible building requirements in public housing. Includes changes such as the builder of a facility to which this applies shall obtain a certification from a design professional that the plans of the facility met the standards of construction required by this section. Standards of construction means the most recent ANSI standards for accessible and usable facilities.)

Category Judiciary

LD # 1531

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/17/11 1:30 PM Rm 438 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-214

LAW # Public Law Chapter 322

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Maine Human Rights Act Regarding Accessible Building Standards. (Sen. Hastings, Oxford) (Judiciary Comm) (Sub by the Maine Human Rights Comm) (Amends the Maine Human Rights Act to update the accessible building requirements. (The amendment makes four changes to the bill. (1)deletes the additional accessibility standards that would apply for alterations subj to the new standards when the alter to an existing bldg exceed \$100,000. (2)Adjusts the threshold of construction or alt that trigger barrier-free cert from \$50,000 to \$75,000. The \$50,000 threshold was est in 1995, & raising the threshold to \$75,000 roughly approx the effect of inflation. (3)Applies the waiver for structural impracticability to all facilities that req mandatory plan review & certification that standards are met.(4) Authorizes Judiciary Comm to introduce a bill 2nd Session of 125th to implement any recommendations.)

Category Labor, Commerce, Research & Econ Dev

LD # 43

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/7/11 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT # (DEAD)

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Oppose

ENG. POSITION: Oppose

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Repeal the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. (Rep. Harvell, Farmington) (Labor, Commerce, Research & Economic Dev Comm) (This bill repeals the laws establishing the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code and makes adjustments to certain other laws to make them consistent with law prior to the enactment of Public Law 2007, chapter 699, which created MUBEC. The bill does not reenact the Maine Model Building Code or the energy efficiency building standards that were repealed by Public Law 2007, chapter 699 and replaced by the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code.)

Category Labor, Commerce, Research & Econ Dev

LD # 323

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/22/11 1:00 PM Rm208 CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Implement a Coordinated Strategy To Attract New Businesses, Expand Existing Businesses and Develop a Consistent and Recognizable Maine Brand. (Rep. Volk, Scarborough) (A concept draft proposing to establish a public-private partnership at the state level with responsibility for the development and delivery of a comprehensive, coordinated and coherent strategy for economic development in Maine. This private-public partnership shall work with regional and local economic development councils and businesses to provide an array of services to companies seeking to locate or expand in Maine.)

Archived NO

Category Labor, Commerce, Research & Econ Dev

LD # 375

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/12/11 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-176

LAW # Resolve Chapter 45

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Exempt Boilers in Municipalities and Schoolhouses from State Inspection Requirements. (Rep. Gillway, Searsport) (Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development Comm)(**Emergency**) (Under current law all steam heating oilers, hot water heating boilers and hot water supply boilers that are constructed and installed in accordance with the rules adopted by the Dept of Professional & Financial Reg, Board of Boilers and Pressure Vessels are exempt from a state-level boiler inspection program except for the boilers owned and operated by municipalities and schoolhouses. This bill includes municipalities and schoolhouses in the general exemption.)(Amendment replaces the bill w/an **emergency resolve** directing the Commish of Pro&Fin Reg to convene a working group w/the Board of Boilers and Pressure Vessels & others to rev the current lack of uniformity in laws & rules governing boilers & find options for boiler inspection in

Archived NO

Category Labor, Commerce, Research & Econ Dev

LD # 841

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/3/11 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-511, S-333

LAW # Resolve Chapter 108

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, To Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission on Affordable Housing. (Rep. Cushing, Hampden) (Labor, Commerce, Research & Economic Development Comm) (Emergency)(This Commission is directed to conduct a study of affordable housing policy, review the status of housing and make recommendations to maximize the investment of available resources and best meet the housing needs of the people of this State. The commission is required to submit a report to Labor, Commerce, Research & Economic Development.) (Amendment add a rep of the board of trustees of the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority to the membership. It also adds a fiscal note.)(Amendment removes emergency preamble and emergency clause)

Archived NO

Category Labor, Commerce, Research & Econ Dev

LD # 1253

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/28/11 2:30 PM Rm208CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-210

LAW # Public Law Chapter 365

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor*

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Enforcement of Statewide Uniform Building Codes. (Sen. Saviello, Franklin) (LCR&ED Comm) (Makes several changes to the laws governing the adoption, enforcement and implementation of MUBEC. Allows a municipality to adopt Appendix G of the 2009 International Res Code, or IRC, which contains the safety fencing standards for swimming pools, Removes an archaic & Vague requirement that inspections for the purpose of issuing an occupancy permits be conducted to ensure that a building is "safe from fire." Authorizes a municipality to review the work of a 3rd-party inspector for accuracy. Amends law to allow a building official to serve as a 3rd-party inspector as long as the bld official is providing that service outside of the official's geo jurisdiction as a bldg official. Directors Standards Board to determine where in Maine & under what circumstance the radon & internal air qual bldg codes should apply.)

Category Labor, Commerce, Research & Econ Dev

LD # 1314

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/4/11 9:00 AM Rm208CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Standardize the Definition of Independent Contractor." (Rep. Tilton, Harrington) (Labor, Commerce, Research & Econ Dev Comm) (This bill standardizes the definition of "independent contractor" for employment security law and worker's compensation law. It considers who directors or controls the means and manner of providing the contracted services; who furnishes the tools and equipment necessary to provide the services; whether the business is considered inseparable from the individual for purposes of taxes, profits and liabilities; who exercises control over the management and operations of the business; and who exercises the right and opportunity to perform the services of the business for multiple entities.)

Category Labor, Commerce, Research & Econ Dev

LD # 1420

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/4/11 9:00 AM Rm208CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-150, S-191

LAW # Public Law Chapter 292

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Modify the Laws Regarding Status as an Independent Contractor. (Sen. Thibodeau, Waldo) (Labor, Commerce, R&ED Comm) (This bill defines services provided by an individual to be employment subject to the unemployment compensation laws unless the individual is free from control or direction in performing the services and either:
-The service is outside the usual course of business or is performed outside of the pace of business; or
-The individual is engaged in an independently established trade or occupation.)(The amendment adds an Emergency preamble and clause to the bill and creates a stakeholder group of interested parties to develop an employment test that can be used across all occupations and in the administration of unemployment comp law, workers' comp law and labor standards programs.)(Amendment adds AGC Maine to stakeholders group.)

Category Labor, Commerce, Research & Econ Dev

LD # 1560

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/13/11 11:00 Rm208CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-396

LAW # Public Law Chapter 286

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Update Professional and Occupational Licensing Statutes. (Rep. Prescott, Topsham) (Submitted by the Dept of Professional and Financial Regulation) (Labor, Commerce, Research & Economic Development Comm) (Housekeeping bill that includes changing the name of the Office of Licensing and Registration in the Dept of Professional & Financial Regulation to the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation. Among other changes it clarifies that an individual who engages in any activity that requires a license, without first obtaining a license, commits a civil violation of unlicensed practice.) (Amendment makes technical corrections to the bill.)

Category Labor, Commerce, Research & Econ Dev

LD # 1571

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Workers' Compensation. (Rep. Cushing, Hampden) (Labor, Commerce et al Comm) (After Deadline) (Amends provisions of the Maine Workers' Comp Act of 1992 & procedures of the Workers' Comp Board including but not limited to
-Amends the law to provide for full reimbursement to an employer from proceeds paid by a 3rd party;
-Amends the mediation provision to require that mediation be requested both by the employer and he employee;
-Provides that if an employee chooses to have a physician present at an employer-required exam, the employee must pay the cost of that physician;
-Prohibits the board from assessing a fine against an employer or insurer in excess of \$25,--- unless the employer or insurer intentionally and fraudulently failed to pay compensation...)

Category Regulatory Fairness & Reform

LD # 1

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/14/11 9:00 AM Rm208 CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-87

LAW # Public Law Chapter 304

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act to Ensure Regulatory Fairness and Reform. (President Raye, Washington) (Regulatory Fairness & Reform Committee) (**Emergency**) (A concept draft proposing to amend the laws to improve and business climate in the State and encourage job creation and expand opportunities for Maine people. Accomplished by ensuring regulatory fairness and reform among departments and agencies of State Government by reviewing aspects of the regulatory process and reforming those processes as necessary to eliminate duplicate or unnecessary regulations and to ensure transparency, fairness, effectiveness and efficiency in the development, adoption, implementation and enforcement of regulatory efforts.) (The amendment replaces the bill)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 287

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/28/11 10:00 Rm 214CSPB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide Savings to the State by Contracting Out Certain Services. (Rep. Winsor, Norway) (State & Local Government Comm) (A Concept draft proposing to identify the types of services provided by the State and the extent to which those services are provided by state employees and through contracts with private entities. The bill proposes the identification of the types of services provided by state employees that could be provided more effectively and with reduced cost by privately contracted services. The bill proposes to explore the practices of other states and identify private contracting practices that are effective and the actions that would be necessary to achieve similar benefits in Maine.)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 322

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/23/11 1:00 PM Rm214 CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority-OTP-AM/Minority-ONTP

AMENDMENT # H-108

LAW # Public Law Chapter 89

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Repeal the Informed Growth Act. (Rep. Clark, Easton) (State & Local Government Comm) (The amendment replaces the bill. It provides that the provisions of the Informed Growth Act do not apply to a municipality unless the municipality adopts an ordinance. It provides that municipalities that are sub to the Informed Growth Act by the adoption of such an ordinance receive the fee directly from the developer for the comprehensive economic impact study rather than through the State Planning Office. The definition of undue adverse impact is amended to mean that the estimated overall negative effects outweigh the positive effects and removes the requirement that the estimated negative effects of at least 2 of the factors considered in the study outweigh the positive effects on those factors. Provides that the municipality may determine which factors are considered in the comprehensive economic impact study. Also has a Fiscal Note)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 543

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/27/11 1:00 PM Rm214CSPB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-546 SENATE CARRIED OVER

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Protect Legislative Intent in Rulemaking. (Rep. Prescott, Topsham) (State & Local Government Comm) (The amendment replaces the bill, which was a concept draft. It requires that by Jan 15th of each year, an agency that has adopted a rule in the previous calendar year to provide a coordinated list of all rules to the Exec. Director of the Legislative Council, which is required to refer the list to the legislative committee with jurisdiction over those rules. The coordinated list must include the statutory authority for the rule, rule chapter number and title, principal reason or purpose for the rule, a written statement explaining the factual and policy basis for the rule, whether the rule was major substantive or routine technical, whether the rule was adopted as an emergency and the fiscal impact of the rule. The committee is report out legislation in the same session to adjust the rule-making authority of the agency if the leg committee considers it necessary.)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 769

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/9/11 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Review the Functions of the State Planning Office. (Rep. Moulton, York) (State & Local Government Comm) (A concept draft proposing to restructure the State Planning Office. This bill will retain within the State Planning Office those functions that are best performed by that office, and will remove to other offices and entities those functions that will be best performed by organization other than the Sate Planning Office. As part of the restructuring, the roles of the regional planning commissions established pursuant to the MRS, Title 30-A, chapter 119 will be more clearly defined, as will the role of the State Planning Office in the review of comprehensive plans developed pursuant to Title 30-A.)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 984

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/2/11 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority-ONTP/Minority-OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # H-304, S-182

LAW # (DEAD)

ARCH. POSITION: Oppose

ENG. POSITION: Oppose

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Require a Two-thirds Vote To Approve the Issuance of a Bond or Security by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority. (Rep. Waterhouse, Bridgton) (State & Local Government Comm) (This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require a 2/3 vote of both Houses of the Legislature to authorize a bond or security to be issued by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority.)(Amendment adds fiscal note. Second amendment exempts from the 2/3 vote requirement bonds or securities authorized by the Legislature prior to January 1, 2011.)(Amendment exempts from the 2/3 vote requirement bonds or securities authorized by the Leg prior to Jan 1/2011)

Written Testimony by John Morris, AIA
Oral Testimony by Rip Patten for ACEC Maine

Category State & Local Government

LD # 1085

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/27/11 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-188

LAW # Resolve Chapter 74

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Regarding Prequalification Standards for Contractors. (Sen. Martin, Kennebec) (State & Local Government Comm) (Directs the Bureau of General Services to adopt the same annual contractor prequalification process as the DOT by Jan 1, 2012. It also directs BGS to adopt the same renewal prequalification process as the DOT.)(The amendment replaces the bill with a resolve that requires BGS and the DOT to jointly adopt one annual prequalification process to be used by contractors that wish to bid on projects administered by either agency. Contractors and other interested parties must be involved in the development of the single prequalification process. The new prequalification process must be in place by Jan 1, 2012. BGS and DOT are required to reported to the State & Local Comm by Jan 15, 2012, and the committee may report out a bill to the 2nd Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 1416

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/6/11 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority-OTP-AM/Minority-ONTP

AMENDMENT # H-553

LAW # Public Law Chapter 408

ARCH. POSITION: Oppose

ENG. POSITION: Monitor*

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide Options to Municipalities Concerning the MUBEC. (Rep. McKane, Newcastle)(State& Local Gov't Comm) (Majority report amendment replaces the bill. It changes the threshold for municipalities that must adopt the MUBEC from 2000 residents to municipalities with more than 4000 residents. Requires the Tech Building Codes & Standards Board to adopt, amend and maintain an individual uniform statewide building code and a uniform statewide energy code that municipalities up to 4000 residents may choose to adopt. If a municipality with up to 4000 residents chooses to adopt a building code or an energy code it must adopt the statewide version adopted by the Tech Building Codes and Standards Board, or it may adopt the entire MUBEC. A municipality with up to 4000 residents may choose to have no code.)

TESTIMONY by Steve Rich

Category State & Local Government

LD # 1460

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/4/11 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-175

LAW # Public Law Chapter 245

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Concerning the Recording of Plans for Subdivisions. (Sen. Thomas, Somerset) (State & Local Government Comm) (Requires a municipality to allow at least 90 days to record a subdivision plan, plat or document after municipal approval.)(Amendment adds a fiscal note.)

Category Taxation

LD # 52

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/15/11 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Dedicate a Percentage of the Sales and Use Tax on Motor Vehicles and Motor Vehicle Parts to the Highway Fund. (Rep. Cebra, Naples) (Taxation Comm) (This bill provides that 20% of the sales or use tax on motor vehicles and motor vehicle parts must be transferred to the Highway Fund beginning in 2012.)

Category Taxation

LD # 742

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/15/11 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority-OTP-AM/Minority-ONTP

AMENDMENT # S-89, S-116 (Appropriations Table)

LAW # Public Law Chapter 453

ARCH. POSITION: Proponent

ENG. POSITION: Proponent

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Eliminate the Sunset Date of the Maine Historic Preservation Tax Credit. (Sen. Rector, Knox) (Taxation Comm) (The amendment replaces the bill, which eliminated the sunset for the Maine historic preservation tax credit and changes the title. **NEW TITLE: An Act To Amend the Maine Historic Preservation Tax Credit.** Extends the sunset date to 2023. Allows insurance companies investing in historic pres project to receive credit. Requires the Treasurer of State to first credit \$245,160 in FY 2013 and \$1,879,560 in FY 2014-15 of the revenues available for the state share of the proceeds from the real estate transfer tax to the General Fund, after which the Treasurer pays any remaining revenues to the Maine State Housing Authority, which deposits the funds in the Housing Opportunities for Maine Fund.)
Testimony given by Mike Pullen, AIA
Testimony given by Rip Patten for ACEC of Maine

Category Transportation

LD # 697

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/14/11 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Approved

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide Funding for the Maine Gateway Bridges. (Rep. Beavers, So. Berwick) (Transportation Comm) (This bill includes an ongoing allocation of \$5,500,000 to the DOT, Highway and Bridge Capital program in fiscal years 2011-12 and 2012-13 to provide funding for the replacement, repair and maintenance of the 3 bridges between Kittery, Maine, and Portsmouth, NH: Memorial Bridge, U.S. Route 1; Sarah Mildred Long Bridge, U.S. Route 1 Alternate; and Piscataqua River Bridge, Interstate 95. this funding may not be used for any other purposed. Beginning with the 2014-15 biennium, and each subsequent biennium, this amount must be included within the baseline Highway Fund allocation. The bill also requires the State comply with the funding recommendations of the Bi-State Bridge Funding Task Force.)

Category Transportation

LD # 1024

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/5/11 2:00 PM Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-203

LAW # Public Law Chapter 126

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Land Surveyors. (Rep. McCabe, Skowhegan) (Transportation Comm) (This bill restores the 2-zone coordinate system for land surveyors.)(The amendment strikes and replaces the bill and restores in law the original systems of plane coordinates established by the National Ocean Survey and the National Geodetic Survey The amendment recognizes the Maine 2000 West Zone and Maine 2000 East Zone established by the State and recognized by the National Geodetic Survey and National Ocean Survey.)

Category Transportation

LD # 1348

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/26/11 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-622

LAW # Public Law Chapter 392

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, Highway Fund and Other Funds, and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2012, and June 30, 2013. (Rep. Cebra, Naples) (Governor's Bill) (**Emergency**) (Tran Comm) (Among other changes, it transfers funds from the Highway Fund unallocated surplus to the TransCap Trust Fund in an amount equal to the savings from changing the General Fund and Highway Fund matching ratio. Allows transfers of non-bond funds from the TransCap Trust Fund to be used for capital projects having an estimated useful life of 5 years. This allows the funds to be used for light capital paving in an attempt to meet the goal of 600 mi per year. Authorizes the State Controller to transfer amounts exceeding \$100,000 from the unallocated balance in the Highway Fund to Highway & Bridge Capital etc..)

Category Transportation

LD # 1538

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/10/11 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-354, S-271

LAW # Public Law Chapter 302

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

Archived NO

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Maine Turnpike Authority and To Implement Certain Recommendations of the Government Oversight Committee in the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability Report Concerning the Maine Turnpike Authority. (Rep. Cebra, Naples) (Transportation Comm) (After Deadline) (Requires the authority annually to transfer to the DOT an amount equal to 5% of the authority's operating revenues, less any funds spent by the authority on dept projects bonds issued for the benefit of the dept and on transportation projects funded jointly with the dept. The transferred fund may be spent by dept only on projects that are within 25 miles of an interchange. Requires, except in certain specified instances, that contracts for goods and services must be awarded by the authority through a competitive procurement process. Requires bond indentures to appoint an eng consultant.)