
Category Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry
LD # 474
PUBLIC HEARING: 4/22/09 9:30 AM Rm206CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION:
AMENDMENT #
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Clarify Land Planning in the Unorganized and Deorganized Townships. (Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry) (This bill clarifies and amends the process by which the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission adopts a comprehensive land use plan for the unorganized and deorganized townships of the State.)

Category Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry
LD # 1047
PUBLIC HEARING: 4/22/09 9:30 AM Rm206CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION:
AMENDMENT #
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Review and Approval Process of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. (Rep. Clark, Millinocket) (Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry Comm)(Emergency) (Requires that a comprehensive land use plan to be adopted by the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission and approved by the the Leg committee overseeing conservation matters. Current law requires that the Maine LURC adopt and the Governor approve a comprehensive land use plan.

Category Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry
LD # 1133
PUBLIC HEARING: 4/8/09 1:00 PM Rm206CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION:
AMENDMENT #
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Commission To Study the Protection of Farms and Farmland.(Sen. Nutting, Androscoggin for Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry Comm) (Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry Comm) (Part B requires projects and development subject to review and approval under the MRS, Title 38 to also be reviewed for impact on farmland when the project or development is funded in whole or in part with federal or state funds. This bill directs the State Board of Education to amend the Dept's rule governing the siting of new schools to require consideration of farmland in siting decisions.)

Category Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

LD # 1370

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/22/09 9:30 AM Rm206CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Reform the Land Use and Planning Authority within the Unorganized Territories of the State.) (Rep. Joy, Crystal) (Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry Comm) (this bill eliminates the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission, effective July 15, 2010, and directs the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission prior to its elimination to develop a plan to provide authority over land use planning in the unorganized territory to the counties in which the land is located. The Maine LURC is required to submit its proposal and transfer of its duties to the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Comm by December 2, 2009.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 10

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor**

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Wastewater Treatment Facilities and Drinking Water Programs. (Rep. Flood, Winthrop)(Appropriations Comm) (The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$11,100.00, to be expended over 3 years, will be used to fund drinking water programs and wastewater treatment facilities.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 153

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION: Monitor**

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Land for Maine's Future Board. (Rep. Flood, Winthrop) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (The funds provided by the bond issue, in the amount of \$30,000,000, will be used to recapitalize the Land for Maine's Future Fund over two years to continue the State's land conservation efforts, leveraging a minimum of \$15,000,000 in required matching funds.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 214

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/11/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION: Monitor**

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Economic Recovery. (Rep. Giles, Belfast) (Emergency) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$20,000,000, will be used to increase two Finance Authority of Maine business programs, a direct loan program and a loan insurance program, by \$10,000,000 each to assist businesses facing loss or revenues and that require business restructuring.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 222

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION: Monitor**

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve State Parks. (Sen. Goodall, Sagadahoc) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$15,000,000, will be used to improve facilities at state parks.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 280

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/11/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue or Repairs to Traditional Meetinghouses. (Rep. Schatz, Blue Hill) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$2,500,000, will be used for the repair of traditional meetinghouses in the State, such as grange halls, community houses and other traditional public areas of gathering in a community.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 369

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/11/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Rebuild a Bulkhead and Wharf at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute. (Rep. Eberle, South Portland) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (Bond issue funds in the amount of \$2,200,000 to be added to other funds already secured to rebuild a bulkhead and wharf at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute. Completion of this project by December 1, 2009, is the final requirement of the institute's acquisition of its site from the U.S. Coast Guard.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 418

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Facilitate the Development of Ocean Wind Power. (Rep. Clark, Millinocket) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (This bill includes an appropriation of \$200,000 to the State Planning Office in FY 2009-10 and 2010-11 to provide fund to the Gulf of Maine Research Institute to organize meetings of marine stakeholders along the coast of the State regarding the development of ocean wind energy.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 439

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/11/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION: Monitor**

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Research and Development To Stimulate Maine's Innovation Economy. (Rep. Cain, Orono) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) This bill implements a recommendation of the Joint Select Committee on Research, Economic Development and the Innovation Economy that was partially implemented in the 122nd Legislature. The bill authorizes a bond issue of up to \$50,000,000 per year for each of the next 4 years totaling up to \$200,000,000 to be used for competitive grants to stimulate economic growth and job creation through investments in research and development and commercialization.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 472

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 2:00 PM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION: Monitor**

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Energy Conservation. (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$50,000,000, will be used for low-interest loans for energy conservation in private homes.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 507

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/11/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION: Monitor**

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Construction of a Multiuse Arena in Bangor. (Sen. Perry, Penobscot) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$25,000,000, will be used to provide funds to build a multiuse convention arena in the City of Bangor.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 684

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION: Monitor**

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Finance the Acquisition of Land and Interest in Land for Public Land and Water Access, Conservation, Wildlife and Fish Habitats, Outdoor Recreation Including Hunting and Fishing and Farmland Preservation and to Access Matching Contributions from Public and Private Sources. (Sen. Diamond, Cumberland) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (the funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$87,500,000, will be used to recapitalize the Land for Maine's Future program over 4 years to continue the State's land conservation efforts, leveraging a minimum of \$43,750,000 in required matching funds.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 709

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 2:00 PM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION: Monitor**

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Weatherize and Upgrade the Energy Efficiency of Maine Homes and Businesses and To Provide a Trained Workforce. (Rep. Hinck, Portland) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$60,000,000, will be used to support weatherization and other energy efficiency improvements for Maine homes, businesses and public buildings. Funds are also provided to expand the workforce for weatherization and energy efficiency services and other parts of the economy.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 770

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/11/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION: Monitor**

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Research and Development. (Sen. Bartlett, Cumberland) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (Funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$75,000,000, will be used to provide funds for research and development. Proceeds of the bonds to be expended under the direction and supervision of the Department of Economic and Community Development (Office of Innovation).)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 775

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/11/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION: Monitor**

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund the Communities for Maine's Future Program. (Sen. President Mitchell, Kennebec) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (Part A of this bill is a General Fund bond issue for \$27,000,000 to fund the Communities for Maine's Future Fund, which is established in Part B. Part C of the bill enacts legislation to assist the communities in accessing the funds. Part D enacts the Historic Preservation Revolving Fund.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 776

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION: Monitor**

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Land for Maine's Future Board. (Rep. Adams, Portland) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$40,000,000, will be used to provide funds for a 2-year distribution of \$20,000,000 each year to secure public access to Maine's land and water resources or to ensure quality and availability of natural resources important to Maine people.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 810

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/12/09 3:00 PM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for School Construction and Renovation Projects That Demonstrate Cost Savings. (Sen President Mitchell, Kennebec) (The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$20,000,000, will be used to provide funds for the design and planning of projects and their construction and renovation. The projects must best demonstrate significant cost savings through innovative partnerships, consolidation efforts and efficiency improvements in school districts, leveraging 25% in required matching funds.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 858

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 2:00 PM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION: Monitor**

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Energy Investments for Maine's Future. (Rep. Van Wie, New Gloucester) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (The funds provided by his bond issue, in the amount of \$28,000,000, will be used to provide for investments in renewable energy technologies and energy conservation projects.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 895

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/12/09 3:00 PM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Renovate Classrooms, Laboratories and Other Essential Teaching and Learning Facilities in the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System. (Rep. Cain, Orono) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$93,510,000, will be used to modernize and improve the teaching laboratories, libraries and general classrooms and perform energy efficiency upgrades and repairs in the University of Maine System and Maine Community College System.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 910

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 2:00 PM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Promote Sustainable Green Housing. (Speaker Pingree, North Haven) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (The \$25,000,000 provided by this bond issue will be used to provide funds to promote sustainable environmentally friendly housing by assisting with both building new housing and rehabilitating existing housing.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 911

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/11/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Affordable Housing. (Rep. Adams, Portland) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$20,000,000, will be used to provide funds for low-interest loans for construction of new homes.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 912

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/11/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Capital Projects for Hospitals. (Rep. Schatz, Blue Hill) (Appropriations & Financial Affairs Comm) (This proposed bond issues provides \$100,000,000 to be used for capital projects for hospitals and capital projects for hospital-based research and development.)

Category Appropriations & Financial Affairs

LD # 913

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 9:00 AM Rm 228 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor**

ENG. POSITION: Monitor**

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Authorize Bond Issues for Ratification by the Voters for the Nov 2009 and June 2010 Elections. (Speaker Pingree, No. Haven) (Gov's Bill) (A & FA Comm) (For Nov 09 referendum includes \$127,810,000 bond issue for improvements to highways and bridges, airports, public transit facilities, ferry and port facilities; \$52,000,000 for bldg renovations at campuses of U ME System, Community College System, ME Maritime and New Century Community Program; \$51,500,000 energy-related projects; and \$67,500,000 for R&D and redev of Brunswick Naval Air Station. June 2010 referendum to include \$3,000,000 for natural resource & environmental quality in agriculture; \$18,000,000 State's land conservation/\$3,000,000 working waterfront/\$2,000,000 to create Historic Pres Revolving Fund to be matched by \$23,000,000 in private & public contributions. \$17,400,000 for grants & loans for construction of waste water treatment facilities & public H2O systems.)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev

LD # 1

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Tabled

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Stimulate Capital Investment for Innovative Businesses in Maine. (Sen. Mills, Somerset) (BRED Comm) (The bill is modeled on statutes of other states, It authorizes the establishment of the Maine Fund of Funds within the Small Enterprise Growth Board for the purpose of increasing the availability of venture capital to the Maine economy. The goal of the fund is to create investments in the Maine economy, which is broadly described as including the development of intellectual capital as well as job creation.)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev

LD # 11

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/5/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-15

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, To Encourage the Preservation of Dark Skies. (Rep. Schatz, Blue Hill) (BRED Comm) (This Resolve directs the State Planning Office to establish uniform state standards for new commercial construction and the lighting of the outside surrounding space to limit light pollution and encourage the preservation of the areas natural state.)(Amendment replaces resolve and directs the State Planning Office to review existing commercial outdoor lighting standards and make recommendations on standard language that will limit light pollution and encourage the preservation of the area's natural state, as well as identify policy options for promoting outdoor lighting standards for commercial development findings to be reported to the BRED Committee by January 15, 2010)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev

LD # 91

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/17/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-91

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act to Fund the Maine Downtown Center. (Rep. Watson, Bath) (BRED Comm) (The bill includes ongoing General Fund Appropriations of \$75,000 per year to recapitalize the downtown center.) (Amendment incorporates a fiscal note)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev

LD # 93

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/5/09 1:00 PM Rm208SCOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Construction Contracts. (Rep. Crockett, Augusta) (BRED Comm) (This bill requires that any action commenced by a contractor or subcontractor to recover payments pursuant to the terms of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, chapter 201-A for work performed pursuant to a home construction contract under title 10, chapter 219-A must be brought in the county in this State where the construction is located.)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev
LD # 156
PUBLIC HEARING: 2/10/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM
AMENDMENT # S-14, S-15
LAW # Public Law Ch. 44
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Protect Consumers from the unlicensed Practice of a Trade or Profession. (Rep. Connor, Kennebunk) (BRED Comm) (This bill increases the civil penalty for the unlicensed practice of a trade or profession from not less than \$100 and not more than \$2,000 to not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000.) (Amendment, S-14 decreases the min and max penalties as proposed in the bill from a min of \$1000 to \$200 and a max of \$5000 to \$2500. Amendment S-15 provides that the penalty applies only if the unlicensed person received payment of \$1000 or more for a service performed.)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev
LD # 215
PUBLIC HEARING: 2/10/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass
AMENDMENT #
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Regarding the Practice of Professional Engineering without a License. (Rep. Boland, Sanford) (BRED Comm) (This bill authorizes the State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers with the assistance of the Attorney General to enforce provisions of the law regarding the practice of engineering without a license. It also imposes criminal penalties and increases the civil penalties for conducting engineering activities without a license)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev
LD # 272
PUBLIC HEARING: 3/24/09 9:30 AM Rm208CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Carry Over Request
AMENDMENT #
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To License Home Building and Improvement Contractors. (Rep. MacDonald, Boothbay) (BRED Comm) (This bill creates the Maine Home Contractor Licensing Act. The bill contains provisions concerning: requirements for licensure of general contractors and persons who perform framing, roofing, siding insulating, window work or chimney work, if the work concerns residential dwellings; certain specific exemptions from licensure; required qualifications for general and specialty licenses; requirements for criminal and financial disclosures; creation of the Maine Home Contractor Licensing Board; and fees for licensing.)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev
LD # 347
PUBLIC HEARING: 2/17/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION:
AMENDMENT #
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Reduce Regulatory Costs for Maine Businesses. (Sen. Smith, Piscataquis) (This concept draft proposes to reduce regulatory costs for businesses in the State by establishing a council on private sector regulatory costs composed of private sector business leaders.)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev
LD # 440
PUBLIC HEARING: 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass
AMENDMENT #
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION: Oppose
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Regarding Exceptions to the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. (Rep. Crockett, Bethel) (BRED Comm) (This bill adds residential single family and 2-unit homes to the list of structures that are exempt from the requirements of the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code.)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev
LD # 500
PUBLIC HEARING: 3/3/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass
AMENDMENT #
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Include as Authorized Project Costs the Construction or Improvement of Buildings Used by Municipalities for Purposes of Designating Municipal Development Districts. (Sen. Schneider, Penobscot) (BRED Comm) (This bill includes the costs of construction or improvement of buildings leased by State Government or a municipal government that are located in downtown tax increment financing districts in authorized project costs of a development program.)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev
LD # 598
PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 2:30 PM Rm208CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass
AMENDMENT #
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION:
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Protect Private Enterprise from Tax-subsidized Competition by Imposing Requirements on Certain Postsecondary Institutions. (Sen. Gooley, Franklin) (BRED Comm) (Requires that state-supported postsecondary institutions obtain the same licenses, certification and registrations required of a private corporation or business that does not receive state financial assistance if the postsecondary institution competes with a private corporation or business that does not receive state financial assistance and obtain a seller's registration certificate.)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev
LD # 652
PUBLIC HEARING: 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM
AMENDMENT #
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Clarify the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. (Rep. Giles, Belfast) (BRED Comm) (Provides that a local ordinance is not inconsistent with the MUBEC if the local ordinance implements a provision of one of the nat'l codes upon which the MUBEC was based, but not included in MUBEC. Exempts municipalities that are enforcing the MUBEC through 3rd-party inspections from requiring the inspector of buildings to inspect construction for MUBEC compliance. Inspector of buildings may issue a certificate of occupancy upon receipt of inspection report by a certified 3-party inspector. Changes from June 1/10 to July 1/10, the date a municipality that has adopted a building code by Aug 1/08, must begin enforcement of MUBEC. Requires State Planning Office to publish a list by Jan 1/10, of those municipalities that must begin enforcement of MUBEC by Jul 1/10. Determining an enforcement date, life safety & fire codes not bldg codes)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev
LD # 937
PUBLIC HEARING: 4/2/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass
AMENDMENT #
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION:
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To License Septic System Installers. (Rep. Finch, Fairfield) (BRED Comm) (This bill establishes a septic system installer license for a person who wishes to install septic systems. The requirements of the license include being licensed as a plumber and carrying proper insurance) (Monitoring for MASE)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev
LD # 997
PUBLIC HEARING: 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM
AMENDMENT # H-127 (Fiscal Note for Staff)
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Clarify the Limits of the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. (Rep. Hinck, Portland) (BRED Comm) (Amends the laws governing the MUBEC to allow a municipality to voluntarily adopt and enforce an appendix to the code, the so-called "stretch energy code," that contains energy standards that exceed the energy conservation and efficiency requirements established by the code. The bill requires the Tech Bldg Codes & Standards Board within the Dept of Safety to adopt, amend and maintain no later than 7/1/10 an appendix to the code that contains energy conservation and efficiency requirements based on est nat'l voluntary efficiency standards that exceed the energy req of the code. It provides that the appendix be made available for vol adoptions by any municipality interested in adopting standards and that the board maintain a list of municipalities that have voluntarily adopted the appendix to the code on the board's publicly

Category Business, Research Economic Dev
LD # 1085
PUBLIC HEARING: 4/6/09 1:00 PM Rm209CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM
AMENDMENT #
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Concerning Dispute Resolution in Home Construction Contracts. (Sen. Mills, Somerset) (BRED Comm) (This bill amends the home construction contract laws to clarify what steps may be taken to resolve a dispute between the parties in the contract.)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev
LD # 1240
PUBLIC HEARING: 4/14/09 2:00 PM Rm208CSOB
COMMITTEE ACTION:
AMENDMENT #
LAW #
ARCH. POSITION: Monitor
ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, To License Wetland Scientists. (Rep. Eberle, South Portland)(BRED Comm) (Directs the Dept of Professional and Financial Regulation to develop a licensing protocol for wetland scientists in collaboration with the DEP and the Maine Association of Wetland Scientists and to report to the BRED Committee by December 2, 2009. This committee is authorized to introduce legislation related to this report to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev

LD # 1389

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Create State and Regional Quality of Place Investment Strategies for High-value Jobs, Products and Services in Maine. (Sen. Damon, Hancock) (Governor's Bill) (BRED Comm) (Establishes the Maine Quality of Place Council to act as a coordinating body for state and regional quality of place investment strategies. It will award annually Maine Quality of Place Prosperity Awards recognizing the preservation, enhancing and marketing of Maine's quality of place assets to stimulate job creation and economic prosperity. Requires the State Planning Office to provide assistance to the Council, engage in public education regarding asset-based investment strategies and work with regional planning and development districts to aid them in development of regional quality of place investment strategies.)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev

LD # 1394

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/16/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Modify the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program. (Rep. Smith, Monmouth) (BRED Comm) (Submitted by FAME) (The bill increases the amount that a cooperation may received from \$2,500,000 to \$3,500,00. It amends the descriptions of eligible projects and expands eligibility to entities to June 30,2010. It increases the number of employees from 5 or fewer to 10 or fewer.)

Category Business, Research Economic Dev

LD # 1413

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/16/09 1:00 PM Rm208CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, To Implement Select Recommendations of the Joint Select Committee on Future Maine Prosperity. (Rep. Cohen, Portland) (BRED Comm) (Emergency) (It establishes the Commission To Improve the Business Climate in order to study all aspects of advancing the State's business climate through improving the efficiency, effectiveness and consistency of the State's regulatory systems, as well as improving the relationships between regulators and the regulated community. The Commission is required to submit a report to the BRED Comm and introduce a bill related to the subject matter to the second session of the 124 Legislature.)

Category Criminal Justice & Public Safety

LD # 53

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/25/09 10:00 Rm 436 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Permit the Use of a Common Flue for Oil and Solid Fuel Burning Equipment. (Rep. Martin) (Criminal Justice & Public Safety) (The bill prohibits the Commissioner of Public Safety and the Oil and Solid Fuel Board from adopting rules that prohibit the use of a common chimney flue for 2 appliances using different fuels.)

Category Criminal Justice & Public Safety

LD # 550

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/6/09 10:00 Rm 436 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Protect Maine Residents fro Home Fires and Carbon Monoxide. (Sen. Diamond, Cumberland) (Criminal Justice & Public Safety Comm) (The bill requires that all single-family dwellings and multiapartment buildings sold in the State and newly constructed single-family dwellings have photoelectric-only-type smoke detectors and at least one carbon monoxide detector in an area within or giving access to a bedroom. The detectors in multifamily dwellings and newly constructed single-family dwellings must be powered by both the electrical service in the building and by battery.)

Category Criminal Justice & Public Safety

LD # 1224

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/27/09 10:00 Rm 436 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Regarding the Operation of County Jails and the State Board of Corrections. (Rep. Crockett, Augusta) (Criminal Justice & Public Safety Comm) (Clarifies that a public or private correctional construction project may not proceed without a certificate of need issued by the board.)

Category Criminal Justice & Public Safety

LD # 1242

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/1/09 10:00 Rm 436 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Streamline the Regulatory Process for Commercial Building Construction Projects. (Rep. Haskell, Portland) (Criminal Justice & Public Safety Comm)(Emergency) (Provides for the delegation of fire code permitting authority from the Dept of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal to municipalities. Amends the law concerning certain public building projects for which the Dept of Public Safety provides plan reviews. Amends the laws concerning project permits to allow the option of municipal review for those projects. It creates a new section of law that outlines the circumstances that need to be satisfied before the Commissioner of Public Safety delegates permitting authority to a municipality. Also amends the law in order to adjust the payment of the current 5 cent plan review fee that is paid to the Dept. It requires that if a municipality issues the permit, the municipality receives 4 cents per sq foot & Dept receives 1 cent per sq foot.)

Category Education & Cultural Affairs

LD # 358

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/26/09 1:00 PM Rm202CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Tabled

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, Requiring the Department of Education To Amend Rules Relating to School Construction. (Sen. Mills, Somerset) (Education & Cultural Affairs Comm) (The resolves states that the Department of Education shall amend its rules pertaining to school construction eligibility and approval process to include language that requires as a condition for approval of eligibility for state funding that the applicant unit shall demonstrate that the proposed solution is equal to or better than other options after taking into account all resources and facilities within the region, including those that are reasonably available room other educational units.)_

Category Education & Cultural Affairs

LD # 465

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/26/09 1:00 PM Rm202CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend Maine's School Construction Laws To Reduce the Percentage for Art to 0.5%. (Sen. Plowman, Penobscot) (Education & Cultural Affairs Comm) This bill decreases from 1% to 0.5% the percentage of the cost of a school construction project that must be spent on art.)

Category Education & Cultural Affairs

LD # 1101

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/4/09 1:00 PM Rm202CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, To Understand and Assist in Efforts To Promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Education. (Sen. Schneider, Penobscot) (Education & Cultural Affairs Comm) (Directs the Dept of Education to collect information on science, technology, engineering and math initiatives in consultation with public and private partnerships, businesses, pilot projects and nonprofit and other organizations that are already working with science, technology, engineering and math issues by November 1/09. The dept shall focus on finding ways to inspire young people in K-12 grades to become interested in science, technology, engineering and math areas of education; to find funding sources; to encourage students to enter into these fields; to raise the level of education in these areas; and to integrate the information that the dept collects into current curricula to avoid additional work for all involved. Submit leg to the 2nd session of the 124th.)

Category Health & Human Services

LD # 1260

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/29/09 1:00 PM Rm209CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the 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 governing the conversion of nursing facility beds to residential care beds to permit such conversions as long as the terms of the conversion are approved by the Dept of Health and Human Services under applicable provisions permitting transfers that are MaineCare-neutral in their overall impact.)

Category Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

LD # 1237

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/30/09 1:00 PM Rm206CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Modify Maine's Fishway Laws. (Sen Damon, Hancock) (Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Comm) (Includes the Commissioner of Marine Resources with the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in the laws governing fishways in dams, including a decision whether to initiate a fishway proceeding to consider the construction, repair or alteration of fishways in existing dams or other artificial obstructions and in a decision as to what action, if any, to order as a result of such a proceeding.)

Category Insurance & Financial Services

LD # 290

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/16/09 9:30 AM Rm 427 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Allow Maine Residents To Purchase Health Insurance fro Out-of-state Insurers. (Rep. McKane, Newcastle) (Insurance & Financial Services Comm) (This bill permits out-of-state health insurers to offer their individual and group health plans for sale in this State if certain requirements of Maine law are met including minimum capital and surplus and reserve requirements, disclosure and reporting requirements and grievance procedures. It also permits Maine health insurers to offer individual health plans of out-of-state parent or subsidiary health insurers if similar requirements are met.)

Category Insurance & Financial Services

LD # 1002

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/13/09 1:00 PM Rm 427 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, To Conduct an Updated Study of the Feasibility of Establishing a Single-payor Health Care System in the State. (Rep. Beaudoin, Biddeford) (Insurance & Financial Services Comm) (Requires the Legislative Council to contract for an update to a 2002 study of the feasibility of establishing a single-payor health plan in the State. The update is contingent on the successful securing of outside funding by Aug 1/09. The updated study must be submitted to the 2nd regular session of the 124th Legislature during which the Insurance & Financial Services Comm may submit legislation based on the updated study.)

Category Insurance & Financial Services

LD # 1365

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/17/09 1:00 PM Rm 427 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Establish a Single-payer Health Care System. (Rep. Priest, Brunswick) (Insurance & Financial Services Comm) (Establishes a universal access health care system that offers a choice of coverage through organized deliver systems or through a managed care system operated by the Maine Health Care Agency and channels all health care dollars through a dedicated trust fund. Establishes a 7.5% payroll tax on wages and earnings, including self-employed earnings, and dedicates that tax revenue to the Maine Health Care Trust Fund.)

Category Judiciary

LD # 301

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION: Leave to Withdraw

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Require Home Sellers To Disclose Energy Usage Data. (Sen. Simpson, Androscoggin) (Judiciary Comm) (This concept draft would require that a home seller provide to a prospective home buyer a listing of typical utility and energy use for that home, including but not limited to electricity use and home heating and hot water heating energy sources and their use.)

Category Judiciary

LD # 882

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/2/09 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Tabled

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Consolidate and Modernize Maine's Courts. (President Mitchell, Kennebec) (Judiciary Comm) (This bill increases the maximum amount of securities that may be issued by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority for specific allocation to the judicial branch. The increase will be used to fund projects for court facilities in Augusta, Dover-Foxcroft and Machias.)

Category Labor

LD # 27

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/5/09 1:00 PM Rm220CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Definition of Employment for Purposes of Unemployment Compensation. (Rep. Flood) (Labor Comm) (Under current law, an employment relationship exists and unemployment insurance coverage is required unless all three parts of the so-called "ABC test" can be demonstrated. This bill limits application of the ABC test to situations in which the individual has performed services for a total of no less than 16 hours.)

Category Labor

LD # 658

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/19/09 1:00 PM Rm220CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority OTP-AM/Minority ONTP

AMENDMENT # H-121

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Require United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration Training for Government Construction Contracts. (Rep. Wright, Berwick) (Labor Comm) (Requires that a contractor or subcontractor entering into a public works contract that is for \$100,000 or more provide proof of documentation demonstrating that all nonexempt employees working on that project have completed a construction safety program, no shorter than 10 hours in duration, approved by the US Dept of Labor, OSHA. Exempt employees include law enforcement officers involved in traffic control or work site security, flagging personnel, relevant federal, state and municipal gov't employees and inspectors and all individuals who are not considered to be on the work site under David-Bacon Act.) (Amendment clarifies that bill applies only to those works entered into on or after July 1/2010. Also amends the penalties and enforcement provision)

Category Labor

LD # 1092

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/16/09 1:00 PM Rm220CSPB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Improve Worksite Accountability for Public Construction Projects by Requiring Subcontractor Identification. (Rep. Tuttle, Sanford) (Labor Comm) (This bill requires a general contractor on a project undertaken with public funds to provide the public agency with a list of all independent contractors and subcontractors on the job site and the names of their workers' compensation insurers. The list must be posted on the job site and the agency's website and updated weekly. The bill also establishes penalties.)

Category Labor

LD # 1185

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/9/09 1:00 PM Rm220CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Require Cause for Employment Termination. (Sen. Craven, Androscoggin) (Labor Comm) (Enacts the Maine Employment Termination Act applicable to employers employing 5 or more employees.)

Category Maine's Energy Future

LD # 556

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW # Resolve Ch. 1

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, Relating to Federal Stimulus Funds for Energy Programs. (Sen. Martin, Eagle Lake for the Maine's Energy Future Comm) (Emergency) (This resolve provides for legislative review and approval of state spending of expected federal economic stimulus funds designated for energy purposes.)

Category Maine's Energy Future

LD # 774

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/25/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Proponent

ENG. POSITION: Proponent

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Create Jobs and Improve Energy Efficiency through the Transformation of Maine's Housing Stock. (Sen. President Mitchell, Kennebec) (Maine's Energy Future Comm) (Emergency)(Establishes within the Maine State Housing Authority the Maine Energy, Housing & Economic Recovery Program to support the construction of multifamily affordable housing units; renovation of affordable housing units; and weatherization of owner-occupied residences. Authorizes the issuance of revenue bonds by the MSHA for purposes of the Program. The authority may have at any time an aggregate principal amount outstanding on such bonds of up to but not exceeding \$200,000,000. The authority is required to issue revenue bonds in the amount of at least \$30,000,000 in FY 2009-10 and an additional \$30,000,000 in FY 2010-11 and may issue additional amounts as appropriate for Program purposes.)

Category Maine's Energy Future

LD # 886

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/11/09 9:30 AM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Secure Maine's Energy Future. (Speaker Pingree, North Haven) (Establishes the Efficiency Maine Trust to provide a consolidated and integrated approach to the planning and administration of energy efficiency programs. Under this bill, the administration of the following is transferred to the Efficiency Maine Trust: (1) electric conservation and efficiency programs under the jurisdiction of the PUC; (2) natural gas conservation and efficiency programs under Title 35-A; (3) federal funds and programs for energy efficiency and weatherization; (4) a new Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative trust Fund, which replaces the Energy and Carbon Savings Trust; and (5) a new heating fuels efficiency and weatherization fee and fund program.)

Category Maine's Energy Future

LD # 955

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/25/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Transform the Maine Economy and Create Jobs. (President Mitchell, Kennebec) (Maine's Energy Future Comm) (Creates the Energy Trust Authority under the Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security. The purpose is to pursue and negotiate opportunities to transform the State into the greenest and healthiest state and create jobs through the State's transportation system and proposes to use the funds generated through the lease of state assets to support a revenue bond to fund: weatherization moving the State's energy use from fossil fuel to green energy (green electricity; expanding R&D into wind power (offshore wind; creation of a virtual medical school; and development of the privately funded East-West Highway and utility corridor among other proposals.)

Category Maine's Energy Future

LD # 1181

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/1/09 9:00 AM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Create Jobs through Investment in Green Energy. (Rep. Berry, Bowdoinham) (Maine's Energy Future Comm) (Comprehensive proposal includes the following (and more...)). Provides funding for cost-effective efficiency and renewable energy tech. Creates an energy efficiency entity called Efficiency Maine to administer a wide range of programs and to leverage private and federal funds. Raises efficiency standards for state-funded construction. Requires every bldg and industrial facility in the State, with limited exceptions, to get a thorough energy audit within the next 10 yrs. Raises efficiency standards for school construction, involves Efficiency Maine in the construction project approval process. Raises efficiency standards for low-income rental housing and county bldgs. Includes an application provision grandfathering already-approved construction projects of the State, counties, municipalities and schools for the new efficiency

Category Maine's Energy Future

LD # 1201

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/1/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Ac Regarding Energy Independence. (Rep. Martin, Eagle Lake) (Maine's Energy Future Comm) (Emergency) (Governor's Bill) (Establishes Efficiency Maine Plus as an independent authority with oversight responsibilities for energy efficiency and renewable energy programs for all fuels and the programs funded by revenue from the regional greenhouse gas initiative. Establishes a building weatherization program and creates an interagency task force that will focus on increasing the energy efficiency of state facilities.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 107

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/10/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # H-28 **(DEAD)**

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Change the Classification of Man-made Wetlands. (Rep. Thomas, Ripley) (Natural Resources Comm) (The bill exempts man-made wetlands from state regulation under the Natural Resources Protection Act unless the man-made wetlands were created in connection with a compensation project.)(Amendment incorporates a fiscal note.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 229

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/12/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # S-34 **(DEAD)**

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Promote Clean Waters in the State. (Sen. Nutting, Androscoggin) (Natural Resources Comm) (This bill prohibits the DEP from licensing a discharge of untreated sewage to any water of the State by a municipal or quasi-municipal sewerage system beginning January 1, 2013. It also provides that beginning January 1, 2013 a municipality that discharges untreated sewage to any water of the State may not receive state-municipal revenue sharing.) (Amendment adds a mandate preamble and an appropriations and allocations section.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 348

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/3/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-21

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Facilitate the Removal of Dams That Pose a Hazard to Public Safety and the Installation and Repair of Fishways. (Sen. Damon, Hancock) (Natural Resources Comm) (This bill amends the Natural Resources Protection Act to specify that a permit is not required for (1) erection, maintenance, repair or alternation of a fishway in a dam or other artificial obstruction when required by the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife or Comm of Marine Resources; (2) activity associated with the release of water from an abandoned dam by order of DEP; and (3) activity associated with the breach or removal of a dam pursuant to a dam safety order issued by the Comm of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management.) (Amendment amends the exemption for fishway proceedings in the bill to be consistent with the MRS Title 12)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 387

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION: Leave to Withdraw

AMENDMENT # (DEAD)

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Protect Groundwater and Surface Water from Contamination. (Rep. Duchesne, Hudson) (Natural Resources Comm) (This bill defines "offal." It also requires the Board of Environmental Protection to adopt rules relating to the composting of offal. The bill also limits the volume of offal that a hazardous waste site or facility may compost to 30 cubic yards in any 30-day period without the site's or facility's first obtaining a license.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 431

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/3/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Make the Site Location of Development Laws More Development Friendly. (Rep. Flinch, Fairfield) (Natural Resources Comm) (Current laws require state review of any proposed structure that would result in a total project occupying a ground area in excess of 3 acres. This 3-acre threshold for review includes areas that are stripped or graded and not revegetated within one calendar year. This bill extends from one year to 10 years the amount of time a developer has to revegetate stripped or graded areas before those areas can be included in calculating the 3-acre site law review threshold.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 460

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/3/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority OTP / Minority ONTP

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, To Evaluate Climate Change Adaptation Options for the State. (Sen. Simpson, Androscoggin) (Submitted by DEP) (Natural Resources Comm) (This resolve directs the DEP to create a stakeholder group to evaluate the options available to Maine people and businesses for adapting to the most likely impacts of climate change and to focus on the climate impact assessment by the University of Maine that concluded that climate change is already occurring in the State as a result of increased levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere The DEP is to report recommendations, along with proposed legislation, to the Natural Resources Committee by February 27, 2010.)(The amendment removes the authorization of the DEP to accept public and private funds to pay the costs of preparing the report. Requires the Dept to complete the report within the existing resources of the Dept.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 476

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/17/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-56

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend Certain Laws Administered by the Department of Environmental Protection. (Sen. Goodall, Sagadahoc) (Natural Resources Comm) (Submitted by the DEP) (This housekeeping bill amends, authorizes and clarifies in many different areas such as recovering the cost of preparing and implementing a plan to restore natural resources damaged by the discharge of oil or hazardous matter from person responsible. Amending Maine's ambient air quality standards for particulate matter to make them consistent with national ambient air quality standards.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 501

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/4/09 9:30 AM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Ensure Maine's Energy Security and Reduce Dependence on Oil. (Sen. Perry, Penobscot) (Natural Resources Comm) (A concept draft setting aside 85% of revenues derived from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative to provide a tax exemption for purchases of building insulation among other programs. Also redirecting the focus of the PUC's Efficiency Maine program from electricity use reduction to energy use reduction.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 506

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/3/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Protect Public Safety and Provide for the Prudent Use of Landfill Capacity. (Sen. Schneider, Penobscot) (Natural Resources Comm) (Provides that a person may not deliver waste of any kind in a vehicle with a gross vehicle weight of more than 80,000 pounds to a solid waste disposal facility, solid waste facility, solid waste landfill or waste facility if that facility or landfill is owned by the State and has been expanded on or after Oct 1/2009. Also provides that the operator of the facility or landfill that has been expanded on or after the effective date of the Act and is owned by the State may not accept for delivery at that facility or landfill waste of any kind that has been hauled in a vehicle with a gross vehicle weight or more than 80,000 pounds. Requires the State Planning Office and DEP to determine the solid waste disposal capacity needs of the State as of January 1/2009.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 645

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/19/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide for Municipal Oversight and Authority over Groundwater Extraction. (Rep. Sarty, Denmark) (Natural Resources Comm) (Amends the law governing the authority of municipal officers to adopt regulations governing the surfaces uses of public water sources. It adds the authority to adopt regulations governing the extraction and removal of groundwater, spring water or water from aquifers. Also amends current law by authorizing municipal officers to regulate surface uses of land overlying groundwater aquifers and their recharge areas used as sources for private wells for domestic purposes. Also provides that if such a regulation is ratified by the legislative body of a municipality, the municipal officers must submit for approval an ordinance governing the pumping or extraction of groundwater, spring water or water from aquifers.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 646

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Improve the Water Quality of Maine's Rivers. (Rep. Bolduc, Auburn) (Natural Resources Comm) (Concept draft proposing to amend current law to prohibit all discharges from pulp and paper mills and municipalities into rivers in the State.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 663

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/19/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Clarify A Municipality's Authority To Pass Ordinances That Govern the Extraction of Groundwater. (Rep. Schatz, Blue Hill) (Natural Resources Comm) (This bill authorizes municipalities to adopt ordinances regulating groundwater extraction and makes it clear that the laws regarding the transport of water and the establishment of significant groundwater wells do not limit the authority of a municipality to adopt a groundwater extraction ordinance that is more stringent than state law.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 686

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/17/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Require Semiannual Testing in Certain Gavel Pits. (Sen. Bowman, York) (Natural Resources Comm) (This bill requires the DEP to biannually perform tests at each gravel pit to determine the presence of toxic substances in the soil, air and waters surrounding the site. It also requires the department to publish the results of the tests on the department's publicly accessible website and to submit the results to the municipality in which the site is located.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 723

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/19/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # S-51 (DEAD)

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, To Require the Department of Environmental Protection To Amend Its Rules for Hydropower Projects To Require a Detailed Cost-benefit Analysis. (Sen. Simpson, Androscoggin) (Natural Resources Comm) (This resolve requires the Department of Environmental Protection to amend its rules for hydropower projects to require a detailed cost-benefit analysis.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 746

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/17/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Lower the Cost of State Government in the Departments under the Purview of the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources. (Sen. Nutting, Androscoggin) (This bill eliminates the Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Innovation and Assistance and transfers the duties of that office to the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Innovation. This bill also eliminates funding for a total of 7 positions within the DEP, 5 of which are associated with the Office of Innovation and Assistance and 2 whose duties include serving as legislative liaisons for the department.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 759

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/24/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Tabled

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Require State-owned Solid Waste Disposal Facilities To Demonstrate a Public Benefit. (Rep. Duchesne, Hudson) (Natural Resources Comm) (Current law provides that certain landfills are exempt from demonstrating a significant public benefit, including landfills that are state-owned This bill removes the exemption for state-owned landfills.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 760

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/24/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Tabled

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Improve Landfill Capacity. (Rep. Duchesne, Hudson) (Natural Resources Comm) (A concept draft proposing to increase the availability of landfill space by either conserving capacity in current publicly owned landfills or allowing limited expansion of current privately owned landfills.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 837

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Protect Maine's Groundwater. (Rep. Adams, Portland) (Natural Resources Comm) (This bill provides that Maine people have the same common interest in groundwater as in fresh surface waters. It also provides that groundwater is due all the same protections as fresh surface waters in lakes and streams.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 860

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/24/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSPB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT #

LAW # Tabled

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Relating to Geothermal Heat Exchange Wells. (Rep. Eberle, South Portland) (Natural Resources Comm) (Geothermal heat exchange systems for the purposes of residential, commercial and institutional heating sources use particular types of geothermal heat exchange wells. This bill ensures that the boreholes for geothermal heat exchange wells are drilled appropriately and that groundwater quality and drinking water quality are protected. It provides the Maine Water Well Commission, which currently oversees well drillers, well drilling companies, pump installers and pump installation companies, with the oversight of geothermal heat exchange wells and geothermal heat exchange well drillers.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 871

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/24/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Facilitate Compliance with Solid Waste Management Rules. (Rep. Duchesne, Hudson) (Natural Resources Com) (It changes from major substantive to routine technical the designation of rules adopted by the DEP regarding solid waste processing facilities that generate residue requiring disposal. It directs the DEP to submit by 1/11/10 a report to the Natural Resources Comm regarding rules implementing the MRS, Title 38, section 1310-N, subsection 5, paragraph B. Also directs the DEP to investigate recycling technologies and practices as they relate to certain materials. Prohibits issuance of a license for new or expanded solid waste disposal facilities that accept residue from construction and demolition debris recycling until rules are in effect implementing the DEP's report. Prohibits issuance of a license for new or expanded solid waste disposal facilities until rules are in effect implementing the DEP's report regarding solid waste odor management.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 891

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/24/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Site Location of Development Laws To Include Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions. (Sen Goodall, Sagadahoc for the DEP) (Natural Resources Comm) (This bill adds a new standard to the laws governing site location of development to allow the DEP to review and consider the greenhouse gas emissions likely to occur as a result of the project. Also provides a related provision concerning mitigation.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 956

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/9/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Tabled

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Provide Constitutional Protection of the Funds Generated by the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. (Rep. Adams, Portland) (Natural Resources Comm) (This resolution proposes to amend the Maine Constitution to ensure that all revenues derived from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative be expended solely to support the goals and implementation of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 1011

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Improve Solid Waste Disposal Quality. (Rep. Hanley, Gardiner) (Natural Resources Comm) (This bill prohibits a solid waste disposal facility from landfilling or incinerating solid waste if the waste has not been sorted in accordance with rules adopted by the DEP. It also prohibits the transport of solid waste from a solid waste disposal facility if the waste has not been tested in accordance with department rules.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 1267

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/10/09 10:00 Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Establish a Groundwater Withdrawal Program and To Recognize Groundwater as a Public Trust Resource. (Rep. Campbell, Newfield) (Natural Resources Comm) (The bill is based on Vermont law. It declares the State's groundwater to be a public trust resource. It sets up reporting and permitting requirements for large groundwater withdrawals and repeals current Maine law regarding reporting of groundwater withdrawals and permitting of significant groundwater wells. It requires site law review for certain groundwater withdrawals of more than 230,000 gallons per day.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 1268

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/14/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act to Update the Site Location of Development Laws. (Rep. Duchesne, Hudson) (Natural Resources Comm) (It eliminates the definition of "significant ground water aquifer." It eliminates the exceptions for a lot of 40 or more acres in the definition of "subdivision." It changes the exception for a sale or lease of a lot to an abutter in the def of "subdivision" by clarifying that the lot may not be further divided or transferred within a 5-year period, except as otherwise provided. It changes the exception for a common lot created with a conservation easement in the def of "subdivision." It removes the req that the lot be a common lot and adds the requirement that the conservation easement be approved by the DEP. It makes changes to a provision addressing approval of future dev sites to refocus it on long-term construction projects. It provides a one-time requirement concerning provisions in the site location & dev & storm water management requiring registration of municipalities...)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 1269

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/10/09 10:00 Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Clarify the Laws Regarding Significant Groundwater Wells. (Rep. Hill, York) (Natural Resources Comm) (Clarifies that the definition of "significant groundwater well" in the Natural Resources Protection Act includes public water systems or portions of public water systems that bottle water for sale or provide water to be bottled for sale as determined by the DEP. The bill also adds dewatering of a mining operation to the definition of "significant groundwater well.")

Category Natural Resources

LD # 1282

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/17/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Protect and Enhance Maine Marine Fisheries. (Sen. Damon, Hancock) (Natural Resources Comm) (Specifies that the DEP may issue water quality certification for a dam used to generate hydroelectric power only if the dam provides safe and effective passage for all diadromous fish indigenous to the body of water on which the dam is located. Expands the grounds for which the Board of Environmental Protection may modify, revoke or suspend a license to include that the licensed discharge or activity is causing a violation of the water quality classification system. Directs the BEP to modify the water quality certification of dams used to generate hydroelectric power in the State to condition water quality certification on the agreement by the dam to provide safe and effective passage for all diadromous fish species indigenous to the water body on which the dam is located and within the historic ranges of those fish species.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 1310

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/10/09 10:00 Rm214CSPB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, to Establish the Blue Ribbon Commission To Examine the Legal and Policy Implications of Groundwater Extraction. (Rep. Webster, Freeport) (Natural Resources Comm) (Emergency) (Establishes a commission to study the legal and policy implications of groundwater extraction in the State and to recommend any changes to state law necessary to balance the State's interest in protecting the public good and maintaining jurisdictional control over environmental impacts with protecting the rights of property owners.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 1332

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/17/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Continue Coverage of Oil Clean-up Costs and Improve Administration of the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund. (Rep Duchesne, Hudson) (Submitted by the DEP) (Natural Resources Comm) (It eliminates the Dec 31, 2010, sunset date on the provisions of law that insure owners and operators of oil storage tanks against the cost of cleaning up tank leaks and authorize the DEP to pay those costs, up to \$1,000,000 per incident, from the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund. Authorizes the use of restrictive covenants and other land use controls to minimize the risk of human exposure to residual contamination on property that has suffered an oil discharge. Requires aboveground oil storage facilities that have been out of service for more than 12 months to be abandoned in accordance with rules adopted by the Board of Environmental Protection.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 1333

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/14/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Establish Climate and Energy Planning in Maine. (Speaker Pingree, North Haven) (Natural Resources Comm) (Creates the Climate & Energy Planing Act of 2009. Requires analysis of the climate effects on and resulting from state planning decisions. Requires state planning decisions to be consistent with the State's greenhouse gas emission reduction goals as established in MRS, Title 38. Requires DEP to undertake same analysis and ensure that application for and issuing licenses, permits or other approval for developments or subdivisions, waste discharges, air emission and discharges subject to state certification under the federal Clean water Act. DEP directed to proposed to the Legislature a fee schedule to cover its costs in administering. Also allows DEP to establish waivers and requires DEP to establish a list of qualified greenhouse gas emission reduction measures ...)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 1399

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/17/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Concerning Water Quality in Watersheds. (Rep. Tilton, Harrington) (Natural Resources Comm) (Creates the Clean Shores Fund with the DEP to provide a funding source for grants to municipalities and other entities to identify and abate pollution in shellfish growing areas and to pay the Personal Services cost for 3 employees within the Dept of Marine Resources . The dedicated revenue for the Clean Shores Fund is established through surcharges on the installation of new sewer systems and the municipal combined sewer overflow and overboard discharges and on sewer utilities based on the number of ratepayers. Also requires the DEP to consider bacteria and viral standards when issuing waste discharge licenses to ensure that shellfish harvesting is protected.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 1423

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/30/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Improve Toxics Use Reduction and Reduce Energy Costs by Maine Businesses. (Rep. Treat, Hallowell) (Natural Resources Comm) (Submitted by the DEP) (The bill amends the toxic use and hazardous waste reduction laws administered by the DEP. It modernizes the statewide toxics use, toxics release and hazardous waste reduction goals by establishing a goal of zero discharge by 2050 and charges the Pollution Prevention Advisory Committee with establishing a schedule and process for continual progress toward tis goal. It sets forth a procedure to add anew facilities or new chemical or classes of chemical to the provisions of the law. It includes the State's greenhouse gas reduction goals and encourages facilities to meet those goals and eliminates the requirement that facilities use an activity production index when filing the pollution prevention plan.)

Category Natural Resources

LD # 1434

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/17/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Regarding Asbestos Abatement Work. (Sen. Craven, Andreoscoggin) (Natural Resources Comm) (Submitted by the DEP) (Clarifies that person engaged in an activity affecting more than 3 square feet or 3 linear feet of any absestos-containing material are subject to licensing, certification, notification and work practice requirements administered by the DEP. Increases the maximum fee that may be changed by the DEP to license or certify asbestos professionals, and increases the maximum fee that must be paid when notifying the DEP of asbestos abatement activity.)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 273

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/1/09 10:00 Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Require a Regional Review of Projects that Affect Areas Outside of the Community in Which the Project Is Proposed. (Rep. MacDonald, Boothbay) (BRED Comm) (This bill is a concept draft that proposes to have a regional review of a project if the project will have an adverse effect on more than the community in which the project will be located.)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 327

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/23/09 1:00 PM Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Strengthen Maine Small Business by Establishing a Preference Percentage of State Contract Bids. (Rep. Butterfield, Bangor) (State & Local Government Comm) (This bill requires the Director of the Bureau of General Services within the Dept. of Administrative and Financial Services to adopt rules establishing a preference percentage of up to 155 for Maine small businesses bidding for state contracts. The rules are routine technical rules.)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 448

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/1/09 10:00 Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Modify the Informed Growth Act. (Rep. Beaudette, Biddeford) (State & Local Government Comm) (This bill exempts a municipality that has adopted a review process for large-scale retail development applications that include economic and community impacts from the Informed Growth Act rather than a municipality that has adopted economic and community impact review criteria that require a study.)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 586

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/4/09 1:00 PM Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Retain Business in the State By Amending the Law Governing State Contract Bids. (Rep. Thomas, Ripley) (State & Local Government Comm) (This bill requires the Director of the Bureau of General Services within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to adopt rules establishing a preference percentage of 5% for Maine businesses bidding for sate contracts. The rules are routine technical rules.)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 785

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/23/09 11:00 Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Use All Available Technologies To Provide Efficiencies in State Facilities. (Rep. Pescott, Topsham) (State & Local Government Comm) (This bill mandates the use of all energy-saving features that are currently installed or available in facilities owned by the State. It does not require the installation of energy-saving devices. The Bureau of General Services shall adopt routine technical rules to implement and enforce the mandated use of energy-saving features.)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 918

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/1/09 10:00 Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Informed Growth Act To Provide a Local Management Option. (Rep. Berry, Bowdoinham) (State & Local Government) (Tis bill exempts a municipality from the Informed Growth Act if the municipality adopts an ordinance that determines the impact of a large-scale retail development on the surrounding community and requires an independent study by a qualified preparer. It also exempts a municipality that has adopted an ordinance prior to Jan 1/09 for determining the economic and community impacts of a large-scale retail development.)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 1019

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/1/09 10:00 Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Strengthen the Informed Growth Act. (Sen. Nutting, Androscoggin) (State & Local Government Comm) (Requires the comprehensive economic impact study under the Informed Growth Act for a large-scale retail development having over 150,000 square feet of gross floor area to provide information concerning the average number of part-time and full-time employees of the prospective tenant who are covered by the prospective tenant's health insurance policy.)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 1028

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/29/09 1:00 PM Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Enhance Municipal Home Rule Statutes. (Rep. Casavant, Biddeford) (State & Local Government Comm) (This bill allows a municipality to adopt an ordinance that denies corporations constitutional rights. It would allow a municipality to adopt an ordinance that states that a corporation may not be recognized as a person)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 1064

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Increase Efficiency through Regionalization. (Sen. Bartlett, Cumberland) (State & Local Government Comm) (Allows appropriations of municipalities to be exempt from the property tax levy and appropriations of counties to be exempt from the county assessment limit if the appropriations are to study, initiate or consolidate a regional service for up to 10 years if the Dept of Administrative and Financial Services determines that the services are needed and will be more efficient than present services will save taxpayers money and will be paid for through the savings of consolidation or fees for the service.)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 1270

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, To Realign Maine's Natural Resource Agencies (Rep. Pieh, Bremen) (State & Local Government Comm) (Directs the commissioners of the Dept of Conservation, the Dept of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, and the Dept of Marine Resources and the Dept of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to reconfigure their departments. Requires these departments to come up with a plan to reorganize the four departments. Must report to their respective legislative committees with reports outlining the progress on the reorganization and to submit proposed legislation to the Second Reg Session of the 124th Legislature by March 1, 2010.

Category State & Local Government

LD # 1313

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/13/09 10:00 Rm216CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act to Restructure the State Planning Office. (Rep. Joy, Crystal) (State & Local Government Comm) (Directs the State Planning Office to create a plan to reorganize the SPO to only provide planning services to state agencies, with the agencies to provide staff support. Also directs the SPO to study and recommend legislation to transfer certain other powers and duties of the office to other agencies in anticipation of the dissolution. The bill authorizes the State & Local Government Comm to submit emergency legislation to the Second Reg Session of the 124th in anticipation of the current organization of the SPO ending on July 1, 2010.)

Category State & Local Government

LD # 1453

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Reform Natural Resources Agencies and Establish the Department of Natural Resources. (Sen. Gerzofsky, Cumberland) (State & Local Government Comm) (Governor's Bill) (Emergency) (The bill's purpose is to reorganize the current Dept of Agriculture, Dept of Inland Fisheries, Dept of Conservation and Dept of Marine Resources into one Dept of Natural Resources, effective July 1, 2009, and provide for the transition.)

Category Taxation

LD # 57

PUBLIC HEARING: 1/27/09 1:00 PM Rm127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Exempt Small Privately Owned Windmills from the Property Tax. (Rep. Flood, Winthrop) (Taxation Comm) (This bill provides a property tax exemption for a windmill or wind turbine with a peak generating capacity of no more than 50 kilowatts that is 50 feet or less in height as long as the generated energy is used solely by the owner of the property on which the windmill wind turbine is located. The exemption is limited to 10 years.)

Category Taxation

LD # 471

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/3/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Encourage Energy and Promote Maine Businesses. Sen. Sullivan, York) (Taxation Comm) (Emergency) (This bill allows a person who purchases a wood pellet stove in Maine to apply for a refund of the Maine sales tax paid on that stove. This ill applies to purchases made on or after July 1, 2008. The Bureau of Revenue Services is required to administer the refund, including providing the refund in the form of a voucher that may be used only for the purchase of wood pellets from a person in Maine.)

Category Taxation

LD # 493

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide Sensible Options for Tax Increment Financing Proceeds in Small Towns. (Sen. Rosen, Hancock)(Taxation Comm) (This bill clarifies the procedure for municipalities to jointly participate in a tax increment financing district and permits municipalities with a population of fewer than 1,500 person singly or jointly to include certain regional and municipal improvements in project costs.)

Category Taxation

LD # 855

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/16/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Study the Reform of Taxes and Spending in Maine. (Sen. Bowman, York) (Taxation Comm) (Emergency) (Establishes a study commission to review the Brookings Institution report, "Charting Maine's Future: An Action Plan for Promoting Sustainable Prosperity and Quality Places." The commission is to report with suggested legislation on tax and spending reform for the State, with a focus on efficiency for submission to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.)

Category Taxation

LD # 922

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/16/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Require a Supermajority Approval of the Legislature for Tax Increases.)(Sen. Rector, Knox) (Taxation Comm) (This resolution proposes to amend the Maine Constitution of Maine to require a 2/3 vote of both Houses of the Legislature to approve an increase in state revenue.)

Category Taxation

LD # 958

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/6/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Encourage Renewable Energy Investment. (Rep. Cornell du Houx, Brunswick) (Taxation Comm) (This bill authorizes the State to provide the benefits of Pine Tree Development Zones to businesses producing renewable energy onshore or offshore or manufacturing component parts necessary for the production of renewable energy onshore or offshore.)

Category Taxation

LD # 974

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/26/09 1:00 AM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Decrease the Automobile Excise Tax and Promote Energy Efficiency.(Citizens' Initiative) (Taxation Comm) (Legislature cannot amend only vote up or down. If voted down, the referendum goes out to vote in Nov 09) (The bill decreases the excise tax imposed on motor vehicles for the first year from 24 mills to 12 mills for the 2nd year from 17 1/2 mills to 8 mills and for the 3rd year from 13 1/2 mills to 4 mills and imposes a 4 mills rate for the 4th and succeeding years. This bill also exempts from the excise tax imposed on motor vehicles the first 3 model years of a hybrid gas-electric vehicle, a fuel-cell-fueled or hydrogen-fueled vehicle or a highly energy efficient vehicle that has a highway fuel economy estimate of at least 40 mpg. This proposal is estimated by some to cut tax revenues by about 50% that are used for roads and bridges.)

Category Taxation

LD # 976

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/16/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide Tax Relief. (Citizens' Initiative) (Taxation Comm)(Legislature cannot amend only vote up or down. If voted down, the referendum goes out to vote in Nov 09) (This bill imposes expenditure limitation on state and local government and requires voter approval of certain state tax increases. Under this bill, growth in annual expenditures of the General Fund, the Highway Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds are limited according to increases in population and inflation. For the General Fund and Highway Fund budgets, revenues exceeding the expenditure limitation must be distributed by direction 20% of that excess to a budget stabilization fund and 80% of that excess to a tax relief fund. And more...)

Category Taxation

LD # 980

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/1/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide a Tax Credit for Heating and Cooling System Alternatives and Improvements That Benefit the Environment and Address Climate Change. (Sen. Smith, Piscataquis) (Taxation Comm) (This bill provides an income tax credit of up to \$5,000 for the costs of an alternative fuel heating or cooling system, energy efficiency equipment components and voltage regulation technology. The credit may be claimed for installations in tax years beginning in 2009 or 2010 and may be carried over up to 5 years. The General Fund costs of the credit are reimbursed from the Energy and Carbon Savings Trust Fund.)

Category Taxation

LD # 1033

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide a Tax Credit for the Purchase of Small Wind power Generators. (Rep. Chase, Wells) (Taxation Comm) (Provides an income tax credit for the cost of purchasing and installing a small wind power generator intended to provide electricity to a household or small business. The credit is a one-time credit of up to \$1500 and applies to small wind power generators purchased and installed on or after Jan 1/08; however, the credit may not be taken until tax years beginning on or after Jan 1/2011.)

Category Taxation

LD # 1082

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Create an Income Tax Credit for Certain Renewable Energy Systems. (Rep. Wagner, Lyman) (Taxation Comm) (Provides an income tax credit for installations of qualifying wind and solar energy systems. Installation must be certified by the PUC.)

Category Taxation

LD # 1088

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/2/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Modernize the Tax Laws and Provide over \$75,000,000 to Residents of the State in Tax Relief. (Rep. Piotti, Unity) (Taxation Comm) (This proposal revisits the 2007 tax reform plan that past House but not Senate. The plan broadens the sales tax base to include recreational activities, entertainment and certain amusements. The proposed changes are revenue neutral and lowers the income tax. Professional services are not included as written)

Category Taxation

LD # 1251

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/27/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Reduce the Cost of Permitting of Business Development. (Rep. Van Wie, New Gloucester) (Taxation Comm) (Provides an income tax credit for certain studies, analyses and natural resource inventories required as pat of certain major state environmental permitting laws. The credit is allowed only if the permit is granted and is based on the cost of the qualifying expenditures and the amount of new property value created The results of studies must be available to the public.)

Category Taxation

LD # 1272

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION: Leave to Withdraw

AMENDMENT # (DEAD)

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Establish an Income Tax Credit for the Purchase of Certain Wood-burning Boilers and Stoves. (Rep. Sirois, Turner) (Taxation Comm) (Extends the income tax credit for pollution-reducing boilers and furnace systems to include wood and pellet stoves and permits individuals as well as businesses to take the credit. It also repeals the provision that would have eliminated this credit on December 31, 2009.)

Category Taxation

LD # 1288

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/6/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Reduce Income Tax Rates, (Sen. Smith, Piscataquis) (Taxation Comm) (The bill reduces over a 3-year period the income tax rates imposed on individuals and corporations.)

Category Taxation

LD # 1314

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/29/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Reform and Lower Maine Taxes. (Rep. Crockett, Augusta) (Taxation Comm) (It expands the definition of "taxable service" for purposes of the imposition of sales tax to include amusement, recreational and personal services and consumer purchases of transportation service and **professional**, club or fraternal memberships. It subjects those services to the 5% sales tax.)

Category Taxation

LD # 1341

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/1/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act to Reform Maine's Motor Fuel Tax Laws. (Rep. Crockett, Augusta) (Taxation Comm) (Restructures the excise tax imposed on motor fuels by reducing the motor fuel excise tax imposed on gasoline from the current inflation adjusted rate of 28.4 cents per gallon to 21 cents per gallon and on diesel fuel from the inflation adjusted rate of 29.6 center per gallon to 21 cents per gallon,Also transfers 8 cents per gallon and 70% of the amount in excess of 8 cents of the price-based excise tax component to the TransCap Trust Fund.)

Category Taxation

LD # 1368

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/29/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Broaden and Increase the Sales Tax, Increase the Earned Income Tax Credit and Amend the Application Process for the Circuitbreaker Program. (Rep. Watson, Bath) (Taxation Comm) (Broadens the sales tax base by adding amusement, entertainment and recreation services and including certain prepared foods and bakery products. It also increases the general sales tax rate from 5% to 6% and the sales tax on prepared food and lodging from 7% to 8%.)

Category Taxation

LD # 1392

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/6/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Promote Economic Development and Reduce Reliance on Automobiles through Transit-oriented Tax Increment Financing Districts. (Sen. Bliss, Cumberland) (Taxation Comm) (Establishes authority for creation of transit-oriented development districts under the tax increment financing laws to provide an impetus for transit-oriented development, provide new or additional transit services and provide facilities for transit and alternative modes of transportation for the purposes of promoting sustainable economic development, energy efficiency, transportation cost reduction, open space preservation and greenhouse gas reduction.)

Category Taxation

LD # 1401

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/15/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Make Minor Substantive Changes to the Tax Laws. (Rep. Watson, Bath) (Taxation Comm) (Submitted by the Dept of Administrative & Financial Services) (It changes procedures for certification of eligibility for the income tax credit for rehabilitation of historic properties including moving language regarding the responsibility of Maine State Housing Authority. It clarifies the procedures for calculating and certifying the income tax credit for rehabilitation of historic properties.)

Category Taxation

LD # 1427

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/5/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Compensate Maine Residents for the Impacts of High-voltage transmission Lines. (Rep. Martin, Eagle Lake) (Taxation Comm) (Emergency) (The bill imposes a state excise tax on certain high-voltage electric transmission property at the rate of 10 mills multiplied by the just value of that property. It also creates the Maine Transmission Mitigation Trust, which manages the Maine Transmission Mitigation Trust Fund. The revenue from the excise tax is deposited in the Maine Transmission Mitigation Trust Fund. Annual distributions from the fund of 205 of the trust fund, up to \$10,000,000 annually, are made to municipalities that submit winning bids for electricity infrastructure projects placing transmission lines underground. the remainder of the Fund must be paid to Maine electricity ratepayers in proportion to each customer's purchases of electricity.)

Category Taxation

LD # 1463

PUBLIC HEARING: 5/6/09 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide Equitable Property Tax Relief To Maintain Traditional Communities. (Rep. Percy, Phippsburg) (Taxation Comm) (Allows municipalities to enter into arrangements with natural resources support businesses through which the business grants a time-limited easement to the municipality to limit the use of property to natural resources business support in exchange for payments from the municipality to alleviate a portion of the property tax burden. the bill also extends Pine Tree Development Zone benefits to natural resources support businesses located in a Pine Tree Development Zone.)

Category Transportation

LD # 40

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/13/09 10:00 Rm126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority ONTP/Minority OTP-AM

AMENDMENT # H-31 (DEAD)

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Prohibit Certain Uses of Cellular Telephones and Handheld Electronic Devices while Operating a Motor Vehicle. (Rep. Hogan) (Transportation Comm) (This bill prohibits the use of a handheld cellular telephone and a handheld electronic device while operating a motor vehicle. It clarifies that law enforcement officers and other public safety personnel may use handheld cellular telephones while driving within the scope of their employment The bill makes the offense a traffic infraction.)(Minority amendment expands the list of those exempt from the prohibition against using a handheld cellular phone or device.)

Category Transportation

LD # 41

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/13/09 10:00 Rm126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Prohibit the Use of a Handheld Cellular Telephone While Operating a Motor Vehicle. (Rep. Beaudoin, Biddeford) (Transportation Comm) (This bill prohibits the use of a handheld cellular telephone and text messaging while operating a motor vehicle. The bill clarifies that law enforcement officers and other public safety personnel may use handheld cellular telephones while driving within the scope of their employment. The bill makes the offense a traffic infraction.)

Category Transportation

LD # 48

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/13/08 10:00 Rm126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor*

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, To Delay the Sustainability of the Highway Fund. (Rep. Mazurek, Rockland) (Emergency) (Submitted by MDOT) (Transportation Comm) (This Resolve suspends for 2 years, beginning Jul 1/09 and ending Jun 30/11, the annual indexing of the excise tax imposed on internal combustion engine fuel and distillates.)

Category Transportation

LD # 61

PUBLIC HEARING: 1/27/09 1:00 PM Rm126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-4

LAW # Public Law Ch. 7

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Make Supplemental Allocations from the Highway Fund and Other Funds 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, 2009. (Rep. Mazurek, Rockland) (Governor's Bill) (Emergency) (Transportation Comm) (Amendment makes allocations of funds for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, and makes allocations of funds for approved reclassifications and range changes.)

Category Transportation

LD # 112

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/13/09 10:00 Rm126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Prohibit the Use of Handheld Cellular Telephones while Driving. (Rep. Crockett, Augusta) (Transportation Comm) (This bill prohibits the use of a handheld cellular telephone while operating a motor vehicle and makes the offense a traffic infraction. The bill clarifies the law enforcement officers, corrections officers, firefighters, drivers of authorized emergency vehicles, holders of commercial driver's licenses, physicians, municipal public works personnel, Maine Turnpike Authority personnel and state transportation personnel, including all employees and contractors of the DOT, may use handheld cellular telephones while driving within the scope of their employment.)

Category Transportation

LD # 126

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/3/09 1:00 PM Rm126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Tabled

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend Certain Laws Affecting Transportation. (Rep. Hogan, Old Orchard Beach, for the MDOT) (Transportation Comm) (The bill (1) clarifies language pertaining to the responsibility of private culvert replacement and repair on a state right-of-way; (2) extends to all Maine roads a weight tolerance for vehicle auxiliary power units that was previously authorized for interstate highways under the federal Energy Policy Act of 2005; (3) defines "auxiliary power unit," "combination vehicle" and "heavy duty vehicle"; and (4) clarifies that the exemption of the Maine Turnpike and Interstate 95 in Kittery from the definition of "interstate highway," "interstate system" and "interstate highway system" applies only to weight limits.)

Category Transportation

LD # 261

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/13/09 10:00 Rm126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Increase Safety in Construction Zones. (Rep. Rotundo, Lewiston) (Transportation Comm) (This bill provides that a person may not operate a motor vehicle while using a mobile telephone or handheld electronic device in an area in which the Commissioner of Transportation or the Executive Director of the Maine Turnpike Authority has restricted the speed limit for construction or maintenance activity. the bill also provides that the penalty for a violation of this provision is at least \$50 for the first offense and at least \$250 for the second or subsequent offense.)

Category Transportation

LD # 333

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/27/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Tabled

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act along Unified Highway Fund and Other Funds Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011. (Rep. Mazurek, Rockland) (Governor's Bill) (Emergency) (Transportation Comm) (A 67-page bill divided into 11 parts dealing with the State Budget Officer, Maine Municipal Bond Bank and State Controller. It requires the Chief Info Officer to review the current organizational structure and systems to improve efficiency and cost-effectiveness. And a section on employee health insurance premiums.)

Category Transportation

LD # 383

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/20/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Ensure That All Toll and Intermodal Transportation Facilities and Roadway Lighting within the Maine Turnpike Corridor Are Consistent with Maine's Quality of Place Goals. (Rep. Hill, York) (Transportation Comm) (This bill provides that all contracts and agreements relating to the construction or reconstruction of toll facilities and intermodal transportation facilities and to the replacement or installation of permanent outdoor luminaries with the Maine Turnpike corridor must be certified by the State Planning Office as meeting quality of place goals as established by the State Planning Office by rule.)

Category Transportation

LD # 432

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/20/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Tabled

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Ensure That the Maine Turnpike Authority Conducts Public Hearings for Construction and Reconstruction Projects and That All Public Records of the Maine Turnpike Authority Are Open for Inspection. (Rep. Hill, York) (Transportation Comm) (This bill provides that all public records, as defined in Maine's freedom of access laws, of the Maine Turnpike Authority must be open for public inspection. It also directs the Maine Turnpike Authority to conduct public hearings that give municipalities and other political subdivisions of the State and members of the public notice of and opportunity to comment on transportation planning, capital investment and project decisions prior to any construction or reconstruction project on the turnpike.)

Category Transportation

LD # 485

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/6/09 9:00 AM Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Allow Public-Private Investment in Transportation Infrastructure Projects. (Rep. MacDonald, Boothbay) (Transportation Comm) (This bill is a concept draft authorizing the DOT to pursue public-private partnerships for the construction of certain transportation facilities. The bill establishes a process for entering into a public-private agreement and authorizes both solicited and unsolicited proposals for public-private partnerships for the construction of infrastructure projects, including highways and bridges. Finally, the bill provides that infrastructure projects must have the concurrence of the DOT and be consistent with the Sensible Transportation Policy Act.)

Category Transportation

LD # 542

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/19/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Pertaining to the TransCap Trust Fund in the Maine Municipal Bond Bank. (Rep. Cebra, Naples) (Transportation Comm) (Clarifies than any grants issued from the fund must be used for capital projects with a useful life of at least 15 years.)

Category Transportation

LD # 664

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/20/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation and the Maine Turnpike Authority To Find Efficiencies in the Maine Transportation System. (Sen. Courtney, York) (Transportation Comm) (Directs DOT to conduct a transportation study, with assistance from the Maine Turnpike Authority, that will review operations of the MTA and compare its costs with the costs of the DOT, report on the positive and negative aspects of consolidating the MTA with the DOT, report on the positive and negative aspects of privatization of the MTA and report on the availability of new funding sources, such as GARVEE bonds through the Maine Municipal Bond Bank and federal grants. DOT is to submit a report to the Transportation Committee and the Committee is authorized to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature.)

Category Transportation

LD # 736

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/24/09 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-60

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Request Federal Funding for the Extension and Completion of Interstate 95. (Sen. Jackson, Aroostook) (Transportation Comm) (Emergency) (This resolve directs the DOT to request all available federal funding included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 or any successor or substantially similar legislation enacted by Congress for the purpose of extending and completing Interstate 95.) (Amended new title: **Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Secure Funding To Complete the Aroostook North-South Highway Project.**)

Category Transportation

LD # 767

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/17/09 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Tabled

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Promote Fairness and Protect Economic Development in Transportation Projects Undertaken by the State. (Sen. Damon, Hancock) (Transportation Comm) (This bill provides a mechanism for a property owner to sell land to the State that has been identified in a transportation planning process as likely to be taken in a pending eminent domain proceeding.)

Category Transportation

LD # 846

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/3/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Majority OTP/Minority ONTP

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Study Ways To Reduce Energy Use and Promote Efficiency along Major Transportation Corridors. (Rep. Piotti, Unity) (Transportation Comm) (Directs the DOT to study ways to reduce energy use and promote efficiency along major transportation corridors. Evaluations must consider overlay zoning districts for corridors of regional economic significance for transportation; costs and benefits of purchasing land or easements; costs and benefits of urban compact designation; feasibility of developing so-called "complete streets; and other land use and transportation strategies designed to reduce growth in vehicle miles traveled and greenhouse gas emissions, including transportation funding options.)

Category Transportation

LD # 951

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/3/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Prioritize Funding in the TransCap Trust Fund. (Rep. Mazurek, Rockland) (Transportation Comm) (Emergency) (Current law requires, beginning July 1/09, that 7.5% of the net excise tax imposed on internal combustion engine fuel be deposited in the TransCap Trust Fund, the purpose of which is to provide financial assistance for the planning, design, acquisition, reconstruction and rehabilitation of transportation capital improvements. This bill requires that at least 20%, but not more than 35%, of the revenue be allocated for capital improvements to bridges and the balance to highways and prioritizes the use of the funds for the highway capital improvements.)

Category Transportation

LD # 967

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/3/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Governor's Interagency Transportation Coordinating Committee. (Rep. Peoples for the Maine DOT) (Transportation Comm) (Establishes in statute the Interagency Transportation Coordinating Committee, which provides oversight and promotes efficiency, cooperative effort and strategic planning for public transportation among the DOT, Department of Labor and the Department of Health and Human Services.)

Category Transportation

LD # 1094

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/10/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Enhance Safety at Construction Sites by Regulating Open Trenches, (Rep. Connor, Kennebunk) (Requires an excavator to mark and erect a barrier or other safeguard around an unattended excavation to prevent a person, animal or motor vehicle from unintentionally falling into the excavation.)

Category Transportation

LD # 1316

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/17/09 10:00 Rm 126 SH

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Limit the Transport of Water for Export. (Rep. Schatz, Blue Hill) (Transportation Comm) (This bill precludes the use of any new transportation infrastructure, including a road, railroad, pipeline or port facility, to be used to transport water with a final destination of any port.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 43

PUBLIC HEARING: 1/27/09 1:00 PM Rm211 CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Promote Consumer Fairness in Alternative Energy. (Rep. Bryant, Windham) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (This bill requires transmission and distribution utility companies to compensate customers that generate electricity from renewable resources for any excess electricity generated by the customer beyond the customer's actual electricity usage.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 44

PUBLIC HEARING:

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*

ENG. POSITION: Monitor*

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Require Transmission Lines To Be Placed Underground near Certain Facilities. (Rep. Valentino, Saco) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (Requires that high-voltage transmission lines capable of operating at 115 kilovolts or more constructed, rebuilt or relocated on or after Oct 1/09 near areas that are frequently used by children, including residential areas, public playgrounds, schools, child care facilities and children's camps, be placed underground. The bill directs the PUC to adopt rules regarding this requirement, and it provides an exemption from the requirement if a transmission and distribution utility can demonstrate to the PUC that it is technologically non feasible to place the transmission line underground.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 73

PUBLIC HEARING: 1/27/09 1:00 PM Rm211 CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Tabled

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Protect the Right To Use Solar Energy. (Rep. Hinck, Portland) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (This bill prohibits restriction by law, ordinance, regulation, deed, covenant or contract on the installation and use of solar collectors, clothes lines and other equipment for the solar drying of clothing.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 147

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/5/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # H-23

LAW # Public Law Ch. 26

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Facilitate the Protection of Electric Utility Consumer Interests in Public Utility Commission Cases Involving the Construction, Rebuilding or Relocating of Transmission Lines. (Rep. Hinck, Portland) (Submitted by the Office of the Public Advocate) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (This bill provides the Office of the Public Advocate with authority similar to that of the PUC to receive from the applicant for a certificate of public convenience and necessity a filing fee.) (Amendments deals with the collection and expenditure of filing fees.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 199

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/19/09 9:00 AM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Facilitate Wind Power Siting. (Rep. Cebra, Naples) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (The bill amends the laws governing the siting of wind energy developments. The bill grants the state-level wind power siting authority, which is the DEP or the Maine LURC depending on the location of a given wind power development, sole jurisdiction for approving construction and initial operation of a wind energy development. Specifically, the bill prohibits any other state or local governmental entity from requiring any approval, permit or other condition for the construction or initial operation of a wind energy development that has been certified or permitted by the wind power siting authority.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 220

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/24/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Increase the Availability of Solar and Wind Power. (Sen. Bartlett, Cumberland) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (This bill raises the upper limit of the assessments on transmission and distribution utilities for the solar and wind energy rebate program from 0.005 cent per kilowatt-hour to 0.01 cent per kilowatt-hour. The bill also repeals the provision abolishing the program on December 1, 2010.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 276

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/24/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT # S-42

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Protect the Integrity of the State's Carbon Dioxide Budget Trading Program and Auction Process and To Provide Allocations to the Energy and Carbon Savings Trust Fund. (Sen. Bartlett, Cumberland) (Emergency)(Submitted by the DEP) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (This bill amends the definition of "public records" to exclude certain information submitted to the DEP or its agent by parties in order to participate in auctions held under the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, specifically for the purpose of improved prevention and protection of the carbon dioxide auction market from collusion and market manipulation.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 334

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/14/09 1:30 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Clarify the So-called Dig Safe Law. (Rep. Sykes, Harrison) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (A concept draft proposing to clarify the so-called dig safe law to assist property owners and others in recognizing appropriate dig safe situations.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 363

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/3/09 1:00 PM Rm214CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Allow State Agencies To Acquire and Sell Carbon Credits under the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. (Sen. Trahan, Lincoln) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (This bill requires the DEP to include in the rules governing the regional greenhouse gas initiative provisions for the buying and selling of carbon dioxide emissions allowances by state agencies.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 396

PUBLIC HEARING: 2/24/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Regarding Installation of Solar Energy Systems under the Solar and Wind Energy Rebate Program. (Sen. Nutting, Androscoggin) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (this bill amends the current law to allow for a rebate when the owner or tenant of a residential or commercial property performs the installation of a solar photovoltaic system or a solar thermal system design to heat water, as long as the installation has been inspected and approved by the municipal electrical inspector, in the case of solar photovoltaic systems or the municipal plumbing inspector in the case of solar thermal systems designed to heat water.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 650

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/29/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION:

ENG. POSITION: Proponent

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Create a Sustainable Funding Mechanism for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure in the State. (Rep. Berry, Bowdoinham) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (A concept draft proposing to create a sustainable funding mechanism for water and wastewater infrastructure in the State.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 651

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/10/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Amend the Wind Energy Rebate Program Eligibility Requirements. (Rep. Browne, Vassalboro) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (The bill makes changes to the eligibility requirements and rebate levels for wind energy system rebates under the solar and wind energy rebate program. Establishes the rebate amount for wind energy systems in statute as an increasing function of the kilowatt capacity of the wind energy system and the classification of the wind resource at the site of the installation. Amends the law to require that the wind energy system be installed by a factory trained or approved installer under the supervision of a master electrician. Also places limitations on the eligibility requirements that the PUC may establish for wind energy rebates, and prohibits the PUC from requiring a residential applicant to demonstrate a minimum wind speed of 9.8 mph or more at the site, prohibits PUC from requiring min tower height etc.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 845

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/24/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Expand Access to Efficiency Maine Rebate Programs. (Rep. Adams, Portland) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (Amends the solar and wind energy rebate program administered by the PUC to set aside 50% of the funds available for rebates to owners or tenants or residential or commercial property during the first 6 months of each fiscal year specifically for rebates to residential applicants whose household income is at or below the state median household income. During the remainder of the year, the bill authorizes the commission to distribute the remaining funds available for rebates without reference to the applicants income level or property type.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 848

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/14/09 1:30 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Encourage Green Commerce. (Rep. Beck, Waterville) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (Requires the Maine Technology Institute (MTI) to establish a new grant program to award funds on a competitive basis to businesses that install or operate green technology that improves energy efficiency and uses renewable resources. The bill authorizes the MTI to apply for funds for this grant program from the conservation program fund established in Title 35-A, section 3211-A, Subsection 5. It also authorizes the PUC to award funds from the conservation program fund to the MTI's program to support incentives for green technology.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 935

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/7/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Tabled

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor*

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Rate Energy Efficiency and Carbon Emissions of Buildings. (Sen. Goodall, Sagadahoc) (Utilities & Energy Comm)(Establishes a building energy performance rating program for the purpose of evaluating and rating buildings in terms of energy efficiency and carbon emissions. The program includes a uniform building energy performance evaluation and rating system and report cards The program is mandatory for state-owned buildings and buildings that lease space to the State. The program is voluntary for other buildings, except that disclosure of report cards is required at the time of the sale of certain private buildings beginning Jan 1/2011. The program is administered by the Department of Public Safety, Technical Building Codes and Standards Board with administrative and technical support from the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Building Codes and Standards.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 968

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/7/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Regarding New Utility Line Extension Construction. (Rep. Fletcher, Winslow) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (This bill directs the PUC to establish standards by rule for estimating the cost of construction of a new line extension by a transmission and distribution utility. The rules must require that a transmission and distribution utility provide a detailed quote that includes all costs to each residential, commercial or industrial customer seeking the construction of a new line extension rather than relying on per-nit average costs.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1030

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act Establishing a Wind and Solar Energy Loan Guarantee Program. (Rep. Bryant, Windham) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (Establishes the Domestic Wind and Solar Energy Loan Guarantee Program to be implemented by the Public Utilities Commission.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1052

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act to Allow the Use of Net Metering for Energy Production by Consumers. (Rep. Sirois, Turner) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (This bill defines "net metering" as a service under which electricity produced by a customer is delivered to the customer's transmission and distribution utility and the transmission and distribution utility offsets the value of that electricity from the electricity provided to the customer by the transmission and distribution utility. This bill requires a transmission and distribution utility to offer this service to a customer who produces alternative or renewable energy and pay the customer the wholesale rate for electricity for any credit owed the customer from the net metering annually.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1075

PUBLIC HEARING: 3/31/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Tabled

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Promote Community-based Energy. (Rep. MacDonald, Boothbay) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (Bill includes a number of provisions designed to encourage the development of community-based energy facilities and to achieve a goal of having 5% of electricity consumed by retail customers produced by community-based energy facilities by 2017. Requires the State to give preference to community-based energy facilities in purchasing electricity for state-owned buildings & facilities. Requires State Planning Office to develop a model legal organizational structure for community-based energy facilities. Requires PUC & Gov's Office of Energy Independence & Security to develop and administer a system to track the development of community-based energy facilities. Requires state agencies to dev a plan to consolidate and integrate state-level energy policy and program functions and responsibilities within a single state entity.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1095

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/7/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought Not to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide Affordable Installation of Alternative Energy Systems. (Rep. Beck, Waterville) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (Under current law governing the solar and wind energy rebate program, an owner or tenant of residential or commercial property may receive a rebate for a qualified solar energy system that is installed on the property. This bill amends the law to provide that the installer of a qualified solar energy system or the owner or tenant of the property on which the qualified solar energy system is installed may receive the rebate. If the installer receives the rebate, the installer is required to pass through 100% of the rebate to the property owner or tenant.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1114

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/7/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass-AM

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Facilitate the Marketing of Power Produced by Small Generators (Rep. Van Wie, New Gloucester) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (This bill allows a transmission and distribution utility to aggregate electric power from multiple small generators and administer on behalf of those generators the purchase and sale of electricity to a competitive electricity provider. The parties to any resulting sale must be the generators and the competitive electricity provider.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1155

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/7/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee Report Ought to Pass

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Make Certain Changes to the Laws Governing Approval for Transmission Lines. (Sen. Hobbins, York) (Submitted by the PUC) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (Public Law 2007, Ch. 575, lowered the threshold for requiring a certificate of public convenience and necessity for a transmission line from 100 kilovolts to 69 kilovolts. This bill removes language rendered unnecessary in light of that change in the law.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1222

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/14/09 1:30 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Promote Geothermal Energy in the State. (Sen. Diamond, Cumberland) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (A concept draft proposing to create a tax incentive program for geothermal energy, similar to the state solar rebate or wind energy rebate programs and the federal Energy Improvement and Extension Act of 2008 to address the needs of residents who live in areas where solar or wind power are not viable options. Under this program, homeowners who install geothermal heating and cooling systems would be eligible for a one-time tax credit of a percentage of the total investment for residential ground loop or ground water geothermal heat pump installations, with a maximum credit for a single residence.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1348

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/14/09 1:30 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION:

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Provide Grants to Public Educational and Municipal Entities for Feasibility Studies of Renewable Energy Projects. (Rep. Adams, Portland) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (This bill requires the PUC to establish and administer a program to provide grants to public educational and municipal entities to conduct feasibility studies for the installation and operation of renewable energy projects on public property. The bill authorizes the commission to apply for funding from the Energy and Carbon Savings Trust Fund to fund the grant program.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1350

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/30/09 1:00 PM Rm211CSPB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Establish the Maine transmission Mitigation Trust Fund. (Rep. Martin, Eagle Lake) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (Emergency) (The bill imposes a state excise tax on certain high-voltage electric transmission property, It also creates the Maine Transmission Mitigation Trust, which manages the Maine Transmission Mitigation Trust Fund. The revenue from the imposition of the state excise tax on certain high-voltage electric transmission property is deposited in the trust fund. The trustees of the the trust shall distribute 20% of the fund, up to \$10,000,000, annually to municipalities that have submitted winning bids for projects to install underground utility infrastructure. The remainder of the trust fund must be paid to Maine electricity ratepayers in proportion to each customer's purchases of electricity transmitted over the State's transmission and distribution utilities.)

Category Utilities & Energy

LD # 1450

PUBLIC HEARING: 4/14/09 1:30 PM Rm211CSOB

COMMITTEE ACTION:

AMENDMENT #

LAW #

ARCH. POSITION: Monitor

ENG. POSITION: Monitor

TITLE & SPONSOR

An Act To Establish the Renewable Energy Resources Program. (Rep. Adams, Portland) (Utilities & Energy Comm) (Requires the PUC to establish by rule a renewable energy resources program to encourage the rapid and sustainable development of renewable energy resources and technology for environmentally healthy generation of electricity. It requires that utilities purchase renewably produced electricity from all qualified suppliers. It sets the rate that electric utilities must pay for such power. It requires that utilities enter into a standard contract with all renewable energy suppliers for a set term. It establishes for the PUC management and oversight responsibilities. It reserves to the Legislature the power to periodically review and revise the rates and the terms of the standard contract in the public interest.)