

STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION



Summaries of bills, adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

May 2014

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STAFF:

MAUREEN S. DAWSON, PRINCIPAL ANALYST
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW
5 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333
(207) 287-1635

STATE OF MAINE
126TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
LEGISLATIVE DIGEST OF BILL SUMMARIES AND
ENACTED LAWS

The *Digest* is arranged within each committee by Legislative Document (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor and lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each LD title. All adopted amendments are summarized and listed by paper number. A subject index is included with each committee.

Final action on each LD is noted to the right of the LD title. The following describes the various final actions.

CARRIED OVER.....carried over to a subsequent session of the Legislature
CON RES XXX chapter # of constitutional resolution passed by both houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE..... Committee of Conference unable to agree; legislation died
DIED BETWEEN HOUSESHouse & Senate disagreed; legislation died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE defeated in each house, but on different motions; legislation died
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT action incomplete when session ended; legislation died
EMERGENCYenacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days after session adjournment
FAILED, EMERGENCY ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE.....emergency failed to receive required 2/3 vote
FAILED, ENACTMENT or FINAL PASSAGE..... failed to receive final majority vote
FAILED, MANDATE ENACTMENT.....legislation proposing local mandate failed required 2/3 vote
HELD BY GOVERNOR..... Governor has not signed; final disposition to be determined at subsequent session
LEAVE TO WITHDRAW.....sponsor's request to withdraw legislation granted
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY.....ruled out of order by the presiding officer; legislation died
INDEF PP..... indefinitely postponed; legislation died
ONTP, ACCEPTED, MAJORITY, MINORITY or REPORT X... ought-not-to-pass report accepted; legislation died
P&S XXX..... chapter # of enacted private & special law
PUBLIC XXX chapter # of enacted public Law
RESOLVE XXX chapter # of finally passed resolve
VETO SUSTAINED.....Legislature failed to override Governor's veto

The effective date for non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session of the 126th Legislature is August 1, 2014. The effective date for legislation enacted as an emergency measure may be found in the enacted law summary for that legislation.

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

LD 16 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in ONTP
Transportation Infrastructure

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PEOPLES	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

The funds provided by this bond issue in the amount of \$100,000,000 will be used to make improvements to state and local highways, roads and bridges, rail lines, public transportation and pedestrian trails.

LD 25 An Act To Exclude Certain State-funded Costs from the State Share of ONTP
the Total Cost of Funding Public Education

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MASON A GOODALL	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill provides that, beginning in fiscal year 2013-14, the state contributions to teacher retirement, retired teachers' health insurance and retired teachers' life insurance may not be included in the calculation of the state share percentage of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as required by the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.

LD 39 An Act To Expand the Number of Qualified Educators PUBLIC 486

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON P	OTP-AM	H-621

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill changes the law regarding the restoration of retired teachers to service by removing the provision that a retired teacher may be paid only 75% of the posted salary for the position and replaces the provision that a retired teacher may be restored to service for only up to 5 years with a provision that allows the retired teacher to be restored to service through one-year contracts.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-621)

This amendment replaces the bill. It amends the law regarding the restoration of service for state employees and teachers by providing that, effective August 1, 2014, certain "classroom-based employees" who have reached normal retirement age and who have retired after September 1, 2011 may be restored to service as classroom-based employees at 100% of the compensation established for the positions to be filled through one-year contracts for no more than 5 one-year contracts per school administrative unit.

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

This amendment also provides that a retired classroom-based employee may return to service at the same school administrative unit for a maximum of 10 years: 5 years under one-year contracts at 100% of the compensation for that position and 5 years at 75% of the compensation for that position as specified in current law.

This amendment also requires the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to convene a working group to review the impact that the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 17859, as originally enacted in Public Law 2011, chapter 380, Part MMM, section 1, has had on the State as an employer, local school administrative units and the Maine Community College System and to provide a report by January 8, 2015 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs describing the working group's findings and recommendations, including any implementing legislation.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 486 provides that, effective August 1, 2014, certain "classroom-based employees" who have reached normal retirement age and who have retired after September 1, 2011 may be restored to service as classroom-based employees at 100% of the compensation established for the positions to be filled through one-year contracts for no more than 5 one-year contracts per school administrative unit. The law also provides that a retired classroom-based employee may return to service at the same school administrative unit for a maximum of 10 years: 5 years under one-year contracts at 100% of the compensation for that position and 5 years at 75% of the compensation for that position as specified in current law.

The law also requires the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to convene a working group to review the impact that the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 17859, as originally enacted in Public Law 2011, chapter 380, Part MMM, section 1, has had on the State as an employer, local school administrative units and the Maine Community College System and to provide a report by January 8, 2015 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs describing the working group's findings and recommendations, including any implementing legislation.

**LD 62 An Act To Provide Additional Funding for Respite Care for the Elderly ONTP
and for Adults with Disabilities**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MALABY MILLETT	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill provides additional General Fund appropriations of \$130,000 in fiscal year 2013-14 and \$330,000 in fiscal year 2014-15 for the Department of Health and Human Services to fund respite services in the adult day services program. This appropriation is intended to increase funding for this program to \$450,000 in fiscal year 2013-14 and to \$650,000 in fiscal year 2014-15.

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

LD 87 An Act To Improve Community Mental Health Treatment

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRAVEN FARNSWORTH	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop programs to provide services and housing to persons with chronic mental illness. The programs must be designed to ensure psychiatric rehabilitation and to improve the rehabilitation and recovery of persons with chronic mental illness. The programs must provide medically necessary health and mental health services to persons with chronic mental illness in the least restrictive setting that is consistent with the person's choice and individual treatment plan and within the person's chosen community and provide housing options to persons with chronic mental illness including a person's home or group residential setting or another configuration according to the person's choice.

**LD 126 An Act To Provide a Sales Tax Exemption to Incorporated Nonprofit
Performing Arts Organizations**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GERZOFSKY PRIEST	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill provides a sales tax exemption for sales to incorporated nonprofit performing arts organizations.

**LD 137 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Retirement under the Maine
Public Employees Retirement System**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HICKMAN SAVIELLO	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Under current law governing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System, the retirement benefit for a teacher or a state employee with creditable service of 25 years who had fewer than 10 years of creditable service on July 1, 1993 is reduced by 6% for each year that the member's age precedes 62 years of age. This bill provides that, for such a member who is 55 years of age or older on July 1, 2013 and who retires no earlier than July 1, 2013 and no later than June 30, 2014, the reduction amount is reduced to 2% for each year that the member's age precedes 62 years of age.

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LD 138 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Issuance of Bonds That Have ONTP
Been Ratified by the Citizens of the State

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KESCHL SAVIELLO	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill is a concept draft, pursuant to Joint Rule 208, which proposes to amend the laws governing the issuance of General Fund bonds that have been approved by referendum by the citizens of the State. Under this bill, once the issuance of bonds is approved by referendum, the bonds must be issued by the Treasurer of State unless the Treasurer of State determines, based on information available to the Treasurer of State, that the issuance of the bonds will adversely affect the credit rating of the State; a delay in the issuance of the bonds will likely result in a more financially advantageous interest rate; or alternative funding sources are available to implement, within a comparable time frame, the projects and the purposes for which the bonds were authorized and ratified, and use of the alternative funding sources is fiscally preferable.

LD 156 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Final Passage
Concerning Early Voting and Voting by Absentee Ballot Failed

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHAW LANGLEY	OTP-AM ONTP	H-587

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require the Legislature to authorize a process to allow a qualified voter to vote at a polling place in or outside of the city, town or plantation where that voter's residence has been established during a period immediately preceding an election. It also allows for voting by absentee ballot by citizens for reasons deemed sufficient without requiring in the Constitution of Maine that the citizens be absent or physically incapacitated.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-587)

This amendment eliminates the language in the resolution that requires the Legislature to authorize early voting by voters within or outside their places of residence and instead directs the Legislature to authorize a process of early voting that allows voting to occur in the same manner as on election day during a period immediately preceding an election.

LD 180 An Act Concerning the Use of Tobacco Settlement Funds for Children's ONTP
Health Care

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PLANTE LACHOWICZ	ONTP	

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In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill amends the law on the Fund for a Healthy Maine to require that funding for children's health care not be reduced in order to address a budget deficit.

LD 182 An Act To Support the Maine Lobster Industry ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
EVANGELOS	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill makes a General Fund appropriation in fiscal year 2013-14 to the Lobster Promotion Council to increase its work to promote and market Maine lobsters in state, regional, national and international markets.

LD 186 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Disability Retirement Determinations by the Maine Public Employees Retirement System ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BECK LACHOWICZ	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Under current law, when making determinations on applications for disability retirement, the Maine Public Employees Retirement System is required to consider the applicant's disability application, medical records and the analysis of a medical board that is designated by, and advisory to, the Maine Public Employees Retirement System. This bill provides instead that the retirement system may consider, but is not required to consider, the medical board's analysis.

LD 228 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Reduce Energy Costs by Weatherizing and Upgrading the Energy Efficiency of Maine Homes and Businesses and To Create Jobs by Providing for a Trained Workforce for Maine's Energy Future ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BEAVERS BOYLE	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue to reduce energy costs and to create jobs. The funds provided by this

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bond issue in the amount of \$55,000,000 will be used to support weatherization and other energy efficiency improvements for Maine homes, businesses and public buildings to save money, reduce dependence on increasingly scarce heating fuels, support health and comfort and protect the environment. Funds are also provided to expand the workforce for weatherization and energy efficiency services and other parts of a new green economy.

LD 230 An Act To Establish the Commission on Health Care Cost and Quality ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GRAHAM LACHOWICZ	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill establishes the Commission on Health Care Cost and Quality to monitor the accessibility, cost and quality of health care in the State. The bill also reestablishes the State Health Plan and requires the commission to develop the plan on a biennial basis.

**LD 232 An Act To Increase the Base for the Cost-of-living Increase for Retired State Employees and Teachers PUBLIC 578
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHERMAN	OTP-AM	S-375

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill increases the base for the calculation of cost-of-living increases for retired teachers and state employees under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System from \$20,000 to \$30,000 beginning in 2014 and makes a grammatical correction.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-375)

This amendment replaces the bill and increases the base for the calculation of the one-time, noncumulative cost-of-living adjustment payable in 2014 for retired teachers and state employees under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System from \$20,000 to \$30,000. The amendment also adds an emergency preamble and emergency clause.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 578 increases from \$20,000 to \$30,000 the base for the calculation of the one-time, noncumulative cost-of-living adjustment payable in 2014 for retired teachers and state employees under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

Public Law 2013, chapter 578 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 29, 2014.

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LD 234 An Act To Provide Tax Treatment Consistency for Limited Liability Companies and S Corporations ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOODBURY NELSON	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill allows a member of a pass-through entity, such as a limited liability company or S corporation, to receive an income tax credit against taxes imposed on that member's distributive share or pro rata share of the pass-through entity's income, and ensures that the amount used to calculate the income tax credit for certain members of pass-through entities cannot also be used as a deduction from income. This bill applies to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2014.

LD 273 An Act Authorizing a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund the Dredging of Casco Bay and the Expansion of the Portland Fish Exchange ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND WEAVER	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$6,500,000 to be used for dredging Portland Harbor in Casco Bay and for improvements to the Portland Fish Exchange building.

LD 276 Resolve, To Improve Access to Oral Health Care for MaineCare Recipients ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAIN CAREY	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this resolve was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This resolve increases MaineCare dental reimbursement rates for 20 preventive, diagnostic and restorative dental procedures to the tenth percentile.

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LD 294 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Construct a Facility To Assist Maine Agriculture in Control of Animal and Plant Diagnostics ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE SHERMAN	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$8,000,000 to be used to provide funds to assist Maine agriculture and to protect Maine farms through the creation of an animal and plant disease and insect control facility administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service.

LD 1861, as enacted by the 126th Legislature, contains a similar bond proposal.

LD 295 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Provide Weatherization Rebates for Veterans and Persons Eligible for Social Security ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RUSSELL	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$75,000,000 and directs the Efficiency Maine Trust to establish a weatherization rebate program for persons who receive social security retirement benefits or are veterans or dependents of veterans if the general obligation bond is approved by referendum.

LD 359 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Implement the Riverfront Island Master Plan ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRAVEN LIBBY N	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$20,000,000 to be used to implement the Riverfront Island Master Plan along the Androscoggin River in Lewiston and Auburn.

LD 360 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve Rail Lines in Western Maine ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CRAVEN CAREY	ONTP	

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This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$18,000,000 to be used to improve rail lines in western Maine, particularly the rail line from Portland to Lewiston.

LD 368 An Act To Ensure the Continuation of Dairy Farming

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHERMAN	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, which proposes to provide financial and technical assistance to dairy farms in the State to adapt new techniques and utilize new technology to offset the high cost of farming overhead, including the cost of feed and fuel.

LD 378 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Complete Renovation of a Pier at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DION	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill authorizes a General fund bond issue in the amount of \$1,000,000 to be used to complete renovation of a pier at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute.

LD 390 An Act To Restore MaineCare Coverage for Ambulatory Surgical Center Services

**P & S 29
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COOPER GRATWICK	OTP-AM ONTP	H-840

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill restores funding for MaineCare coverage for ambulatory surgical center services.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-840)

This amendment removes from the emergency preamble the word "inpatient," which was included in the bill in error. This amendment removes the appropriations and allocations section and adds a requirement that the Department of Health and Human Services adopt routine technical rules regarding the reimbursement of ambulatory

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surgical centers to take effect by July 1, 2014.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2013, chapter 29 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt routine technical rules regarding the reimbursement of ambulatory surgical centers to take effect by July 1, 2014.

Private and Special Law 2013, chapter 29 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 30, 2014.

LD 396 An Act To Appropriate Sufficient Funds for Indigent Legal Services ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
PRIEST VALENTINO	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill provides a General Fund appropriation of \$3,490,209 in fiscal year 2013-14 and \$5,995,237 in fiscal year 2014-15 for the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services to increase reimbursement for indigent legal services from \$50 per hour to \$70 per hour effective October 1, 2013, and to \$75 per hour effective July 1, 2014.

LD 436 An Act To Raise the Maximum 529 Plan Contribution Tax Deduction ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAZUREK	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill increases the maximum deduction for contributions to a qualified tuition program established under Section 529 of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to \$1,000 per designated beneficiary. The change applies to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2013.

LD 440 An Act To Create a Tax Credit for Primary Care Professionals Practicing in Underserved Areas PUBLIC 599

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T	OTP-AM	S-548

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

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This bill extends the existing dental care access tax credit, which currently allows the Department of Health and Human Services to certify dentists as eligible for the credit through 2015, by eliminating the repeal date of December 31, 2020. It creates a similar credit for primary care professionals practicing in underserved areas. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services oral health program to certify up to five eligible dentists who have unpaid student loans and practice full time for at least five years in an underserved area for the dental care access credit in each taxable year beginning on January 1, 2016. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to certify up to five eligible primary care professionals who have unpaid student loans and practice full time for at least five years in an underserved area for the primary care access credit in each taxable year beginning on January 1, 2013. These eligible dentists and primary care professionals may claim a credit, not to exceed \$12,000, for up to five years or until their student loans are paid in full, whichever comes first. The credit is nonrefundable.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-548)

This amendment eliminates the provision in the bill that extends the existing dental care access tax credit and additionally:

1. Clarifies that in order to be eligible for the primary care access tax credit, the person's unpaid student loan must be owed to an institution for course work directly related to that person's training in primary care medicine;
2. Adds an area with a medically underserved population to the definition of "underserved area";
3. Creates a graduated schedule for claiming the credit allowing an eligible primary care professional to claim an amount equal to the annual payments made on the professional's student loan not to exceed \$6,000 in the first year, \$9,000 in the second year, \$12,000 in the third year, \$15,000 in the fourth year and \$18,000 in the fifth year;
4. Provides that the primary care access credit is available for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2014, but before January 1, 2019;
5. Requires the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Maine Revenue Services to submit an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters beginning on January 1, 2016, indicating the number of eligible primary care professionals certified and decertified each year by the Department of Health and Human Services and the total annual loss of revenue attributable to the primary care access credit; and
6. Adds a \$23,000 transfer from the Medical Use of Marijuana Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account in the Department of Health and Human Services to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund no later than June 30, 2015.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 599 creates a credit for primary care professionals practicing in underserved areas for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2014 but before January 1, 2019 with a graduated schedule for claiming the credit allowing an eligible primary care professional to claim an amount equal to the annual payments made on the professional's student loan not to exceed \$6,000 in the first year, \$9,000 in the second year, \$12,000 in the third year, \$15,000 in the fourth year and \$18,000 in the fifth year. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Maine Revenue Services to submit an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters beginning on January 1, 2016 indicating the number of eligible primary care professionals certified and decertified each year by the Department of Health and Human Services and the total annual loss of revenue attributable to the primary care access credit. This law also requires a \$23,000 transfer from the Medical Use of Marijuana Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account in the Department of Health and Human Services to the unappropriated surplus of the

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General Fund no later than June 30, 2015.

LD 455 An Act To Increase the State Earned Income Credit ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
STUCKEY JACKSON T	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

Beginning in 2013, this bill increases the state earned income credit from 5% to 50% of the federal earned income credit and provides that the state earned income credit is fully refundable.

LD 464 An Act To Change Compensation for Career and Technical Education PUBLIC 583
Region Cooperative Board Meeting Attendance

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHAPMAN	OTP-AM	H-836

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Education. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill increases the compensation for a career and technical education region cooperative board member from \$10 to \$20 for each meeting the member attends.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-836)

This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 583 increases the compensation for a career and technical education region cooperative board member from \$10 to \$20 for each meeting the member attends.

LD 481 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Virtual Public Charter Schools ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MACDONALD W	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

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This bill amends the laws governing virtual public charter schools to:

1. Require the authorizer of a virtual public charter school to review and approve the courses and curricula for the virtual public charter school prior to the beginning of each school year;
2. Require that education personnel operating a virtual public charter school hold valid teacher certification in the State;
3. Require that each virtual public charter school student receive at least two personal visits from a teacher during each school year; and
4. Provide that only 20% of the per-pupil allocation of state and local operating funds follows the student to a virtual public charter school.

LD 488 An Act To Improve Access to Home-based and Community-based Care ONTP
in the MaineCare Program

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHENETTE LACHOWICZ	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill provides that Department of Health and Human Services coverage for services to a member who is served under one of the home-based and community-based care waiver programs in MaineCare must be at least 95% of what it would otherwise cost to provide such services to the member if the member were served in a nursing facility.

LD 499 An Act To Promote Dental Care for Low-income Populations ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HARLOW	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill provides funding for the dental clinic operated in Portland by Riverview Psychiatric Center. Specifically it provides funding for one part-time Physician III position and one Customer Representative Associate II - Human Services position and associated All Other funding for the dental clinic. These positions and funding are proposed for elimination in the Governor's proposed biennial budget for fiscal year 2014-2015.

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LD 513 **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Transportation, Broadband Infrastructure, Downtown Revitalization, Land for Maine's Future Board and Training Facilities for Tourism-related Training in Labor Market Areas with Higher-than-average Unemployment** **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LACHOWICZ KUSIAK	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$85,000,000 to be used to provide funds over five years for the State's transportation biennial capital work plan, the Communities for Maine's Future Program, the ConnectME Authority, the Land for Maine's Future Board, the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System for tourism-related training, targeted to particular projects in labor markets that have an unemployment rate higher than the statewide average.

LD 538 **An Act To Align Costs Recognized for Transfer of Nursing Facilities and Residential Care Facilities with Ordinary Commercial and Government Contracting Standards** **PUBLIC 582**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SANDERSON HAMPER	OTP-AM	H-837

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill provides that, to align treatment of long-term care providers with other government contractors and typical private transactions, MaineCare depreciation recapture from sellers of nursing facilities and residential care facilities does not apply to any sales on or after July 1, 2012.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-837)

This amendment provides a new methodology under the MaineCare program for calculating recapture of depreciation upon the sale of a nursing facility. The amendment requires the Department of Health and Human Services to apply for a state plan amendment to enable the use of the new methodology and makes the effective date of the provision of law that establishes the new methodology contingent upon the approval of the state plan amendment by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The amendment also provides a new methodology for recapturing depreciation upon the sale of residential care facilities for which reimbursement for room and board costs, including depreciation, is provided by the Department of Health and Human Services. The methodology is similar to the methodology used for nursing facilities.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 582 establishes a new methodology under the MaineCare program for calculating recapture of depreciation upon the sale of a nursing facility and requires the Department of Health and Human

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Services to apply for a state plan amendment to enable the use of the new methodology. It also provides a new methodology, similar to the new methodology for nursing homes, for recapturing depreciation upon the sale of residential care facilities for which reimbursement for room and board costs, including depreciation, is provided by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The effective date of the provision of law that establishes the new methodology for calculating recapture of depreciation upon the sale of a nursing facility is contingent upon the approval of the state plan amendment by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

LD 549 An Act To Allow a Person Who Is 21 Years of Age or Older To Expunge ONTP
Certain Criminal Convictions

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WELSH PLUMMER	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill allows a person who is 21 years of age or older to petition the Secretary of State to expunge a criminal record of the person if the crime was committed when the person was between 18 and 20 years of age and it is the person's only criminal conviction.

LD 631 An Act To Change the Taxes on Fuel Purchased for Use Other Than on ONTP
the Highways

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill changes the taxes on fuel purchased for use other than for vehicles used on the highways of this State from 1¢ per gallon plus 5% use tax to 5¢ per gallon with no use tax.

LD 672 An Act Relating to Exemption from Immunization for Schoolchildren ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GRAHAM GRATWICK	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

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This bill requires that a school health care provider supply to the parent of a child excepted from the immunization requirements for schoolchildren in the State information about the benefits and risks of immunization and sign a statement that the information has been provided to the parent.

LD 707 An Act To Provide Assistance to Maine's Dairy Farms ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CUSHING GIFFORD	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, which proposes to limit hauling costs of milk by a milk transportation company for a dairy farmer to the mileage between the dairy farm and the nearest milk plant still operating in the State, regardless of the final disposition of the milk.

LD 713 An Act To Return Local Revenue Sharing to Full Funding ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KATZ BLACK	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill establishes a plan to return the state-municipal revenue-sharing program to full funding over a three year period and replace the fixed-dollar reductions to this program and provide some long-term certainty in this revenue source for local governments.

The phased-in return to full 5% funding of the state-municipal revenue sharing starts with a transfer to the Local Government Fund of 3.5% of the revenue-sharing tax revenue collected during fiscal year 2013-14, and increases to 4% of revenue collected in fiscal year 2014-15 and finally to 5% of the revenue collected in fiscal year 2015-16 and thereafter. A portion of the transfers to the Local Government Fund are transferred each month to the Disproportionate Tax Burden Fund according to a scheduled phased-in increase to the percentage share.

LD 715 An Act To Improve Access to Career and Technical Schools ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JOHNSON P	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a

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Special or Regular Session.

This bill provides for reimbursement by the State of the actual transportation costs for career and technical education students who reside in a school administrative unit that is determined to be an isolated small unit pursuant to the provisions of the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act. Isolated small units must be reimbursed in the following fiscal year for the actual transportation costs for career and technical education students that are incurred in a fiscal year.

**LD 741 An Act To Promote Fairness in the Sales Tax Exemption for Vehicles ONTP
Used in Interstate Commerce**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
THOMAS GIFFORD	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill provides a sales tax exemption for vehicles used in interstate or foreign commerce, including those without operating authority under Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 392.9a.

**LD 781 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund the ONTP
Construction of a New State Archives Facility**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BOLDUC	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

The bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$25,000,000 to be used to provide funds for the construction of a new Maine State Archives facility to provide up-to-date storage space.

**LD 790 An Act To Repeal the Bonding Authority of the Maine Governmental Accepted Majority
Facilities Authority (ONTP) Report**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SIROCKI	ONTP OTP-AM	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill removes the authority of the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to issue bonds or negotiable securities beginning October 1, 2013.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-588)

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. It changes the effective date from October 1, 2013 to October 1, 2014.

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LD 804 An Act To Improve Preventive Dental Health Care and Reduce Costs in ONTP
the MaineCare Program

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAREY LACHOWICZ	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill adds one annual preventive oral health visit to the MaineCare-covered oral health services for adults 21 years of age and older.

LD 864 An Act Regarding Service of Small Claims Notices ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
COLLINS	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill permits service of a statement of claim in a small claims court proceeding by alternate means as permitted for service of a summons and complaint under the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 4(g).

LD 874 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Reduce the Cost of ONTP
Shipping for Maine Businesses, Attract Tourists and Facilitate the
Development of Commuter Rail Transportation

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAZUREK THERIAULT	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

The bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$27,500,000 to be used to provide funds for railroad reconstruction and expansion to assist Maine's businesses by facilitating the shipment of goods and enhancing the ability of those businesses to compete. It requires that the Department of Transportation consult with the business and economic development sectors to develop a list of priorities in regard to railroad construction and reconstruction projects, focusing on projects important to tourism and projects with greatest potential for increased commuter and passenger rail service and taking into consideration the extent to which the proposed projects reduce the consumption of oil.

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LD 904 An Act To Clarify When Bonds May Be Issued

**Died Between
Houses**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAREY TUTTLE	OTP-AM ONTP	H-595

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, which proposes to amend the laws governing the issuance of General Fund bonds that have been approved by referendum by the citizens of the State. Under this bill, once the issuance of bonds is approved by referendum, the issuance of the bonds must be approved by the Governor unless the Governor determines, based on information available to the Governor, that the debt service on the bonds would be greater than the amount budgeted, or the project or projects for which the bonds were authorized are not going forward and the funding to be provided by the bonds is not required.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-595)

This amendment strikes the bill and specifies the events that allow the Governor to delay or forgo issuing a general obligation bond. This amendment also requires the Governor to provide certain information upon delaying or forgoing issuance of a bond..

**LD 906 An Act To Permit a School Administrative Unit Discretion Concerning
Participation of Students from Charter Schools in School
Extracurricular and Interscholastic Activities**

PUBLIC 601

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MOONEN MILLETT	OTP-AM	H-838

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill allows a public charter school, at the discretion of the superintendent of the school administrative unit, to participate in school administrative unit sponsored interscholastic and other activities and, at the discretion of the superintendent, allows a student of the public charter school to participate in a school's extracurricular activities.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-838)

This amendment provides that the superintendent of a school administrative unit may deny the request of a public charter school student to participate in an extracurricular or interscholastic activity only if the public charter school the student attends already provides that same activity or if the noncharter public school does not have the capacity to provide the student with the opportunity to participate in the activity. If approval for participation is withheld by the superintendent of the school administrative unit, the superintendent must provide a written explanation to the student or the student's parent or guardian stating the reason or reasons for the decision. The amendment also adds a mandate preamble.

Enacted Law Summary

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Public Law 2013, chapter 601 allows a public charter school, at the discretion of the superintendent of the school administrative unit, to participate in school administrative unit-sponsored interscholastic and other activities. It also requires the superintendent of the school administrative unit to allow a student of the public charter school to participate in a school's extracurricular activities unless the public charter school the student attends already provides that same activity or the noncharter public school lacks the capacity to provide the student with the opportunity to participate in the activity. If approval for participation is withheld by the superintendent of the school administrative unit, the superintendent must provide a written explanation to the student or the student's parent or guardian stating the reason or reasons for the decision.

LD 925 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Riverfront Community Development ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LIBBY N CLEVELAND	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

The bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$25,000,000 to be used to fund a grant program to invest in projects that contribute to economic, environmental and community development and revitalization along the State's rivers, promote economic activity, protect the environment and enhance the quality of life for Maine people.

LD 928 An Act To Improve MaineCare Nursing Home Reimbursement To Preserve Access and Promote Quality ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MALABY	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill provides supplemental MaineCare payments to nursing homes that serve a high percentage of MaineCare residents and establishes a pay-for-performance program in nursing homes.

The Department of Health and Human Services is authorized to adopt emergency rules to take effect retroactively to July 1, 2013 for the establishment of the supplemental MaineCare payments to nursing homes that serve a high percentage of MaineCare residents.

The bill also appropriates state funds and allocates matching federal funds for cost-of-living increases for MaineCare reimbursement to nursing facilities in the 2014-2015 biennium.

LD 933 An Act To Establish a State Board of Dental Hygiene Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SIROCKI	OTP-AM	H-845

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In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill establishes the State Board of Dental Hygienists.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-845)

This amendment makes the following changes to the bill:

1. It changes the name of the State Board of Dental Hygienists to the State Board of Dental Hygiene;
2. It establishes the State Board of Dental Hygiene as an affiliated board with the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation that shares resources with the Board of Dental Examiners;
3. It adds provisions to explain that the administrative expenses for staff and infrastructure of the Board of Dental Examiners must be shared on a pro rata basis with the State Board of Dental Hygiene and provides that the State Board of Dental Hygiene is required to charge sufficient licensure fees to finance the pro rata sharing of costs;
4. It removes all references in the bill that add an executive and assistant executive director and a secretary to the board and removes other technical provisions relating to the board's powers and duties that are not necessary to the board's primary responsibilities;
5. It removes provisions in the bill that establish dental hygienist adjudicatory panels;
6. It amends provisions in the bill relating to appointments to the board of public health hygienists and independent practice dental hygienists to ensure the qualifications for appointment accurately reflect the current statutory licensure requirements. It also adds the requirement that one dental hygienist on the board be an active instructor in an approved educational program in dental hygiene;
7. It establishes that any fees set by the board may not exceed \$175;
8. It removes provisions that require an in-person interview for applicants who had completed the North East Regional Board of Dental Examiners, Inc. dental hygiene examination more than one year prior to application for licensure and for applicants seeking licensure by endorsement;
9. It adds two unallocated transition provisions to provide that the rules of the Board of Dental Examiners applicable to dental hygienists that are in effect on the effective date of this legislation remain in effect until amended or repealed by the State Board of Dental Hygiene and establishes staggered terms for initial appointments to that board;
10. It requires the State Controller to transfer \$211,820 from available balances in the Board of Dental Examiners, Other Special Revenue Funds account to the State Board of Dental Hygiene, Other Special Revenue Funds account no later than August 15, 2014 to cover the initial start-up costs of the State Board of Dental Hygiene;
11. It changes the allocation of the provisions establishing the State Board of Dental Hygiene to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 143 to avoid a numbering conflict; and
12. It adds an appropriations and allocations section.

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LD 939 An Act To Restore Maine's Groundfishing Industry ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND MOONEN	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill includes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$3,500,000 annually to the Department of Marine Resources beginning in fiscal year 2013-14 for the purchase of federal groundfishing permits.

LD 940 An Act To Reestablish State-municipal Revenue-sharing as a Compact between the State and Municipal Governments ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND EVES	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Beginning July 1, 2015, this bill restructures two funds that are the depositories of state-municipal revenue-sharing resources prior to distribution to municipalities and renames the funds as irrevocable trust funds.

LD 942 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Deficient State Highways, Bridges and Aviation, Marine, Rail and Transit Facilities ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MAZUREK THERIAULT	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

The funds provided by this bond issue in the amount of \$120,000,000 will be used for improvements to highways and bridges and rail, aviation, pedestrian and bicycle and marine facilities and to replace transit buses. Highway and bridge investments will be in high-priority roads that are rated in poor or unacceptable condition. Funding is also provided to repair state aid minor collector highways in partnership with municipalities under the Secondary Road Program Fund. Bond funds will match federal, local and private funds providing a total match of at least \$173,000,000.

LD 951 An Act To Repeal the 2-year Limit on Methadone and Suboxone Treatments under MaineCare ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CASSIDY CRAVEN	ONTP	

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In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

Current law limits MaineCare coverage or reimbursement for buprenorphine and naloxone combination drugs, also known as Suboxone, for the treatment of addiction to opioids and for methadone for the treatment of addiction to opiates, to 24 months. This bill repeals the 24-month limit.

LD 979 An Act To Exempt the Sale of the United States Flag from the Sales Tax ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHORT DUTREMBLE	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill exempts sales of United States flags made entirely of cloth from sales tax.

LD 998 An Act To Provide Consistency in the Application of the Property Tax Exemption for Religious Organizations ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HASKELL GOODE	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill expands the property tax exemption for property owned by religious organizations to include all real and personal property owned and occupied or used solely for its own purposes by a religious organization in connection with religious worship and removes the \$20,000 limitation on the exemption for parsonages and the \$6,000 limitation on the exemption for personal property.

LD 1010 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Ensure Clean Water ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CHIPMAN	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

The bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$50,000,000 to be used to provide funds for the Maine Clean Water Fund to assist municipalities in achieving clean water by addressing various water quality issues

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and mandates, including, but not limited to, separate and combined sewer and storm water overflow and sewage treatment.

LD 1011 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Upgrade Facilities and Purchase Classroom Equipment for Maine's Seven Community Colleges ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE LANGLEY	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

The bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$15,000,000 to be used to provide funds to renovate and provide for new facilities and to fund a backlog of projects at the seven Maine community colleges, of which \$13,800,000 is provided for renovation and new facilities and \$1,200,000 is provided for funding a backlog of projects.

LD 1036 An Act To Amend the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
NELSON CRAVEN	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill amends the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program to allow the Finance Authority of Maine to provide debt relief directly to the applicant or to make loan repayments to the lender. This bill also increases the number of applicants who may be eligible for loan relief from three applicants to 40 applicants per year, decreases the maximum amount of debt relief to \$1,000 and provides an ongoing appropriation of \$20,000 per year.

LD 1043 An Act To Improve the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program PUBLIC 605

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BERRY CUSHING	OTP-AM	H-851

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Part A provides funds in the amount of \$10,000,000 to be used to provide funds for state, regional and local financial intermediaries to make flexible loans to and investments in small businesses and real estate projects to create jobs.

Part B amends the laws regarding the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program of the Finance Authority of Maine to include revitalization of downtowns and building stronger communities and a sustainable economy as purposes of the program. It clarifies that a corporation under the program may use revenue from

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commitment fees and interest to cover its operating costs, including loan fund management, increases the dollar amount of the maximum loan available to a borrower and adjusts other financing terms. It also adds businesses engaged in commercial and mixed-use real estate and community facilities and businesses engaged in serving tourists to the list of businesses that are eligible for financial assistance under the program. Part B takes effect only if the General Fund bond issue proposed in Part A is approved by the voters of the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-851)

This amendment strikes the bill and replaces it with changes to the laws regarding the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program of the Finance Authority of Maine. It adds revitalization of downtowns and building stronger communities and a sustainable economy as purposes of the program. It clarifies that a lending corporation under the program may use revenue from commitment fees and interest to cover its operating costs, including loan fund management, increases the dollar amount of the maximum loan available to a borrower, allows a lending corporation to serve more than one region and adjusts other financing terms. It adds businesses engaged in commercial and mixed-use real estate and community facilities, businesses engaged in serving tourists and value-added natural resource enterprises to the list of businesses that are eligible for financial assistance under the program. It changes the program to allow participation by companies with 100 or fewer employees, instead of 50 or fewer, and by companies with annual sales of up to \$10,000,000, instead of \$5,000,000 or less. It also amends the total loan amount by increasing the cap from \$250,000 to \$350,000 for corporations and from \$100,000 to \$350,000 for quality child care projects. The amendment also adds a contingent effective date, under which the provisions of the Act do not take effect until the effective date of an act of the Legislature that appropriates or allocates a sum of at least \$1,000,000 to the Finance Authority of Maine for the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program and that specifies that the funds are appropriated or allocated for the purposes of this Act.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 605 makes the following changes to the laws regarding the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program of the Finance Authority of Maine:

1. It adds revitalization of downtowns and building stronger communities and a sustainable economy as purposes of the program;
2. It clarifies that a lending corporation under the program may use revenue from commitment fees and interest to cover its operating costs, including loan fund management, increases the dollar amount of the maximum loan available to a borrower, allows a lending corporation to serve more than one region and adjusts other financing terms;
3. It adds businesses engaged in commercial and mixed-use real estate and community facilities, businesses engaged in serving tourists and value-added natural resource enterprises to the list of businesses that are eligible for financial assistance under the program;
4. It changes the program to allow participation by companies with 100 or fewer employees, instead of 50 or fewer, and by companies with annual sales of up to \$10,000,000, instead of \$5,000,000 or less; and
5. It amends the total loan amount by increasing the cap from \$250,000 to \$350,000 for corporations and from \$100,000 to \$350,000 for quality child care projects.

Public Law 2013, chapter 605 does not take effect until the effective date of an act of the Legislature that appropriates or allocates a sum of at least \$1,000,000 to the Finance Authority of Maine for the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program and that specifies that the funds are appropriated or allocated for the purposes of this Act.

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LD 1052 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve Intermodal Infrastructure ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FARNSWORTH HASKELL	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

The bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$20,000,000 to be used to provide funds to reconfigure, repair, maintain and improve the intermodal infrastructure in the State, including but not limited to rail, truck, marine and air transit modes.

LD 1090 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Expand Nursing Programs at Maine's Seven Community Colleges ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HASKELL RUSSELL	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$15,000,000 to be used to provide funds to expand nursing programs at the seven Maine community colleges.

LD 1101 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Waterfront Development ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HASKELL CAREY	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$10,000,000 to be used to fund a grant program to invest in projects that contribute to economic, environmental and community development and revitalization along the State's waterfronts, promote economic activity, protect the environment and enhance the quality of life for Maine people.

LD 1105 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Revitalize Maine's Downtowns through Innovative Business Development and the Creative Economy ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ALFOND GRANT	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

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This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$10,000,000 to be used as seed money to capitalize the Downtown Revitalization Fund, a revolving loan and grant fund to encourage business development in downtown areas, targeting innovative businesses, light manufacturing, trades and small businesses and space for artists and artisans. Loans must be matched by \$1 from the recipient for every \$2 received from the fund and issues grants.

LD 1125 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Expand Public Water Infrastructure to Areas with Contaminated Well Water ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SHAW	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

The bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$2,000,000 to be used to establish a grant program to expand public water infrastructure to areas that experience well-water contamination.

LD 1142 An Act Regarding Correctional Officers' Retirement ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
DECHANT	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill provides that, for purposes of determining retirement benefits under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System, state and county corrections employees are entitled to receive service credit for any period during which the employee was employed but unable to work due to a work-related injury compensable under the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992.

LD 1157 An Act To Establish the Fair Chance for Employment Act ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RUSSELL JACKSON T	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill establishes the Fair Chance for Employment, which:

1. Prohibits employers from refusing to consider for employment or offer employment to an individual based on the individual's status as employed or unemployed. Employers are also prohibited from advertising that current employment status is a qualification or requirement for a job or that the employer will not consider an applicant based on current employment status. Employers are prohibited from directing an employment agency to take current employment status into consideration when screening or referring applicants;

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2. Prohibits employment agencies from failing to consider or refer applicants based on employment status, advertising that employment status is a qualification or requirement for a job or that an employer will not consider applicants based on current employment status or discriminating against individuals in any manner that may limit their access to information about jobs or limit the individual's number of referrals for consideration of jobs because of their current employment status;
3. Prohibits online job websites from publishing any advertisement for a job vacancy that includes any provision requiring or indicating that current employment status is a qualification or requirement for a job or that an employer will not consider applicants for employment based on current employment status;
4. Prohibits an employer or employment agency from interfering with individuals exercising their rights under this Act or otherwise discriminating against individuals for opposing any practice made illegal by this Act. It also prohibits discriminating against any individual who has filed a complaint or caused to be instituted any proceeding under this Act or who otherwise gives or may give information or testimony in connection with any inquiry or proceeding under this Act;
5. Requires employers and employment agencies to keep records pertaining to compliance with this Act, and it provides the Director of the Bureau of Labor Standards within the Department of Labor with the investigative authority to enter places of business and examine all records related to allegations of violations of this Act;
6. Authorizes a person who has been affected by a violation under this Act to bring a civil action against the employer or employment agency responsible. A person may bring a civil action on behalf of another individual who has been affected by a violation of this Act or a group of individuals similarly situated;
7. Grants the Department of Labor the authority to file a civil action on behalf of an individual or group of individuals against an employer or employment agency that violates the Act. Once the department commences such a lawsuit, there is no more private right to a civil action on behalf of the individual;
8. Establishes a duty for the Director of the Bureau of Labor Standards to enforce all laws relating to consideration of employment status in hiring practices, as well as the specific duty to receive, investigate and attempt to resolve complaints of violations of this Act;
9. Provides the Department of Labor with the authority to terminate state contracts and bar a contractor from participating in state contracts for a period of up to three years when a contractor has been found by a court to be in violation of this Act; and
10. Does not prohibit employment decisions or advertisements when a requirement related to employment status is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to successful performance in the job. It also would not preclude an employer from considering employment history or the reasons underlying an individual's employment status.

LD 1163 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Main Street ONTP
and Downtown Economic Development Projects

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOODALL DECHANT	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$20,000,000 to be used to provide funds for main street and downtown economic development projects, with \$12,000,000 to be awarded to municipalities that are not

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automatic recipients of federal Community Development Block Grant funds and \$8,000,000 to be awarded through open competitive grants for all municipalities.

LD 1175 An Act To Review the Laws Governing Retirement Benefits for Certain State Employees P & S 30

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVIELLO	OTP-AM	S-413
KESCHL	ONTP	S-544 HILL

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill provides that service retirement benefits for a Capitol Police officer in the employment of the Department of Public Safety be computed on the basis of all of the member's creditable service, regardless of when that service was earned.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-413)

This amendment is the majority report of the committee. Part A clarifies that service retirement benefits for a Capitol Police officer in the employment of the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Capitol Police on the effective date of the legislation must be computed on the basis of all of the member's creditable service, regardless of when that service was earned. Part A also adds an appropriations and allocations section and makes technical changes to the bill. Part B directs the Executive Director of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to determine the number of active members who have earned creditable service in the 1998 Special Plan after earning creditable service in the regular plan in a capacity set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 17851-A, subsection 1; identify the required changes to the laws governing retirement benefits to allow service benefits for a current member of the 1998 Special Plan to be computed on the basis of all the member's creditable service in a capacity set forth in Title 5, section 17851-A, subsection 1, regardless of when that service was earned; and calculate the cost to the State of implementing such a change. The executive director is required to report the results of the analysis to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over retirement matters.

Senate Amendment "A" To Committee Amendment "A" (S-544)

This amendment strikes the provisions of the bill and the provisions of Committee Amendment "A" that provide that service retirement benefits for a Capitol Police officer in the employment of the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Capitol Police on the effective date of the legislation must be computed on the basis of all of the member's creditable service, regardless of when that service was earned.

This amendment retains the provisions of Committee Amendment "A" that direct the Executive Director of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to determine the number of active members who have earned creditable service in the 1998 Special Plan after having earned creditable service in the regular plan in a capacity set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 17851-A, subsection 1; identify the required changes to the laws governing retirement benefits to allow service benefits for a current member of the 1998 Special Plan to be computed on the basis of all the member's creditable service in a capacity set forth in Title 5, section 17851-A, subsection 1, regardless of when that service was earned; and calculate the cost to the State of implementing such a change. The executive director is required to report the results of the analysis to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over retirement matters.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2013, chapter 30 directs the Executive Director of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to do the following:

1. Determine the number of active members who have earned creditable service in the 1998 Special Plan after

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having earned creditable service in the regular plan in a capacity set forth in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 17851-A, subsection 1;

2. Identify the required changes to the laws governing retirement benefits to allow service benefits for a current member of the 1998 Special Plan to be computed on the basis of all the member's creditable service in a capacity set forth in Title 5, section 17851-A, subsection 1, regardless of when that service was earned;

3. Calculate the cost to the State of implementing such a change; and

4. Report the results of the analysis to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over retirement matters by January 15, 2015.

LD 1180 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Maine Community Reinvestment and Job Creation Fund

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GERZOFSKY PRIEST	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

The bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$25,000,000 to be used to establish the Maine Community Reinvestment and Job Creation Fund, to benefit Brunswick Landing, formerly the Brunswick Naval Air Station, and to benefit the Loring Development Authority of Maine.

LD 1185 An Act To Enhance Efforts To Use Locally Produced Food in Schools

Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
MCCABE ALFOND	OTP-AM	H-839

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill requires a school administrative unit to report on its use of local foods in its school meal programs. It also requires the Department of Education to make the reporting available to the public and to publish a list of schools that meet benchmarks for increasing the use of local foods. It also requires the Department of Education to establish rules to implement the provisions.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-839)

This amendment provides that school administrative units must determine and report at least annually the percentage of food purchased, grown or otherwise acquired for use in its elementary schools and secondary schools that is grown, raised or caught in the State as well as the percentage of dairy products purchased for use in its elementary schools and secondary schools that is produced in the State. It also adds an effective date of September 1, 2014 and a mandate preamble.

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LD 1188 Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To ONTP
Amend Its Rules of Reimbursement under the MaineCare Program for
Audiology and Speech-language Pathology Services

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HERBIG PATRICK	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this resolve was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend the rules of reimbursement under the MaineCare program for audiology and speech-language pathology services by October 1, 2013 in order to equalize rates, eliminate a prior authorization requirement and provide for payment by the MaineCare program of the Medicare deductible for audiology services for certain MaineCare members. The rules are designated as routine technical rules.

LD 1223 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Human PUBLIC 568
Health Research in Maine

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAIN DILL	OTP-AM	S-557

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$50,000,000, will be used to provide funds over five years for research, development and commercialization for targeted technology sectors, awarded after a competitive process administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development, Maine Technology Institute.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-557)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill. Under this amendment, the funds provided by the bond issue, in the amount of \$3,000,000, will be matched by \$5,700,000 in private and public funds to be awarded through a competitive process to institutions that have been designated as Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence and have also received IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence grants and will be used to modernize and expand the infrastructure in a biological laboratory specializing in tissue repair and regeneration located in Maine in order to increase workforce training, to retain and recruit to Maine biomedical research groups and to create a drug discovery and development facility.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 568 provides for a bond issue in the amount of \$3,000,000 to be matched by \$5,700,000 in private and public funds and awarded through a competitive process to institutions that have been designated as Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence and have also received IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence grants and will be used to modernize and expand the infrastructure in a biological laboratory specializing in tissue repair and regeneration located in Maine in order to increase workforce training, to retain and recruit to Maine biomedical research groups and to create a drug discovery and development facility.

The bond issue is subject to voter approval at a statewide election to be held in November 2014.

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LD 1287 An Act To Deregulate Face-to-face Transactions between the People and Small Farms and Small Food Producers ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HICKMAN SAVIELLO	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill facilitates direct sales between Maine farmers and consumers. It allows persons preparing food in their own homes to sell directly to consumers or to offer homemade food at certain events without being licensed as food establishments.

LD 1309 An Act To Strengthen the Maine Clean Election Act ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
YOUNGBLOOD CAREY	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill makes the following changes to the Maine Clean Election Act:

1. It doubles the current seed money cap for participating Senate and House candidates and removes the seed money requirement for gubernatorial candidates;
2. It replaces the Maine Clean Election Act matching funds system with a system of optional supplemental funding for participating Maine Clean Election Act candidates who collect additional qualifying contributions; and
3. It establishes new baseline initial distribution amounts.

LD 1354 An Act To Create the Aging in Place Program ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOODALL CAREY	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

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This bill establishes the Aging in Place Program within the Department of Economic and Community Development to assist low-income seniors with aging in place, including assisting low-income seniors to remain in their homes. It also establishes the Aging in Place Fund and appropriates money to the fund. The department is required to disburse money from the fund to a statewide network that provides weatherization and home repair services, including but not limited to repairs to meet federal Americans with Disabilities Act standards, to replace substandard fixtures and hardware and to reduce ongoing maintenance and heating costs for low-income residents.

LD 1385 An Act To Amend the Reporting Requirements of the Workers' Compensation Management Fund PUBLIC 447

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FITZPATRICK	OTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

Current law requires the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to provide to the State Budget Officer and departments and agencies notice of quarterly premium payments due to the Workers' Compensation Management Fund so that the charges may be incorporated into the normal budgetary process. This bill instead requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Division of Employee Health and Benefits to inform the State Budget Officer of the premium charges for the fiscal year, and directs the State Budget Officer to advise any affected department or agency so those charges may be incorporated into the normal budgetary process. This bill also removes transitional language that was applicable in the 114th Legislature.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 447 requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Division of Employee Health and Benefits to inform the State Budget Officer of the health insurance premium charges for the fiscal year, and directs the State Budget Officer to advise any affected department or agency so those charges may be incorporated into the normal budgetary process. This law also removes transitional language that was applicable in the 114th Legislature.

LD 1395 An Act Regarding the Cost-of-living Adjustment for Certain State Retirees When the Cost of Living Declines ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill provides that the public employee pension adjustment for changes in the Consumer Price Index does not include downward adjustments to achieve cost-neutrality attributable to a decrease in the Consumer Price Index for years prior to a retiree's retirement.

LD 1418 An Act To Authorize a Matching General Fund Bond Issue for Improvements to the Seven Community College Campuses ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
CAMPBELL R	ONTP	

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This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$10,000,000 to be used to provide matching funds for the seven Maine community colleges in order to improve facilities, enhance education grant-issuing foundations and expand academic bridge programs after the Maine community colleges raise \$2,500,000 in private or in-kind donations.

LD 1424 An Act To Increase Mileage Reimbursement and Compensation for Jurors ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
BROOKS ALFOND	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill changes the mileage rate paid to jurors and witnesses from 15¢ per mile and 22¢ per mile, respectively, to the rate paid by the State for travel by employees of the State for the business of the State, which is currently 44¢ per mile. This bill also increases the daily rate paid to jurors and witnesses from \$10 to \$20.

LD 1445 An Act To Facilitate Children's Testimony ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
TYLER BURNS	ONTP	

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary. It was placed on the Special Appropriations Table, removed from the table, committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

This bill allows a court, by motion from the State, to allow the testimony of a child who is ten years of age or younger and the alleged victim of a sexual assault or sexual exploitation outside of the presence of the defendant if the court finds by clear and convincing evidence that the protection of the judicial process or the well-being of the child outweighs the constitutional rights of the defendant to confront the defendant's accuser. This bill requires that testimony by a child victim outside the presence of the defendant must be televised by live, two-way closed-circuit television with adequate provisions, including that the court, jury and defendant can hear and observe the child. This bill does not allow testimony of a child outside of the presence of the defendant if the defendant is an attorney pro se or if a positive identification of the defendant by the child is required.

LD 1455 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Ensure Clean Water and Safe Communities PUBLIC 589

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
GOODALL BERRY	OTP-AM	S-558

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This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill authorizes a bond issue in the amount of \$50,000,000 in order to make cost-effective investments in natural and built infrastructure to reduce threats to the State's water resources and provide a host of benefits for communities across Maine, including ensuring an abundant and high-quality drinking water supply, allowing communities to more effectively prepare for storms and flood events, conserving habitat for recreational fisheries, waterfowl and aquatic and wildlife species and strengthening the State's long-term economic base and competitive advantage. The bill establishes the Water Resources Commission and the Fund To Ensure Clean Water and Safe Communities. The commission is charged with assessing the State's water resource infrastructure needs and with allocating funds for resource conservation and development projects.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-558)

This amendment authorizes a bond issue in the amount of \$10,000,000 in order to make cost-effective investments in natural and built infrastructure to encourage improvements to the State's water resources and provide a host of benefits for communities across Maine, including ensuring an abundant and high-quality drinking water supply, restoring wetlands and strengthening the State's long-term economic base and competitive advantage.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 589 authorizes a bond issue in the amount of \$10,000,000 in order to make cost-effective investments in natural and built infrastructure to encourage improvements to the State's water resources and provide a host of benefits for communities across Maine, including ensuring an abundant and high-quality drinking water supply, restoring wetlands and strengthening the State's long-term economic base and competitive advantage.

The bond issue is subject to voter approval at a statewide election to be held in November 2014.

LD 1461 An Act To Require the State To Divest Itself of Assets Invested in the Fossil Fuel Industry ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JONES LACHOWICZ	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill provides that the State Treasurer and the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System may not invest assets within in the fossil fuel industry and requires divestment of such existing assets by January 1, 2018.

LD 1468 Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission To Study the Potential Benefits and Barriers Involved in Making Renewable Thermal Technologies Eligible for Qualification in Maine's Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T HOBBINS	REF TO EUT	S-510 JACKSON T

In the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature, this bill was referred to and reported out of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. It was committed to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and carried over to a Special or Regular Session.

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This bill establishes the High-efficiency Biomass Pellet Boiler Rebate Program, administered by the Efficiency Maine Trust, to give rebates to owners or occupants of buildings who install high-efficiency wood pellet boilers or heating systems in the buildings. The rebates are paid from the Home Heating Conversion Fund, administered by the Efficiency Maine Trust, which also provides funds to replace outdoor wood boilers that do not meet air quality standards as determined by the Department of Environmental Protection. The Home Heating Conversion Fund is funded by \$20,000,000 in revenue bonds issued by the Efficiency Maine Trust and paid for by the sale of sustainably harvested timber from public reserved lands.

Senate Amendment "B" (S-510)

This amendment replaces the bill with a resolve. The resolve directs the Public Utilities Commission to study the potential benefits and barriers involved in making renewable thermal technologies eligible for qualification in the State's renewable energy portfolio standard. In conducting this study, the commission is directed to examine and consider the renewable energy portfolio standards of New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Maryland.

LD 1473 An Act To Create a Public Option Pension System

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
RUSSELL	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill establishes the Maine Secure Choice Retirement Savings Trust within the Department of Labor, which:

1. Requires eligible employers to offer a payroll deduction retirement savings arrangement so that eligible employees can contribute a portion of their salary or wages to a retirement savings program account in the Maine Secure Choice Retirement Savings Program, also created by the bill;
2. Requires an eligible employee to participate in the Maine Secure Choice Retirement Savings Program, unless the employee specifically opts out of the program. The Bureau of Labor Standards is required to provide forms to employers for employees to opt out of the program;
3. Establishes the seven-member Maine Secure Choice Retirement Savings Investment Board to administer the trust;
4. Specifies risk management and investment policies that the board must follow in administering the program.;
5. Requires a specific percentage of the annual salary or wages of an eligible employee participating in the program to be deposited in the trust, which is divided into a program fund and an administrative fund, and authorizes the board to establish a gain and loss revenue account within the program fund;
6. Requires the board to establish a retirement investment clearinghouse on the Internet and a vendor registration process through which information about employer-sponsored retirement plans and payroll deduction individual retirement accounts and annuities offered by private sector providers is available for consideration by eligible employers contingent upon sufficient interest and funding by vendors;
7. Requires the Bureau of Labor Standards to assess a penalty on an eligible employer who fails to make the program available to eligible employees;
8. Provides that the State has no liability for the payment of benefits under the program;

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9. Directs the board to conduct a market analysis to determine whether the necessary conditions needed to implement the provisions of the trust can be achieved. The analysis may be conducted only where sufficient funding is available from the nonprofit or private sector or the state or federal government. The provisions of the bill establishing the Maine Secure Choice Retirement Savings Investment Board and the trust are repealed December 31, 2015 unless the board reports to the Legislature the board's determination, through the market analysis, that those provisions of the trust are self-sustaining and that funds exist to allow the board to implement the program until sufficient funds become available to make it self-sustaining and the Legislature takes action based on the board's determination and requires the board to ensure that insurance, annuity or other funding mechanisms are in place to protect the value of individuals' accounts; and

10. Prevents the board from implementing the trust if the individual retirement account arrangements offered fail to qualify for favorable federal income tax treatment ordinarily accorded to individual retirement accounts under the Internal Revenue Code or if the program is determined to be an employee benefit plan under the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act.

LD 1492 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Strengthen Maine's Economy and Communities ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
KATZ ROTUNDO	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

The bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$85,000,000 to be used to provide funds for development projects for the Communities for Maine's Future Program; for capital investment in programs to train workers for which there is a demonstrated need; for research and development and commercialization of technology; for infrastructure repairs and improvements for public transport and public trails; and for wastewater and safe drinking water infrastructure improvements.

LD 1514 An Act To Reform the Maine Public Employees Retirement System ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
WOODBURY	ONTP	

This bill was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature.

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208, which proposes to amend the retirement provisions for state employees and teachers participating in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System in the following ways:

1. It would increase the cost-of-living adjustment formula for all individuals receiving a pension benefit from the State and provide adjustment options for employees at retirement;
2. It would increase the pension amount for individuals choosing to defer retirement until after the normal retirement age specified in the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program. The intent of this provision is to increase the flexibility of the program for employees choosing retirement at any age and to increase the financial benefits from continuing to work;

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3. The baseline pension formula for retirement at the normal retirement age would provide a benefit amount of 2% of final average salary per year of service through June 30, 2013, plus 1.5% of final average salary per year of service after June 30, 2013; and

4. A state employee or teacher would automatically be enrolled in an opt-out defined contribution plan with a default employee contribution rate of 4% of salary. The State or the participating local school district would match 25% of the employee's or teacher's contribution, up to a maximum of 2% of the employee's or teacher's salary.

LD 1572 An Act To Correct Minor Technical Errors and Inconsistencies in the Unified Budget Bill

Veto Sustained

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP	H-575 ROTUNDO H-581 ROTUNDO

This bill was enacted by the Legislature during the First Regular Session of the 126th and was held by the Governor; final disposition occurred at the beginning of the Second Regular Session.

This bill was reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs pursuant to Joint Order, H.P. 1140. It corrects minor technical errors and inconsistencies in the Binnial Budget, Public Law 2013, chapter 368, including:

1. Correcting a technical conflict created where two sections of the public law amended the same section of law;
2. Clarifying that the temporary increase in the sales tax to 5.5% applies to the services currently subject to the 5% sales tax;
3. Correcting a numbering error created where two different provisions of law were enacted with the same title and section number by reallocating the provision establishing the Maine capital investment credit for 2013;
4. Resolving a conflict created where two sections amended the provision of law that provides for an annual adjustment for inflation of the income tax rate brackets in different ways, one by delaying the annual adjustment of the income tax rate brackets and the other by providing for an annual adjustment of the itemized deduction limitation amount. Both provisions are maintained;
5. Correcting an initiative to reflect that the MaineCare reimbursement is limited to behavioral health services; and
6. Deappropriating funds to offset an appropriation in an initiative in the committee amendment that should have been eliminated when statutory changes were made in the enacted version of the unified budget bill.

House Amendment "A" (H-575)

This amendment specifies that the temporary sales tax increase applies to products transferred electronically, as intended in the unified budget bill, Public Law 2013, chapter 368.

House Amendment "B" (H-581)

This amendment removes the emergency preamble and emergency clause.

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LD 1593 **Resolve, To Eliminate Financial Inequality in MaineCare Reimbursement for Community-based Behavioral Health Services **Veto Sustained****

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SANBORN LACHOWICZ	OTP-AM	H-829

This resolve was carried over from the First Regular Session of the 126th Legislature by the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. During the Second Regular Session, this resolve was reported out by the Health and Human Services Committee and referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend the rules of reimbursement for behavioral health services under the MaineCare program to provide that all community-based behavioral health services are reimbursed at community-based rates. The amended rules must prohibit billing at hospital rates. The rules, which are routine technical rules, must be amended by October 1, 2014.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-829)

This amendment replaces the resolve. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services to convene a stakeholder group to review MaineCare reimbursement rates provided under Chapter 101, MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 65 and similar services provided by a hospital or an administrative unit of a hospital. It also requires the department to report the stakeholder group's findings and recommendations, including recommendations on how rates should be adjusted, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs by January 1, 2015.

LD 1639 **An Act To Fund Merit and Longevity Pay for Executive, Judicial and Legislative Branch Employees Pursuant to a Collective Bargaining Agreement **ONTP****

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
SAVIELLO WILSON	ONTP	

This bill repeals the sections of Public Law 2013, chapters 354 and 368 that prohibited merit increases for employees in the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government in fiscal year 2014-15 and longevity payments to individuals not eligible on June 30, 2013. It includes General Fund appropriations and Highway Fund allocations to offset reductions made in the biennial budgets for 2014-2015 to restore funding for merit increases and longevity payments.

Funding for these items in fiscal year 2014-15 was included in Public Law 2013, chapter 502 (see LD 1843).

LD 1709 **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support the Growth of and To Build Infrastructure for the Marine Sector of the State's Economy **PUBLIC 592****

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
JACKSON T CASSIDY	OTP-AM	S-556

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The funds provided by this bond issue in the amount of \$10,000,000 will be used for the development of lobster processing capacity in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-556)

This amendment replaces the bill and authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$7,000,000, to be matched by at least \$7,000,000 in private and other funds, to support Maine's marine economy in order to create jobs in the State's marine economy and related industries through capital investments awarded after a competitive process.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 592 authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$7,000,000, to be matched by at least \$7,000,000 in private and other funds, to support Maine's marine economy in order to create jobs in the State's marine economy and related industries through capital investments awarded after a competitive process.

The bond issue is subject to voter approval at a statewide election to be held in November 2014.

LD 1719 An Act To Improve Education about and Awareness of Maine's Health Veto Sustained
Laws and Resources and To Increase the Reimbursement Rate for Adult
Day Services

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
ROCHELO SAVIELLO	OTP-AM	H-844

Under the provisions of the judgement in State of Maine v. Philip Morris, et al., Kennebec County Superior Court, Docket No. CV-97-134, Maine will receive a one-time disbursement. Allocations from or in relation to this lawsuit are, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, section 1511, limited to the prevention and health promotion purposes of smoking prevention, cessation and control activities, including, but not limited to, reducing smoking among the children of the State; prevention, education and treatment activities concerning unhealthy weight and obesity; prenatal and young children's care including home visits and support for parents of children from birth to six years of age; child care for children up to 15 years of age, including after-school care; health care for children and adults, maximizing to the extent possible federal matching funds; prescription drugs for adults who are elderly or disabled, maximizing to the extent possible federal matching funds; dental and oral health care to low-income persons who lack adequate dental coverage; substance abuse prevention and treatment; and comprehensive school health and nutrition programs, including school-based health centers.

This bill allocates funds from the disbursement in accordance with Title 22, section 1511 for smoking prevention and health promotion programs, such as education regarding the use of marijuana, the improvement of tobacco and substance abuse policies, an education campaign regarding family planning and reproductive health and grants for an outreach campaign on the impact of food and beverage choices on obesity.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-844)

This amendment transfers funds from the Fund for a Healthy Maine to the General Fund and directs the Department of Health and Human Services to increase reimbursement rates for adult day services programs. It eliminates the increases in allocations for 4 programs.

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LD 1756 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Biomedical Research in Maine

PUBLIC 574

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
EVES BURNS	OTP-AM	H-850

This bill authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$30,000,000, to be matched by \$31,000,000 in other funds, to:

1. Establish a Maine center for marine economy coordinated and managed by the University of New England in partnership with public sector and private sector marine research centers and marine industries throughout the State, including but not limited to the Southern Maine Community College; the University of Maine at Machias, Downeast Institute of Applied Marine Research and Education; and the Cobscook Community Learning Center, to facilitate the growth of business and commercial enterprises that create jobs in Maine's marine economy and related industries and interests through capital investments in a shared marine research and resource vessel; infrastructure and equipment to support the vessel and its statewide operations; expanded facilities statewide to support collaboration and commercialization; and infrastructure and equipment for experimental sea- and land-based sustainable aquaculture sites located around the State; and
2. Establish at The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor a center for biometric analysis using state-of-the-art technologies to expand the State's research capabilities in the area of medical analytics, make the State a global resource for precision medicine, improve the State's capacity to attract and retain young professionals and facilitate additional grant funding, private sector investment, job growth and economic activity in the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-850)

This amendment replaces the bill. It authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10,000,000, to be awarded through a competitive process and to be matched by \$11,000,000 in private and other funds, to expand the State's research capabilities in the areas of mammalian genetics and murine biometric analytics, make the State a global resource for precision medicine, improve the State's capacity to attract and retain young professionals and bring additional grant funding, private sector investment, job growth and economic activity to the State.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 574 authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10,000,000, to be awarded through a competitive process and to be matched by \$11,000,000 in private and other funds, to expand the State's research capabilities in the areas of mammalian genetics and murine biometric analytics; make the State a global resource for precision medicine; improve the State's capacity to attract and retain young professionals; and bring additional grant funding, private sector investment, job growth and economic activity to the State.

The bond issue is subject to voter approval at a statewide election to be held in November 2014.

LD 1762 An Act Related to the Report of the Tax Expenditure Review Task Force

PUBLIC 451

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP ONTP	

This bill provides funding to avoid a provision in Part S of the biennial budget bill, Public Law 2013, chapter 368, that reduced the transfers to municipal revenue sharing by \$40,000,000 in fiscal year 2014-15 if legislation is not

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enacted by July 1, 2014 pursuant to Part S that generates an increase of \$40,000,000 in budgeted General Fund revenue. This bill also:

1. Repeals the fiscal year 2014-15 year-end transfers required under Public Law 2013, chapter 386, Part S of \$40,000,000 from the Local Government Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund;
2. Requires a transfer at the end of fiscal year 2013-14 from the General Fund unappropriated surplus of \$21,000,000 to the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund and the transfer of the same amount by the end of fiscal year 2014-15 from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund; and
3. Transfers \$4,000,000 from the Tax Relief Fund for Maine Residents and \$21,000,000 from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund by the end of fiscal year 2014-15. The State Controller is authorized to make post-closing entries and adjustments to effect this change.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 451 provides funding to avoid a provision in Part S of the biennial budget bill, Public Law 2013, chapter 368, that reduced the transfers to municipal revenue sharing by \$40,000,000 in fiscal year 2014-15 if legislation is not enacted by July 1, 2014 pursuant to Part S that generates an increase of \$40,000,000 in budgeted General Fund revenue; repeals the fiscal year 2014-15 year-end transfers required under Public Law 2013, chapter 386, Part S of \$40,000,000 from the Local Government Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund; requires a transfer at the end of fiscal year 2013-14 from the General Fund unappropriated surplus of \$21,000,000 to the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund and the transfer of the same amount by the end of fiscal year 2014-15 from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund; and transfers \$4,000,000 from the Tax Relief Fund for Maine Residents and \$21,000,000 from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund by the end of fiscal year 2014-15.

**LD 1767 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Purchase of the ONTP
Bar Harbor Ferry Terminal**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
LANGLEY HUBBELL	ONTP	

This bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount of \$3,000,000 to be used to purchase the Bar Harbor Ferry Terminal from the government of Canada.

**LD 1806 An Act To Implement the Recommendations Contained in the State PUBLIC 602
Government Evaluation Act Review of the Maine Public Employees
Retirement System**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP	

This Act implements the recommendations contained in the State Government Evaluation Act review of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

Part A permits the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to combine the assets of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program with the assets of other programs for investment purposes, but specifies that the assets of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program may be used only for the benefit of

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the employees and beneficiaries of that program and may not be used to satisfy the liabilities of any other program within the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

Part B adds emergency medical services persons to the category of participating local district employees for which a special retirement plan is available.

Part C requires the Executive Director of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to establish a task force to make recommendations to the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System on an environmental, social and governance policy and to report by January 15, 2015 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public employee retirement matters on the recommendations made and the board's resulting action.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 602 implements the recommendations contained in the State Government Evaluation Act review of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

Part A permits the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to combine the assets of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program with the assets of other programs for investment purposes, but specifies that the assets of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Program may be used only for the benefit of the employees and beneficiaries of that program and may not be used to satisfy the liabilities of any other program within the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

Part B adds emergency medical services persons to the category of participating local district employees for which a special retirement plan is available.

Part C requires the Executive Director of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to establish a task force to make recommendations to the Board of Trustees of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System on an environmental, social and governance policy and to report by January 15, 2015 to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over public employee retirement matters on the recommendations made and the board's resulting action.

LD 1807 An Act To Restore Funding in the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund through Alternative Sources

**PUBLIC 487
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE THIBODEAU	OTP-AM	H-720

This bill restores funding to the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund as affected by Public Law 2013, chapter 451 (see LD 1762).

Part A repeals the transfer in fiscal year 2013-14 of \$21,000,000 to the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund and repeals the transfer of \$21,000,000 from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund in fiscal year 2014-15. Both transfers were enacted in Public Law 2013, chapter 451.

Part B reduces funding for retiree health insurance as the result of a new actuarial projection.

Part C lapses \$10,169,276 from the unencumbered balance forward of the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program in the Department of Education to the General Fund in fiscal year 2013-14.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-720)

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This amendment incorporates a fiscal note.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 487 restores funding to the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund as affected by Public Law 2013, chapter 451.

Part A repeals the transfer in fiscal year 2013-14 of \$21,000,000 to the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund and repeals the transfer of \$21,000,000 from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund in fiscal year 2014-15. Both transfers were enacted in Public Law 2013, chapter 451.

Part B reduces funding for retiree health insurance as the result of a new actuarial projection.

Part C lapses \$10,169,276 from the unencumbered balance forward of the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program in the Department of Education to the General Fund in fiscal year 2013-14.

Public Law 2013, chapter 487 was enacted as an emergency measure effective March 21, 2014.

**LD 1827 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Maine
 Small Business and Job Creation**

PUBLIC 596

Sponsor(s)

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

OTP-AM

S-555

This bill was reported out by the Joint Select Committee on Maine's Workforce and Economic Future pursuant to Joint Order S.P. 27 and Joint Order S.P. 602, and was subsequently referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

Part A of the bill provides for a bond issue in the amount of \$73,000,000 to be used to provide funds to the Finance Authority of Maine, the Maine Technology Institute, the Department of Economic and Community Development, the University of Maine System, The Jackson Laboratory and the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory. The funds would be used to:

1. Provide \$5,000,000 to insure portions of loans to small businesses made by a participating financial institution to spur investment and innovation;
2. Provide \$15,000,000 for state, regional and local financial intermediaries to make flexible loans to and investments in small businesses to create jobs;
3. Provide \$10,000,000 to promote research, development and commercialization for economic development and private sector job creation, awarded after a competitive process administered by the Maine Technology Institute, and leverage matching funds on at least a one-to-one basis;
4. Provide \$15,000,000, to be matched by \$16,000,000 in private and public contributions, to establish at The Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor a center for biometric analysis using state-of-the-art technologies to expand the State's research capabilities in the area of medical analytics, make the State a global resource for precision medicine, improve the State's capacity to attract and retain young professionals and facilitate additional grant funding, private sector investment, job growth and economic activity in the State;
5. Provide \$5,000,000, to be matched by \$9,500,000 in private and public funds, to modernize and expand infrastructure at the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory needed to increase biotechnology workforce training from 350 to 500 students a year, retain in and recruit to Maine multiple biomedical research and

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development groups and create a drug discovery and development facility to improve human health and stimulate biotechnology job growth and economic activity;

6. Provide \$15,000,000 in funds to facilitate the growth of marine businesses and commercial enterprises that create jobs and improve the sustainability of the State's marine economy and related industries through capital investments, awarded after a competitive process administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development in consultation with the Department of Marine Resources and the Maine Technology Institute, and leverage matching funds on at least a one-to-one basis; and

7. Provide \$8,000,000 in funds for a University of Maine Cooperative Extension Insect and Animal and Plant Disease Identification Facility to assist farmers and foresters and to protect plant, animal and human health.

Part B amends the laws regarding the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program of the Finance Authority of Maine to include revitalization of downtowns and building stronger communities and a sustainable economy as purposes of the program. It clarifies that a lending corporation under the program may use revenue from commitment fees and interest to cover its operating costs, including loan fund management; increases the dollar amount of the maximum loan available to a borrower; allows a lending corporation to serve more than one region; and adjusts other financing terms. It also adds businesses engaged in commercial and mixed-use real estate and community facilities and businesses engaged in serving tourists to the list of businesses that are eligible for financial assistance under the program. It changes the program to allow participation by companies with 100 or fewer employees, instead of 50 or fewer, and by companies with annual sales of up to \$10,000,000, instead of \$5,000,000 or less. It amends the total loan amount by increasing the cap from \$250,000 to \$350,000 for corporations and from \$100,000 to \$350,000 for quality child care projects.

Part C provides guidelines for the administration of the \$15,000,000 for marine businesses provided in Part A.

Parts B and C take effect only if the General Fund bond issue proposed in Part A is approved by the voters of the State.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-555)

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill and provides for a bond issue to be used to provide funds to the Finance Authority of Maine to provide \$4,000,000 to insure portions of loans to small businesses made by a participating financial institution to spur investment and innovation and to provide \$8,000,000 for state, regional and local financial intermediaries to make flexible loans to small businesses to create jobs, revitalize downtowns and strengthen the rural economy.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 596 provides for a bond issue to be used to provide funds to the Finance Authority of Maine to provide \$4,000,000 to insure portions of loans to small businesses made by a participating financial institution to spur investment and innovation and to provide \$8,000,000 for state, regional and local financial intermediaries to make flexible loans to small businesses to create jobs, revitalize downtowns and strengthen the rural economy.

The bond issue is subject to voter approval at a statewide election to be held in November 2014.

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LD 1843 An Act To Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government To Address Supplemental Funding Needs Projected for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2014 and To Adjust Funding for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015

**PUBLIC 502
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP	S-445 HILL

LD 1843, the first of two supplemental budgets, addresses supplemental funding needs for fiscal year 2013-14. It was reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs pursuant to Joint Order H.P. 1284.

Senate Amendment "A" (S-445)

This amendment reduces funding in fiscal year 2013-14 for MaineCare cycle payments and payments to providers by \$5,000,000 and strikes language lapsing \$2,500,000 from the Department of Corrections, Capital Construction/Repairs/Improvements - Corrections, General Fund account to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund in each fiscal year of the 2014-2015 biennium.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 502 contains the following provisions.

PART A makes adjustments to appropriations and allocations.

PART B makes appropriations and allocations of funds for approved reclassifications and range changes.

PART C transfers \$5,081,000 from the Fund for a Healthy Maine to the General Fund in fiscal year 2013-14.

PART D transfers \$500,000 in fiscal year 2014-15 and \$5,746,207 in fiscal year 2014-15 from the Dirigo Health Fund to the General Fund unappropriated surplus. It also transfers \$1,788,956 in fiscal year 2013-14 from the Dirigo Health Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Medical Care - Payments to Providers, Other Special Revenue Funds account.

PART E transfers \$4,768,355 from the K-12 Essential Programs and Services, Other Special Revenue Funds account in the Department of Education to the General Fund unappropriated surplus no later than June 30, 2014. It also requires the State Controller to transfer \$5,294,492 from the K-12 Essential Programs and Services, Other Special Revenue Funds account in the Department of Education to the General Fund unappropriated surplus no later than June 30, 2015.

PART F provides an appropriation to partially offset the statewide deappropriation included in Part F of the biennial budget bill, Public Law 2013, chapter 368. It also excludes from the potential curtailment of allotments, should the Legislature fail to enact legislation to achieve the necessary savings, the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System, the Maine Maritime Academy, the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools and Adult Education programs within the Department of Education and the Head Start program within the Department of Health and Human Services. It also requires the fiscal year 2013-14 savings identified by the Governor's Office of Policy and Management and implemented administratively to be considered as adjustments to appropriations in fiscal year 2013-14.

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PART G transfers \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2013-14 and \$2,750,000 in fiscal year 2014-15 from available balances in Other Special Revenue Funds accounts within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to the General Fund unappropriated surplus in fiscal year 2013-14. The specific accounts from which the funds must be transferred are to be determined by the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation who must notify the State Controller and the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs of the amounts to be transferred from each account. Part N of LD 1858, as enacted, reduced the fiscal year 2014-15 transfer by \$1,000,000.

PART H requires the State Employee Health Commission to use \$3,008,000 of the 2013 plan year savings identified by Aetna, Inc. to increase the resources available for the fiscal year 2014-15 health insurance plan design for the state employee and retiree health insurance programs. It also adjusts statewide appropriations to distribute the savings in fiscal year 2013-14 with the intent that the same amount of funding be made available to the two programs in fiscal year 2014-15.

PART I lapses \$2,500,000 from the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Compensation and Benefit Plan program, General Fund account to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund no later than June 30, 2015.

PART J terminates the income tax super credit for substantially increased research and development for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2014. It also extends from five years to ten years the carryover period for credits carried from prior years and reduces the maximum credit from 50% of the tax otherwise due to 25% of the tax otherwise due.

PART K reduces the income tax credit for qualified Pine Tree Development Zone businesses by 50%. Part K of LD 1858, as enacted, reverses this change.

PART L lapses a total of \$2,250,000 from accounts in the Legislature to the General Fund unappropriated surplus no later than June 30, 2015.

PART M makes changes necessary to restore merit and longevity pay in fiscal year 2014-15.

PART N transfers \$700,000, by June 30, 2014, from accounts chosen by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection from available balances in Other Special Revenue Funds accounts within the Department of Environmental Protection to the General Fund unappropriated surplus.

PART O increases the amounts to be transferred by Public Law 2013, chapter 368, Part QQQ from the Competitive Skills Scholarship Fund in the Department of Labor to the General Fund unappropriated surplus in fiscal year 2013-14 from \$2,500,000 to \$3,450,000 and changes the cap on the annual amount that may be spent for administrative costs and career counseling from 10% of the annual revenue to the fund to \$550,000, beginning in fiscal year 2014-15. It also requires the Department of Labor to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs on the caseload being supported by funding from the Competitive Skills Scholarship Fund by January 30, 2015 and provides that if the average caseload of the prior three month period ending December 31, 2014 is below 400, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs may report out legislation that adjusts the amount of funding that may be used for administrative costs of the fund.

PART P lapses \$1,867,740 from the Personal Services line category in the Education in Unorganized Territory, General Fund account in the Department of Education to the General Fund unappropriated surplus no later than June 30, 2014.

PART Q transfers \$135,000 by June 30, 2014 from the Callahan Mine Site Restoration program, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Transportation to the General Fund unappropriated surplus.

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Statutes, Title 36, section 5219-Y and the visual media production reimbursement established in Title 36, section 6902. The Department of Economic and Community Development is permitted to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the University of Maine to conduct the pilot project. The Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Maine Revenue Services and the Office of Fiscal and Program Review are required to evaluate the findings of the pilot project and to jointly report to the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation whether the proposed changes to the visual media production credit and reimbursement would result in a negative or positive fiscal impact.

Part B of this bill repeals the certified visual media production credit and instead increases the reimbursement amount for certified production wages paid from 12% to 25% for residents of Maine, increases the cap on the reimbursement of wages from \$50,000 to \$100,000 and provides for a reimbursement of 20% of nonwage visual media production expenses. These changes take effect only if the result of the joint finding of Maine Revenue Services and the Office of Fiscal and Program Review is that the changes proposed in this Part would result in a positive fiscal impact on state revenue.

**LD 1855 An Act To Validate Certain Proceedings Authorizing the Issuance of
Bonds and Notes of the Town of Old Orchard Beach**

**P & S 28
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
VALENTINO	OTP	

This bill validates the referendum of the Town of Old Orchard Beach conducted on November 8, 2011. The Town of Old Orchard Beach notified the voters of the referendum by posting specimen ballots rather than warrants or notices of election, which has created a legal technicality that could affect the marketability of the bonds to be issued for the addition to the Edith Belle Libby Memorial Library in the Town of Old Orchard Beach.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2013, chapter 28 validates the referendum of the Town of Old Orchard Beach conducted on November 8, 2011. The Town of Old Orchard Beach notified the voters of the referendum by posting specimen ballots rather than warrants or notices of election, which has created a legal technicality that could affect the marketability of the bonds to be issued for the addition to the Edith Belle Libby Memorial Library in the Town of Old Orchard Beach.

Private and Special Law 2013, chapter 28 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 26, 2014.

**LD 1857 An Act To Expand Services to Persons Who Are Disabled or Elderly on
Wait Lists by Reducing Revenue Sharing**

ONTP

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
AYOTTE	ONTP	

This bill increases funding on an ongoing basis for developmental services waivers under Department of Health and Human Services Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Sections 21 and 29 and Chapter III, Sections 21 and 29 for consumer-directed home-based care and for the brain injury residential and community services waiver. In fiscal year 2014-15, the increased funding is offset by a reduction in the General Fund for municipal revenue sharing. The bill states that, after fiscal year 2014-15, it is the intent of the Legislature that funding for these allocations is to be paid for through savings achieved in the MaineCare budget as a result of the elimination of eligibility for parents with a household income equal to or greater than 100% of the nonfarm income official federal poverty level.

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

LD 1858 An Act To Achieve the Savings Required under Part F of the Biennial Budget and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law for Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2014 and June 30, 2015

**PUBLIC 595
EMERGENCY**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
	OTP	H-833 ROTUNDO

LD 1858, the second of two supplemental budgets, is the response of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs to the recommendations of the Governor's Office of Policy and Management pursuant to Public Law 2013, chapter 368, Part F and addresses supplemental funding needs for fiscal year 2014-15.

This bill was reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs pursuant to Public Law 2013, chapter 368, Part F, section 3.

House Amendment "B" (H-833)

This amendment designates up to \$1,300,000 of the 4th priority transfer of the year-end distribution of the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund at the close of fiscal year 2013-14 to be transferred by financial order to the Department of Health and Human Services, Developmental Services Waiver - MaineCare program for services provided under the MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 21 for individuals on the Priority 1 waiting list for waiver services. These transfers are to be considered ongoing adjustments to appropriations beginning in fiscal year 2014-15.

This amendment also removes the time restriction on the availability of funds for the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services for investigator, interpreter, transcription and expert witness fee costs as well as increased attorney's fee expenses; makes a change to the vacant position review in Part Z to clarify that the review is of executive branch positions only; and directs the State Budget Officer to prepare a financial order to reduce allotments consistent with the lapsed Personal Services savings in the affected General Fund accounts.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 595 contains the following provisions.

PART A includes appropriations and allocations in response to the recommendations of the Governor's Office of Policy and Management pursuant to Public Law 2013, chapter 368, Part F.

PART B makes supplemental appropriations and allocations for fiscal year 2014-15.

PART C establishes the total cost of public education from kindergarten to grade 12 for fiscal year 2014-15, the local and state contributions and the annual target state share percentage.

PART D transfers \$1,877,000 in fiscal year 2014-15 from the Dirigo Health Fund to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.

PART E removes certain dates relating to the grant application and award process that were not met by the Oral Health Advisory Committee and applies these changes retroactively to the effective date of the law that established the dates; makes a correction to Public Law 2013, chapter 425 to properly reference the Highway Fund rather than the General Fund; and adds a calculation and transfer provision so that the savings identified in Public Law 2013, chapter 502, Part H related to health insurance savings can be distributed to General Fund accounts from the statewide deappropriation.

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

PART F requires the Finance Authority of Maine to transfer \$1,000,000 from the Loan Insurance Reserve Fund to the State as undedicated General Fund revenue no later than June 30, 2015.

PART G authorizes the adjustment of salary schedules in order to implement wage parity as authorized in Public Law 2013, chapter 425; adjusts the salaries of District Attorney positions, Assistant District Attorney positions and Assistant Attorney General positions upward by 4%; and transfers from the Salary Plan program for these purposes while limiting the amount available for transfer to the Department of the Attorney General to \$423,424 in fiscal year 2014-15.

PART H authorizes the Maine Health Data Organization to transfer up to \$265,450 in available Personal Services balances to All Other in the Maine Health Data Organization, Other Special Revenue Funds account during the 2014-2015 biennium.

PART I changes the use of the transfer from the Carrying Balances - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, General Fund account in the biennial budget, Public Law 2013, chapter 368, Part YY, from funding security improvements and renovations at the Gray headquarters facility to funding permitting and development costs associated with the construction of a new headquarters facility in Gray.

PART J clarifies that the information provided by the Department of Health and Human Services to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services under the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act may be used by the bureau only for the administration and enforcement of taxes imposed under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36. It also provides a one-time special reporting date for the Department of Health and Human Services to provide the required information to the State Tax Assessor.

PART K restores the income tax credit to the percentages in effect prior to the changes made by Public Law 2013, chapter 502, Part K which reduced the income tax credit for qualified Pine Tree Development Zone businesses by 50%.

PART L sets aside any profit sharing payments from the wholesale liquor distribution contract that ends June 30, 2014 in excess of budgeted amounts for the final profit sharing payment into an Other Special Revenue Funds account in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations for the purpose of funding additional liquor enforcement positions.

PART M provides that revenue generated from fees for admission to the Maine State Museum and miscellaneous services be deposited into a dedicated Other Special Revenue Funds account instead of to the General Fund, beginning in fiscal year 2014-15, to support the operations of the Maine State Museum.

PART N reduces by \$1,000,000, the amount of funds that must be transferred from available balances in the Other Special Revenue Funds accounts within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund in fiscal year 2014-15.

PART O amends Public Law 2013, chapter 368, Part PPPP to increase the amount of the transfer to the General Fund unappropriated surplus from the Revenue Services - Bureau of program, Other Special Revenue Funds account from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2013-14. It also lapses \$250,000 from the Maine Revenue Services, General Fund account to the General Fund unappropriated surplus no later than June 30, 2015.

PART P increases the cap from \$2,786,700 to \$5,500,000 in any fiscal year of incentive payment revenue that may be expended for the purpose of covering the costs of making child support collections.

PART Q requires the Department of Health and Human Services to modify the timing of MaineCare payments. This modification is expected to achieve savings in the first year in which it is implemented.

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

PART R requires the judicial branch, the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System, the Maine Maritime Academy and each quasi-independent state entity to prepare a list of reports that each is required to submit to the Legislature, a statement of the amount of staff time required to prepare each report and proposed legislation to repeal each reporting requirement five years after the effective date of this legislation and submit the information to the joint standing committee of the Legislature with subject matter jurisdiction over that entity by January 9, 2015. This Part also requires each joint standing committee of the Legislature having subject matter jurisdiction over an entity providing a report to review the information provided and determine the need to either continue or repeal the reporting requirement. Each joint standing committee is authorized to report out legislation to implement its recommendations related to the report to the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

PART S prohibits the Department of Health and Human Services from eliminating reimbursement for the medical add-on in the MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 21 and Section 29 until the report required by Public Law 2013, chapter 368, Part NN has been submitted by the department to the joint standing committees of the Legislature pursuant to that Part and new rules adopted.

PART T removes from the cap on total itemized deductions medical and dental expenses included in an individual's itemized deductions from federal adjusted gross income for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2014. It also provides allocations to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services to increase contingent-fee funding for contracted tax collection services to hire eight additional collectors and improve automated collection functions.

PART U amends or repeals several laws relating to mandates imposed on municipalities by the State. It also creates the State-local Intergovernmental Working Group which is required to meet periodically and report to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs and state and local government matters. This part also authorizes the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters to report out legislation relating to the final report of the mandate working group to the First Regular Session of the 127th Legislature.

PART V increases the General Fund share of the real estate transfer tax by \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2014-15 the result of which is a like decrease in the amount transferred to the Housing Opportunities for Maine Fund.

PART W directs the Department of Health and Human Services to evaluate and improve its MaineCare program integrity processes to achieve additional MaineCare recoveries and savings.

PART X amends the fiscal year 2013-14 year-end distribution of the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to replace the existing 4th priority transfer, which is no longer necessary, with a new 4th priority transfer of an amount up to \$20,000,000 to a General Fund reserve account established for future funding needs. Funds from the reserve account for future funding needs may be transferred only by the Legislature, and any balance not transferred and remaining in the account at the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 must be transferred by the State Controller to the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund. This Part was amended by House Amendment "B."

PART Y clarifies the use of funding provided to the Department of Health and Human Services for the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act.

PART Z requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of the Budget to conduct a review of vacant General Fund positions in executive branch departments and agencies for the purpose of identifying \$599,533 in total savings in the Personal Services line category in fiscal year 2014-15; provide a report of the positions to be held vacant to achieve the identified savings and the General Fund accounts affected. This Part also requires the Department of Corrections to increase the term of work release from 12 months to 18 months prior to prisoner release, resulting in an increase in General Fund revenue and requires the Finance Authority of Maine to transfer the remaining balance in the Quality Child Care Education Scholarship Fund to the State as undedicated Fund for a Healthy Maine revenue no later than June 30, 2015. This Part was amended by House

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Amendment "B."

Public Law 2013, chapter 595 was enacted as an emergency measure effective May 1, 2014.

LD 1861 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Create an Animal and Plant Disease and Insect Control Facility Administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service PUBLIC 572

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
FREDETTE	OTP	

The funds provided by this bond issue in the amount of \$8,000,000 will be used to provide funds to assist Maine agriculture and to protect Maine farms through the creation of an animal and plant disease and insect control facility administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 572 provides for a bond issue in the amount of \$8,000,000 to be used to assist Maine agriculture and to protect Maine farms through the creation of an animal and plant disease and insect control facility administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service.

This law is amended by Public Law 2013, chapter 606 (LD 1865 as enacted).

The bond issue is subject to voter approval at a statewide election to be held in November 2014.

LD 1864 An Act To Support Nursing Facilities and Home Care for Seniors and Create a Tax Credit for Primary Care Professionals Practicing in Underserved Areas Died Between Houses

<u>Sponsor(s)</u>	<u>Committee Report</u>	<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
HAMPER	ONTP	

This bill provides a primary care access tax credit for up to five eligible primary care professionals each year who practice in an underserved area in the State. It creates a graduated schedule for claiming the credit allowing an eligible primary care professional to claim an amount equal to the annual payments made on the professional's student loan not to exceed \$6,000 in the first year, \$9,000 in the second year, \$12,000 in the third year, \$15,000 in the fourth year and \$18,000 in the fifth year.

This bill also provides that the primary care access credit is available for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2014, but before January 1, 2019. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Maine Revenue Services to submit an annual report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters beginning on January 15, 2016 indicating the number of eligible primary care professionals certified and decertified each year by the Department of Health and Human Services and the total annual loss of revenue attributable to the primary care access credit.

This bill uses one-time tobacco settlement funds from the Fund for a Healthy Maine to support health services for the elderly, including nursing home funding, transitional assistance with Medicare Part D plan selection and an increase for adult day services reimbursement. This bill also uses one-time tobacco settlement funds from the Fund for a Healthy Maine for the primary care access tax credit.

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

**LD 1865 An Act To Clarify the Specific Purposes of Recently Enacted Legislation
Authorizing the Issuance of a General Fund Bond**

PUBLIC 608

Sponsor(s)

DILL

Committee Report

Amendments Adopted

This bill clarifies the specific purposes of recently enacted legislation authorizing the issuance of a General Fund bond to create an animal and plant disease control facility administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2013, chapter 608 clarifies the specific purposes of the General Fund bond funds provided by Public Law 2013, chapter 772 (LD 1861) which creates an animal and plant disease control facility administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service.

Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

SUBJECT INDEX

ACF: Agriculture - Policy

Not Enacted

LD 707 An Act To Provide Assistance to Maine's Dairy Farms ONTP

ACF: Dairy

Not Enacted

LD 368 An Act To Ensure the Continuation of Dairy Farming ONTP

ACF: Regulated Products

Not Enacted

LD 1287 An Act To Deregulate Face-to-face Transactions between the People and Small Farms and Small Food Producers ONTP

Budget Bills

Enacted

LD 1762 An Act Related to the Report of the Tax Expenditure Review Task Force PUBLIC 451

LD 1807 An Act To Restore Funding in the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund through Alternative Sources PUBLIC 487
EMERGENCY

LD 1843 An Act To Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government To Address Supplemental Funding Needs Projected for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2014 and To Adjust Funding for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015 PUBLIC 502
EMERGENCY

LD 1858 An Act To Achieve the Savings Required under Part F of the Biennial Budget and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law for Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2014 and June 30, 2015 PUBLIC 595
EMERGENCY

Not Enacted

LD 1572 An Act To Correct Minor Technical Errors and Inconsistencies in the Unified Budget Bill Veto Sustained

EDU: Alternative Education, Charter Schools and School Choice

Enacted

LD 906 An Act To Permit a School Administrative Unit Discretion Concerning Participation of Students from Charter Schools in School Extracurricular and Interscholastic Activities PUBLIC 601

Not Enacted

LD 481 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Virtual Public Charter Schools ONTP

EDU: Career and Technical Education

Enacted

LD 464 An Act To Change Compensation for Career and Technical Education Region Cooperative Board Meeting Attendance PUBLIC 583

Not Enacted

LD 715 An Act To Improve Access to Career and Technical Schools ONTP

EDU: Health, Nutrition and Safety

Not Enacted

LD 672	An Act Relating to Exemption from Immunization for Schoolchildren	ONTP
LD 1185	An Act To Enhance Efforts To Use Locally Produced Food in Schools	Veto Sustained

EDU: Postsecondary Education Finance and Student Aid

Not Enacted

LD 1036	An Act To Amend the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program	ONTP
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EDU: School Finance

Not Enacted

LD 25	An Act To Exclude Certain State-funded Costs from the State Share of the Total Cost of Funding Public Education	ONTP
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EUT: Energy Conservation

Not Enacted

LD 1468	Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission To Study the Potential Benefits and Barriers Involved in Making Renewable Thermal Technologies Eligible for Qualification in Maine's Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard	Veto Sustained
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Fiscal Policy

Enacted

LD 1385	An Act To Amend the Reporting Requirements of the Workers' Compensation Management Fund	PUBLIC 447
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Not Enacted

LD 138	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Issuance of Bonds That Have Been Ratified by the Citizens of the State	ONTP
LD 790	An Act To Repeal the Bonding Authority of the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority	Majority (ONTP) Report
LD 904	An Act To Clarify When Bonds May Be Issued	Died Between Houses
LD 1853	An Act Requiring a Dynamic Fiscal Analysis of Changes to Visual Media Production Tax Credits and Reimbursements	ONTP

General Obligation Bond Bills

Enacted

LD 1043	An Act To Improve the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program	PUBLIC 605
LD 1223	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Human Health Research in Maine	PUBLIC 568
LD 1455	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Ensure Clean Water and Safe Communities	PUBLIC 589
LD 1709	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support the Growth of and To Build Infrastructure for the Marine Sector of the State's Economy	PUBLIC 592
LD 1756	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Biomedical Research in Maine	PUBLIC 574
LD 1827	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Maine Small Business and Job Creation	PUBLIC 596
LD 1861	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Create an Animal and Plant Disease and Insect Control Facility Administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service	PUBLIC 572
LD 1865	An Act To Clarify the Specific Purposes of Recently Enacted Legislation Authorizing the Issuance of a General Fund Bond	PUBLIC 608

Not Enacted

LD 16	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Transportation Infrastructure	ONTP
LD 228	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Reduce Energy Costs by Weatherizing and Upgrading the Energy Efficiency of Maine Homes and Businesses and To Create Jobs by Providing for a Trained Workforce for Maine's Energy Future	ONTP
LD 273	An Act Authorizing a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund the Dredging of Casco Bay and the Expansion of the Portland Fish Exchange	ONTP
LD 294	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Construct a Facility To Assist Maine Agriculture in Control of Animal and Plant Diagnostics	ONTP
LD 295	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Provide Weatherization Rebates for Veterans and Persons Eligible for Social Security	ONTP
LD 359	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Implement the Riverfront Island Master Plan	ONTP
LD 360	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve Rail Lines in Western Maine	ONTP
LD 378	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Complete Renovation of a Pier at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute	ONTP
LD 513	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Transportation, Broadband Infrastructure, Downtown Revitalization, Land for Maine's Future Board and Training Facilities for Tourism-related Training in Labor Market Areas with Higher-than-average Unemployment	ONTP
LD 781	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund the Construction of a New State Archives Facility	ONTP
LD 874	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Reduce the Cost of Shipping for Maine Businesses, Attract Tourists and Facilitate the Development of Commuter Rail Transportation	ONTP
LD 925	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Riverfront Community Development	ONTP
LD 942	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Deficient State Highways, Bridges and Aviation, Marine, Rail and Transit Facilities	ONTP
LD 1010	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Ensure Clean Water	ONTP
LD 1011	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Upgrade Facilities and Purchase Classroom Equipment for Maine's Seven Community Colleges	ONTP
LD 1052	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve Intermodal Infrastructure	ONTP
LD 1090	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Expand Nursing Programs at Maine's Seven Community Colleges	ONTP
LD 1101	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Waterfront Development	ONTP
LD 1105	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Revitalize Maine's Downtowns through Innovative Business Development and the Creative Economy	ONTP
LD 1125	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Expand Public Water Infrastructure to Areas with Contaminated Well Water	ONTP
LD 1163	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Main Street and Downtown Economic Development Projects	ONTP
LD 1180	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Maine Community Reinvestment and Job Creation Fund	ONTP

LD 1418	An Act To Authorize a Matching General Fund Bond Issue for Improvements to the Seven Community College Campuses	ONTP
LD 1492	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Strengthen Maine's Economy and Communities	ONTP
LD 1767	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Purchase of the Bar Harbor Ferry Terminal	ONTP

HHS: Aging and Long-term Care

Enacted

LD 538	An Act To Align Costs Recognized for Transfer of Nursing Facilities and Residential Care Facilities with Ordinary Commercial and Government Contracting Standards	PUBLIC 582
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Not Enacted

LD 62	An Act To Provide Additional Funding for Respite Care for the Elderly and for Adults with Disabilities	ONTP
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HHS: Healthcare

Not Enacted

LD 230	An Act To Establish the Commission on Health Care Cost and Quality	ONTP
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HHS: Medicaid/MaineCare

Enacted

LD 390	An Act To Restore MaineCare Coverage for Ambulatory Surgical Center Services	P & S 29 EMERGENCY
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Not Enacted

LD 276	Resolve, To Improve Access to Oral Health Care for MaineCare Recipients	ONTP
LD 488	An Act To Improve Access to Home-based and Community-based Care in the MaineCare Program	ONTP
LD 928	An Act To Improve MaineCare Nursing Home Reimbursement To Preserve Access and Promote Quality	ONTP
LD 1188	Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Amend Its Rules of Reimbursement under the MaineCare Program for Audiology and Speech-language Pathology Services	ONTP

HHS: Mental Health

Not Enacted

LD 87	An Act To Improve Community Mental Health Treatment	ONTP
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HHS: Oral Health/Dental Care

Not Enacted

LD 499	An Act To Promote Dental Care for Low-income Populations	ONTP
LD 804	An Act To Improve Preventive Dental Health Care and Reduce Costs in the MaineCare Program	ONTP

HHS: Public Health

Not Enacted

LD 180	An Act Concerning the Use of Tobacco Settlement Funds for Children's Health Care	ONTP
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HHS: Substance Abuse

Not Enacted

LD 951	An Act To Repeal the 2-year Limit on Methadone and Suboxone Treatments under MaineCare	ONTP
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JUD: Courts and Court Procedure

Not Enacted

LD 864	An Act Regarding Service of Small Claims Notices	ONTP
LD 1445	An Act To Facilitate Children's Testimony	ONTP

JUD: Courts, Jury Duty

Not Enacted

LD 1424	An Act To Increase Mileage Reimbursement and Compensation for Jurors	ONTP
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JUD: Criminal Law and Procedure

Not Enacted

LD 549	An Act To Allow a Person Who Is 21 Years of Age or Older To Expunge Certain Criminal Convictions	ONTP
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JUD: Legal Services

Not Enacted

LD 396	An Act To Appropriate Sufficient Funds for Indigent Legal Services	ONTP
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LCED: Economic Development-Programs

Not Enacted

LD 1354	An Act To Create the Aging in Place Program	ONTP
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LCED: Employment Practices

Not Enacted

LD 1157	An Act To Establish the Fair Chance for Employment Act	ONTP
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LCED: Occupational and Professional Regulation

Not Enacted

LD 933	An Act To Establish a State Board of Dental Hygiene	Veto Sustained
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MAR: Lobsters and Crabs

Not Enacted

LD 182	An Act To Support the Maine Lobster Industry	ONTP
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Miscellaneous Funding and Other Requests

Enacted

LD 1855	An Act To Validate Certain Proceedings Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds and Notes of the Town of Old Orchard Beach	P & S 28 EMERGENCY
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Not Enacted

LD 939	An Act To Restore Maine's Groundfishing Industry	ONTP
LD 1593	Resolve, To Eliminate Financial Inequality in MaineCare Reimbursement for Community-based Behavioral Health Services	Veto Sustained
LD 1639	An Act To Fund Merit and Longevity Pay for Executive, Judicial and Legislative Branch Employees Pursuant to a Collective Bargaining Agreement	ONTP
LD 1719	An Act To Improve Education about and Awareness of Maine's Health Laws and Resources and To Increase the Reimbursement Rate for Adult Day Services	Veto Sustained
LD 1857	An Act To Expand Services to Persons Who Are Disabled or Elderly on Wait Lists by Reducing Revenue Sharing	ONTP
LD 1864	An Act To Support Nursing Facilities and Home Care for Seniors and Create a Tax Credit for Primary Care Professionals Practicing in Underserved Areas	Died Between Houses

State Employee and Teacher Retirement

Enacted

LD 39	An Act To Expand the Number of Qualified Educators	PUBLIC 486
LD 232	An Act To Increase the Base for the Cost-of-living Increase for Retired State Employees and Teachers	PUBLIC 578 EMERGENCY
LD 1175	An Act To Review the Laws Governing Retirement Benefits for Certain State Employees	P & S 30
LD 1806	An Act To Implement the Recommendations Contained in the State Government Evaluation Act Review of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System	PUBLIC 602

Not Enacted

LD 137	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Retirement under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System	ONTP
LD 186	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Disability Retirement Determinations by the Maine Public Employees Retirement System	ONTP
LD 1142	An Act Regarding Correctional Officers' Retirement	ONTP
LD 1395	An Act Regarding the Cost-of-living Adjustment for Certain State Retirees When the Cost of Living Declines	ONTP
LD 1461	An Act To Require the State To Divest Itself of Assets Invested in the Fossil Fuel Industry	ONTP
LD 1473	An Act To Create a Public Option Pension System	ONTP
LD 1514	An Act To Reform the Maine Public Employees Retirement System	ONTP

Tax Reform - Revenue Sharing

Not Enacted

LD 713	An Act To Return Local Revenue Sharing to Full Funding	ONTP
LD 940	An Act To Reestablish State-municipal Revenue-sharing as a Compact between the State and Municipal Governments	ONTP

TAX: Fuel Tax

Not Enacted

LD 631	An Act To Change the Taxes on Fuel Purchased for Use Other Than on the Highways	ONTP
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TAX: Income Tax Credits, Exemptions, Deductions and Incentives

Enacted

LD 440	An Act To Create a Tax Credit for Primary Care Professionals Practicing in Underserved Areas	PUBLIC 599
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Not Enacted

LD 234	An Act To Provide Tax Treatment Consistency for Limited Liability Companies and S Corporations	ONTP
LD 436	An Act To Raise the Maximum 529 Plan Contribution Tax Deduction	ONTP
LD 455	An Act To Increase the State Earned Income Credit	ONTP

TAX: Property Tax - Exemptions

Not Enacted

LD 998	An Act To Provide Consistency in the Application of the Property Tax Exemption for Religious Organizations	ONTP
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TAX: Sales Tax Exemptions, Exclusions or Refunds

Not Enacted

LD 126	An Act To Provide a Sales Tax Exemption to Incorporated Nonprofit Performing Arts Organizations	ONTP
LD 741	An Act To Promote Fairness in the Sales Tax Exemption for Vehicles Used in Interstate Commerce	ONTP
LD 979	An Act To Exempt the Sale of the United States Flag from the Sales Tax	ONTP

VLA: Campaign Finance and Maine Clean Elections Act

Not Enacted

LD 1309	An Act To Strengthen the Maine Clean Election Act	ONTP
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VLA: Voting

Not Enacted

LD 156	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Concerning Early Voting and Voting by Absentee Ballot	Final Passage Failed
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