***Summary of the***

**130th Maine Legislature**

**First Regular and First Special Session**

***Prepared for:***

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*All laws have an effective date of October 18, 2021, unless otherwise noted.*

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***Bills that Passed***

# CONSTRUCTION

[**LD 469**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078741) **An Act To Ensure Safety Across Maine's Construction Industry**

[Public Law Chapter 465](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0345&item=6&snum=130)

This law requires a contractor or subcontractor with a public works contract with the State of $50,000 or more to certify all craft workers who will be on the construction site have taken a safety training program that uses a curriculum approved by the United States Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration and that is at least 10 hours in duration. It requires a contractor or subcontractor to complete and submit monthly to the public authority that let the contract a signed statement of compliance for each craft worker. The contractor or subcontractor is required to display at the job site an affidavit showing compliance. The Department of Labor is authorized to adopt rules to implement this section.

A contractor or subcontractor who willfully and knowingly violates the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, section 1317 is subject to a forfeiture of not less than $250.

[**LD 500**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078825) **Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review Of Portions Of Chapter 895: Underground Facility Damage Prevention Requirements, A Major Substantive Rule Of The Public Utilities Commission**

(Emergency Measure)

[Resolve Chapter 16](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0363&item=3&snum=130)

This Resolve authorizes final adoption by the Public Utilities Commission of portions of Chapter 895: Underground Facility Damage Prevention Requirements, a provisionally adopted major substantive rule of the commission, only if the rule is amended to clarify that a damage prevention incident may be reported by an excavator to the Public Utilities Commission via e-mail.

[**LD 802**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078374) **An Act To Ensure Decommissioning Of Solar Energy Developments**

[Public Law Chapter 151](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0113&item=3&snum=130)

This law requires a person to obtain approval of a decommissioning plan from the Department of Environmental Protection or from the Maine Land Use Planning Commission before constructing or operating a solar energy development with ground-mounted solar panels occupying 3 or more acres. It clarifies the administrative, enforcement and rule-making authorities of the Department of Environmental Protection and the Maine Land Use Planning Commission with respect to the decommissioning of solar energy developments.

Decommissioning may allow for the authorization of certain components of a solar energy development to remain in place during decommissioning.

Financial assurance plan must be updated 15 years after the approval of a decommissioning plan and at least every 5 years thereafter.

## [LD 1484](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0477&item=1&snum=130) An Act To Enhance the ConnectMaine Authority's Capacity To Provide World-class Internet

## (Emergency Measure)

## [Public Law Chapter 364](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0477&item=4&snum=130)

This law enacts the Connectivity Infrastructure Act, which sets state connectivity goals and establishes the Maine Connectivity Authority to further those goals through the development and financing of connectivity projects through other activities. It also directs the Maine Connectivity Authority, in consultation with the ConnectMaine Authority, to review the provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes pertaining to each entity and develop recommendations for any necessary changes to those provisions to facilitate the oversight of the ConnectMaine Authority by the Maine Connectivity Authority and any other recommendations. The Maine Connectivity Authority is directed to submit such recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology on or before January 15, 2022. After reviewing the recommendations, the joint standing committee may report out related legislation to the 130th Legislature.

# EMPLOYMENT

[**LD 1167**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079755) **An Act Relating To Fair Chance In Employment**

[Public Law Chapter 404](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0845&item=5&snum=130)

This law prohibits an employer from requesting criminal history record information on an initial employee application form or stating on an initial employee application form or advertisement or specifying prior to determining a person is otherwise qualified for the position that a person with a criminal history may not apply or will not be considered for a position. It provides exceptions to those prohibitions, including instances in which federal or state law or regulation or rule mandates for a position that a criminal conviction disqualifies an applicant, or imposes an obligation on an employer not to hire an applicant who has been convicted of a certain type of offense, or requires that an employer conduct a criminal history record check. An employer who violates this prohibition is subject to a penalty of not less than $100 nor more than $500 for each violation, to be enforced by the Department of Labor.

## The law also provides that if an employer inquires about a prospective employee's criminal history record information during an interview or once the employee has been determined otherwise qualified, the employer must afford the prospective employee an opportunity to explain the information and the circumstances regarding any conviction, including post-conviction rehabilitation.

# ENERGY

[**LD 815**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078704) **An Act To Support School Decarbonization**

[Public Law Chapter 152](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0184&item=3&snum=130)

This law changes the Efficiency Maine Trust school energy savings program to a school decarbonization program, and requires the trust to provide technical and financial support to help kindergarten to grade 12 schools become carbon neutral. The law also repeals the school solar energy program administered by the trust.

[**LD 936**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079387) **An Act To Amend State Laws Relating to Net Energy Billing and the Procurement of Distributed Generation**

[Public Law Chapter 390](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0692&item=6&snum=130)

This law specifies the requirements that must be met for a distributed generation resource with a nameplate capacity of at least 2 megawatts and no more than 5 megawatts to be able to participate in net energy billing under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, sections 3209-A and 3209-B. It also specifies a goal for the development of commercially operational distributed generation resources of 750 total megawatts. It prohibits the Public Utilities Commission from procuring distributed generation under Title 35-A, chapter 34-C. It also requires the Governor's Energy Office in coordination with the Public Utilities Commission to convene a stakeholder group to consider various distributed generation project programs to be implemented between 2024 and 2028 and the need for improved grid planning. It defines, for the purposes of this stakeholder process, "distributed generation project" as a renewable energy project with a nameplate capacity of no more than 5 megawatts that has identified residential, commercial and institutional customers, including but not limited to net energy billing arrangement projects. It specifies those stakeholders that must be included and requires both an interim report and final report. The amendment includes what must be examined for each report. It allows the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology to report out a bill during the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature based on the interim report and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over energy and utility matters to report out a bill to the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature based on the final report.

The law includes as a condition that may be met for a distributed generation resource to participate in net energy billing that an interconnection study process for a distributed generation resource located in certain areas of the service territory of an investor-owned transmission and distribution utility must have commenced on or before June 1, 2021. It also changes a statutory allocation to avoid a conflict with Public Law 18 2021, chapter 107.

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

[**LD 69**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078010) **An Act To Reduce Duplicative Permitting Review For Projects Under The Site Location Of Development Laws**

[Public Law Chapter 51](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0035&item=3&snum=130)

Under current law, a structure that is from 3 acres to 7 acres is exempt from review under the site location of development laws if certain criteria are met. This law changes the upper acreage limit from 7 acres to 10 acres.

[**LD 129**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078115) **Resolve, To Protect Consumers Of Public Drinking Water By Establishing Maximum Contaminant Levels For Certain Substances And Contaminants**

(Emergency Measure)

[Resolve Chapter 82](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0064&item=3&snum=130)

This Resolve adopts measures to protect consumers of public drinking water in Maine from potential health impacts associated with perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances known as PFAS.

It requires community water systems and schools and child care facilities regulated as nontransient, noncommunity water systems to conduct monitoring for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances. If the monitoring results detect the presence of perfluorooctanoic acid, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, perfluorohexane sulfonic acid, perfluorononanoic acid or perfluoroheptanoic acid at a level in excess of an interim standard, the water system is required to conduct additional monitoring.

It sets the interim drinking water standard for the regulated perfluoroalkyl and 20 polyfluoroalkyl substances at 20 nanograms per liter instead of 70 parts per trillion under current guidance.

The Resolve also directs the Department of Health and Human Services to regulate perfluorodecanoic acid and undertake rulemaking by June 1, 2024 to establish an enforceable maximum contaminant level for 5 PFAS compounds in the Resolve, which can include adoption of a federal maximum contaminant level if one is available and at least as restrictive as the interim standard.

It requires the Department of Health and Human Services to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over health and human services matters upon the adoption of final rules regulating perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances and annually beginning January 1, 2022 until the rules are finally adopted. It also authorizes the committee to report out legislation related to each report.

[**LD 226**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078280) **An Act To Limit The Use Of Hydrofluorocarbons To Fight Climate Change**

[Public Law Chapter 192](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0161&item=3&snum=130)

This law provides that in accordance with rules adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection, a person may not sell, lease, rent, install or enter into commerce in the State a product or equipment that uses or will use certain specified substances that are hydrofluorocarbons with high global warming potential for certain specified air conditioning, refrigeration, foam or aerosol propellant end uses.

## [LD 705](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0517&item=1&snum=130) Resolve, To Improve Air Quality and Ventilation in Maine's Public Schools

## [Public Law Chapter 114](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0517&item=4&snum=130)

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This Resolve directs the Department of Education to amend its rule Chapter 125: Basic Approval Standards: Public Schools and School Administrative Units to require standards governing air quality and ventilation for all schools, including schools with mechanical and nonmechanical ventilation systems. It requires these standards to apply to all public schools and to apply no earlier than July 1, 2022 and no later than July 1, 2026. It makes the rules adopted major substantive rules pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A and requires the department to present the provisionally adopted rules for final adoption to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 4, 2022.

The adopted language also incorporates a fiscal note. The fiscal note states that, to the extent that the newly defined air quality standards require some schools to upgrade their existing systems or install new systems, expenditure of local revenue may be required, and, as a result, the fiscal note flags the resolve as a potential mandate. The committee reviewed the fiscal note, and the majority of the committee determined that the requirements of the resolve do not amount to a mandate. The department rules in Chapter 125 already require that rooms used for instructional purposes have "sufficient air changes to produce healthful conditions and to avoid odors or concentrations of toxic substances or dust particles." They also state that if the "heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems are mechanically driven, they shall be maintained and in compliance with HVAC regulations and rules." The committee notes that the resolve merely directs the department to amend its rules to require standards governing air quality. In other words, the resolve requires the department to better define standards, but the requirement that systems be maintained in compliance with HVAC rules and regulations already exists. As such, the it is believed that this is not a new requirement for school districts, but rather a clarification of an existing requirement.

[**LD 771**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079264) **An Act To Amend The Laws Governing Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification**

[Public Law Chapter 173](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0576&item=3&snum=130)

This law modifies the laws governing the wastewater treatment plant operator certification program administered by the Department of Environmental Protection.

* It changes the procedure for revocation of a wastewater treatment plant operator certification.
* It provides authority for suspension of a wastewater treatment plant operator certification.
* It clarifies the requirements for an educational program for people engaged in water pollution control activities as training in the supervision, management and operation of sewage collection and wastewater treatment systems.
* It clarifies the department's existing authority with respect to licenses and its authority with respect to wastewater treatment plant operator certificates.

[**LD 780**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079266) **An Act Regarding Uncontrolled Hazardous Substance Sites**

[Public Law Chapter 117](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0585&item=3&snum=130)

This law makes the following changes to the State's uncontrolled hazardous substance sites law.

1. It amends the definition of "hazardous substance" in the laws governing uncontrolled hazardous substance sites by including substances defined as hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants under the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980.
2. It provides applicable requirements under this Title and the rules adopted pursuant to this Title for publicly owned treatment works based on the contribution by the publicly owned treatment works of effluent or sewage sludge to an uncontrolled hazardous substance site.
3. It provides applicable requirements under this Title and the rules adopted pursuant to this Title for public water systems based on the contribution by the public water system of water treatment residuals to an uncontrolled hazardous substance site.

On or before January 15, 2023, the Department of Environmental Protection must report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over environment and natural resources matters the uncontrolled hazardous substance sites where the department has used its authority to require responsible parties to investigate or remove hazardous substances that are pollutants or contaminants and, for each site, information identifying the substance involved.

[**LD 1028**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079497) **An Act To Ease Business Expansion By Increasing The Number And Applicability Of Permit Exemptions Under The Site Location Of Development Laws**

[Public Law Chapter 123](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0323&item=3&snum=130)

This law increases the exemption under the Site Law for new construction at a licensed manufacturing facility and new construction at or modification of a campus of an educational institution to 40,000 square feet of disturbed area or 80,000 square feet of total ground area.

[**LD 1042**](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0770&item=1&snum=130) **An Act To Protect State Workers from Exposure to Harmful Substances**

[Public Law Chapter 262](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0770&item=4&snum=130)

This law requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services to inventory all state-owned buildings where state employees perform job duties to determine the presence of asbestos, lead, black mold and other substances that may be harmful to human health. It requires property owners of buildings leased to the State to conduct a similar inventory and report the results to the bureau.

The law requires the bureau to establish and maintain a database containing the results of the inventories and make the database readily accessible electronically to employee collective bargaining agents, employees working in state office buildings with asbestos, lead, black mold or other substances that may be harmful to human health, individuals who perform maintenance, repair or custodial services, firefighters, the Department of Labor, the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention and members of the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over state and local government matters. It requires the database to be consulted before maintenance of or repair to a state-owned building by a state employee and the provision of protective gear to the employee if appropriate. The department may adopt rules to implement these requirements and is required to submit a biennial report to the joint standing committee regarding the conditions of the buildings.

## [LD 1415](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080292) Resolve, To Direct The Department Of Environmental Protection To Determine Staffing Needs To More Efficiently And Effectively Issue Decisions On New, Amendment And Minor Revision Applications

## [Resolve Chapter 62](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0465&item=3&snum=130)

This Resolve directs the Department of Environmental Protection to determine the staffing resources necessary to efficiently and effectively review new permit applications submitted under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 420-D and Title 38, chapter 3, subchapter 1, articles 5-A and 6 and to issue decisions on amendment and minor revision applications submitted under those same laws within timetables that are no longer than those established by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection for new applications. It requires the department, by November 1, 2021, to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources on the outcome of the staffing resources determination. It allows the committee to report out a bill to the 130th Legislature.

## [LD 1503](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP1113&item=1&snum=130) An Act To Stop Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Pollution

## (Emergency)

## [Public Law 477](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP1113&item=5&snum=130)

## This law requires manufacturers of products with intentionally added perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, to report the presence of those substances in those products to the Department of Environmental Protection beginning in 2023. This bill also prohibits the sale of residential carpets or rugs, as well as the sale of fabric treatments, that contain intentionally added PFAS beginning in 2023. Additional product categories containing intentionally added PFAS may also be identified by the department and prohibited from sale. Effective in 2030, products containing intentionally added PFAS may not be sold unless the use of PFAS in a product is specifically designated as a currently unavoidable use by the department. The department is required to create a PFAS source reduction program that provides information, education and, to the extent funds are available, grants to publicly owned treatment works and municipalities to reduce PFAS entering air, water or land.

## It designates as major substantive rules any rules adopted by the Department of Environmental Protection to identify products by category or use that may not be sold, offered for sale or distributed for sale in this State if they contain intentionally added PFAS. It clarifies the scope of the PFAS source reduction program proposed in the bill and provides that the department is required to implement the program only to the extent funds are available to do so.

## [LD 1635](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080682) An Act To Make Minor Changes And Corrections To Statutes Administered By The Department Of Environmental Protection

[Public Law Chapter 186](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP1219&item=3&snum=130)

This law makes changes to the laws administered by the Department of Environmental Protection relating to hazardous material response vehicles; underground oil storage tank installer and inspector certification; the Maine Environmental Protection Fund; waste management fees; the Natural Resources Protection Act; waste oil; recycled paper bags and reusable plastic bags; and beverage containers.

[**LD 1682**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080769) **An Act To Require Consideration Of Climate And Equity Impacts By The Public Utilities Commission**

[Public Law Chapter 279](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP1251&item=3&snum=130)

This law requires the Public Utilities Commission to consider the achievement of the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, 23 section 576-A.

The law also requires the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future, in consultation with other state agencies and offices, to develop methods to incorporate equity considerations in decision making at the Department of Environmental Protection, the Public Utilities Commission and other state agencies, and to develop definitions for “environmental justice,” “environmental justice populations,” “frontline communities” and any other terms determined to be necessary to capture equity considerations in decision making at the department, the commission and other state agencies. It requires the office to submit a report that includes any recommendations regarding definitions and equity considerations, including any suggested legislation, to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology by February 15, 2022. It allows each committee to report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature based on the report.

**PROFESSIONAL LICENSING**

[**LD 11**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078011) **An Act To Clarify The Laws Regarding Reciprocity For Licensure Of Professional Engineers**

[Public Law Chapter 47](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0018&item=3&snum=130)

This law allows the State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers to license a person by endorsement or comity if: the applicant provides proof that the applicant has been a licensed professional engineer, in good standing, in another state, territory or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia or any foreign country for a minimum of 8 years, and whose licensure qualifications are, in the opinion of the, substantially equivalent to the requirements in the laws governing the licensure of engineers in this state; and the applicant has never been subject to disciplinary action as a professional engineer. It allows the board to waive additional qualifications.

**LD 149 An Act To Facilitate Licensure For Credentialed Individuals From Other Jurisdictions**

[Public Law Chapter 167](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0105&item=4&snum=130)

## This law implements some of the recommendations of Resolve 2019, chapter 79 directing the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to form a working group to assess barriers to professional licensure for skilled individuals with foreign credentials and licensees of other states who apply for Maine licensure.

## It allows the Director of the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to exercise discretionary authority, after consultation with licensing entities, to waive documentation requirements for licensure submitted by applicants educated in or with relevant experience or licensure in other jurisdictions, including other states, United States territories, foreign nations and foreign administrative divisions, as long as the waiver does not reduce the requisite standards of proficiency for the licensed profession or occupation.

## It allows the director to exercise discretionary authority to waive examination fees and license fees for applicants for licensure educated in or with relevant experience or licensure in other jurisdictions, including other states, United States territories, foreign nations and foreign administrative divisions. The Director must consult with the appropriate licensing board, commission or personnel administering a regulatory function of the office before exercising discretionary authority to waive examination fees and license fees for applicants for licensure for credentialed individuals from other jurisdictions and for applicants who identify themselves as veterans with military service, experience and training.

## It also allows the office, or a licensing board or commission within the office, to grant provisional licenses to applicants educated in or with relevant experience or licensure in other jurisdictions, including other states, United States territories, foreign nations and foreign administrative divisions.

## It provides the director with rule-making authority to implement these discretionary authorities. It provides the director with the authority to adopt rules to define the term "jurisdiction" for licensing purposes to mean a state, a United States territory, a foreign nation or a foreign administrative division that issues a license or credential.

## It provides the director with the authority to accept funds from the Federal Government, from any political subdivision of the State or from any individual, foundation or corporation, to expend those funds for purposes consistent with the purposes of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, section 8003 and to provide grants to nongovernmental entities for purposes consistent with that law. It also develops a process for licensure by endorsement for United States license holders who meet certain criteria.

## [LD 195](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078257) Resolve, Directing The Department Of Professional And Financial Regulation To Develop A Draft Registration Program For General Contractors For Home Improvement And Construction

[Resolve Chapter 76](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0083&item=3&snum=130)

This Resolve directs the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to develop a draft registration program for general contractors for home improvement and construction. The department is required to submit the draft registration program and any proposed legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business by December 1, 2021, and the committee is authorized to submit a bill based on the draft registration program and proposed legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

[**LD 374**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078597) **An Act To Allow Veterans, Active Duty Service Members And Their Spouses To Apply For Temporary Occupational Licenses**

[Public Law Chapter 106](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0160&item=3&snum=130)

This law amends the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 10, section 8011 to clarify the eligibility for temporary professional licenses for qualified veterans, spouses of qualified veterans, domestic partners of qualified veterans, active duty service members, spouses of active duty service members and domestic partners of active duty service members:

* It requires that a license held in another jurisdiction be in good standing in order to qualify the individual for temporary licensure in this State.
* It makes a distinction between the process for temporary licensure when the profession is regulated directly by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation and the process when the profession is regulated by a board that is affiliated with the department.
* It describes the application process for temporary licensure.
* It allows for the granting of a limited extension to temporary licensure.
* It adds definitions of "good standing," "recently separated veteran" and "qualified person."

# TRANSPORTATION

[**LD 40**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078079) **Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review Of Portions Of Chapter 305: Rules And Regulations Pertaining To Traffic Movement Permits, A Major Substantive Rule Of The Department Of Transportation**

(Emergency Measure)

[Resolve Chapter 1](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0006&item=2&snum=130)

This Resolve approves revisions to Chapter 305: Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Traffic Movement Permits, a major substantive rule of the Department of Transportation.

[**LD 123**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078102) **An Act To Make Allocations From Maine Turnpike Authority Funds For The Maine Turnpike Authority For The Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2022**

[Private & Special Law Chapter 3](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0054&item=3&snum=130)

This law makes allocations from gross revenues of the Maine Turnpike Authority for the payment of the authority's operating expenses for the calendar year ending December 31, 2022 in accordance with the requirements of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1961, subsection 6.

**LD 128 An Act To Authorize The Commissioner Of Transportation To Enter Into Agreements With The United States Department Of Transportation**

[Public Law Chapter 66](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0063&item=3&snum=130)

This law allows the Commissioner of Transportation to enter into agreements and cooperate with the United States Department of Transportation as provided in 23 United States Code, Sections 325 to 327 and as authorized under the federal Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act, the federal Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users and the federal National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. It allows the commissioner to adopt rules to implement an agreement, carry out duties under an agreement and make expenditures in connection with an agreement. Consistent with 23 United States Code, Sections 326 and 327, it provides for a partial waiver of immunity from civil suit in federal court regarding the compliance, discharge or enforcement of a responsibility assumed by the Department of Transportation upon the department's entering an agreement.

## LD 161 An Act Making Unified Appropriations And Allocations For The Expenditures Of State Government, Highway Fund And Other Funds And Changing Certain Provisions Of The Law Necessary To The Proper Operations Of State Government For The Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2021, June 30, 2022 And June 30, 2023

## (Emergency Measure)

[Public Law Chapter 224](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0117&item=3&snum=130)

## This law as emergency legislation proposes to make unified appropriations and for the expenditures of State Government, Highway Fund and other funds and certain provisions of the law necessary to the proper operations of State for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2021, June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2023, as by the Governor pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5.

## PART A makes allocations of funds for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2023.

## PART B provides funding for approved reclassifications and range changes.

## PART C increases the attrition rate for the 2022-2023 biennium from 1.6% to 5% for judicial branch and executive branch departments and agencies.

## PART D allows TransCap Trust Fund nonbond funds to be used for capital projects with an anticipated useful life of 5 years or more.

## PART E allows the Maine Municipal Bond Bank to issue up to $50,000,000 of GARVEE bonds for highway and bridge needs.

## PART F requires the State Controller to transfer $6,752,206 in fiscal year 2021-22 and $6,831,841 in fiscal year 2022-23 from the unallocated surplus of the Highway Fund to the TransCap Trust Fund.

## PART G requires the State Controller to transfer amounts exceeding $100,000 from the unallocated balance in the Highway Fund at the close of fiscal years 2021-22 and 2022- 23 after all commitments to the Highway and Bridge Capital, Highway Light Capital and Maintenance and Operations programs within the Department of Transportation for capital and all other needs.

## PART H authorizes the Commissioner of Transportation to transfer Highway Fund Personal Services balances available at the end of fiscal years 2021-22 and 2022-23 to the Department of Transportation, Highway and Bridge Capital, Highway Light Capital and Maintenance and Operations programs for capital or all other needs.

[**LD 1027**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079495) **An Act To Amend The Laws Governing Local Bridges**

[Public Law Chapter 201](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0322&item=3&snum=130)

This law requires the Department of Transportation to notify a municipality when a bridge for which a municipality has maintenance responsibility requires a posting or closure and requires the municipality to carry out the posting or closure; current law provides a municipality sole responsibility to determine whether such a bridge must be posted or closed.

The law provides that in order for the department to accept certain responsibilities for an improved bridge or for a new bridge, the department must approve the design of the improvements or construction before the improvements are made or the bridge is constructed. The design of the improvements or construction must meet standards set by the department and be sealed by a professional engineer. The department must inspect the bridge after it is improved or constructed.

[**LD 1370**](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP1004&item=1&snum=130) **Resolve, Directing The Department Of Transportation To Develop And Adopt An Active Transportation Plan**

[Resolve Chapter 61](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP1004&item=3&snum=130)

This Resolve directs the Department of Transportation to develop an active transportation plan, use that plan to evaluate reasonable potential uses of state-owned rail corridors and submit a report containing that plan to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over transportation matters no later than January 18, 2023.

# BUDGET

[**LD 1733**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280081198) **An Act To Provide Allocations for the Distribution of State Fiscal Recovery Funds**

[Public Law Chapter 483](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0577&item=16&snum=130)

This law provides the disbursement of the American Rescue Plan funds for the State of Maine. It establishes the clean energy partnership to support clean energy and energy efficiency job growth through workforce development programs developed in partnership with industry and education leaders. This sector-focused initiative will establish clear training pathways for clean energy careers, support internships and apprenticeship programs and create an online platform for attracting workers, sharing training opportunities and highlighting job opportunities. The partnership will also target investments to encourage innovative clean energy companies in Maine through the Maine Technology Institute.

It also provides $50,000,000 to the Maine State Housing Authority to expand housing options that are affordable to workers and their families to own or rent, through existing financing programs through the authority. These funds may also be used to provide planning and technical assistance for communities, developers and builders to encourage construction or production of affordable, energy-efficient housing units close to services and employment centers to support individuals, families and state workforce needs. This Part requires the authority to require the execution of a project labor agreement by any entity engaging in the construction of housing units for which the authority provides funds from $20,000,000 of the $50,000,000 allocated for the expansion of existing financing programs.

It provides for expansion of affordable high-speed broadband access in the State; provides for or acceleration of weatherization and efficiency upgrades for Maine homes, especially for low-income, older Maine residents and renters; assisting municipal, county, school and community organizations to secure efficiency grants by providing matching funds; and supporting incentives for industries and businesses to invest in energy cost savings and efficiency measures.

The law amends the transfer of $50,000,000 to the Department of Transportation, Highway and Bridge Capital program, Other Special Revenue Funds account as required by Public Law 2021, chapter 298, to remove the limitation that those funds may be transferred only to replace a transfer not funded by the Federal Government.

***Bills Carried Over***

[**LD 80**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078029) **An Act To Provide Critical Communications For Family Farms, Businesses And Residences By Strategic Public Investment In High-speed Internet And Broadband Infrastructure**

(In Committee)

This bill requires that 33% of sales and use tax revenue collected by the State Tax Assessor from marketplace facilitators, with respect to marketplace-facilitated sales, after required transfers to other funds be transferred to the ConnectMaine Authority to further deployment of high-speed Internet and broadband infrastructure to unserved and underserved areas of the State.

[**LD 144**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078145) **An Act To Fund Capital Improvements To Career And Technical Education Centers And Regions To Bolster Maine's Future Workforce**

(Special Appropriations Table)

## This bill adds equipment purchases, defined as the purchase f new or updated equipment and any capital improvements necessary to use the new or updated equipment, of career and technical education centers and regions to the definition of "project, projects or part of any project" in the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority Act and to the authority to lease or rent any land, buildings, structures, facilities or equipment.

## The bill also adds equipment purchases as a purpose for issuing additional securities, allows the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to delegate certain powers to the cooperative board or school administrative unit that governs a career and technical education region or center, respectively, and provides that the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority may not issue any additional securities pursuant to this provision after June 30, 2023.

## The bill requires the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs upon the allocation of all bond proceeds. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs may report out a bill to repeal the provision regarding the issuance of additional securities and any other provision of law relating to that provision. The amendment also provides that the executive director of the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority must report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over education and cultural affairs no later than January 15, 2022 if the authority determines that additional legislation is necessary to carry out the purposes of this legislation, including but not limited to any legislation necessary to ensure that securities issued pursuant to this legislation are tax-exempt. Career and technical education centers and regions are without sufficient funds to provide for equipment purchases and as such require additional mechanisms to raise funds for this purpose. It is the intent of this legislation to provide a limited alternative mechanism for career and technical education centers and regions to fund equipment purchases at career and technical education centers and regions to better serve the State's students.

[**LD 241**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078333) **An Act To Support The Trades Through A Tax Credit For Apprenticeship Programs**

(Special Appropriations Table)

This bill permits an employer that employs an apprentice participating in an approved apprenticeship program to receive an income tax credit of $2,500 and provides for a partial credit if the employer employs a participating apprentice for fewer than 2,000 hours during the taxable year. It provides that hours worked by a participating apprentice may not be used by more than one employing unit to calculate an apprenticeship credit and changes language relating to tax years to reflect standard usage.

**LD 318 An Act To Provide More Options To Maine Electric Service Customers And Support Maine's Climate Goals**

(In Committee)

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill would amend the current law regarding electricity restructuring and retail electricity sales, replacing the State's default service, called standard-offer service, with full retail choice and competition to benefit consumers and help to deliver the jobs, economic development and other benefits of a fully competitive market. The bill would ensure that all retail customers have adequate and efficient billing for electric service, increase e the use of renewable and carbon-free resources in electricity generation, allow consumers to choose a rate that works for them from a mix of time-of-use rates and encourage innovative and broad on-bill financing programs to assist consumers with implementing beneficial electrification to help Maine achieve its climate goals.

[**LD 329**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078524) **An Act To Amend The Laws Governing The Issuance Of Bonds**

(In Committee)

This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing the issuance of bonds:

1. It requires the Governor to issue a general obligation bond that has been ratified by the legal voters of the State unless one of 5 specific conditions exists, and it requires the Governor to provide certain information upon delaying or forgoing issuance of a bond; and
2. It eliminates the requirement that registered bonds bear the facsimile signature of the Governor.

[**LD 339**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078544) **An Act To Amend The Laws Governing The Issuance Of Bonds**

(In Committee)

This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing the issuance of bonds:

1. It requires the Governor to issue a general obligation bond that has been ratified by the legal voters of the State unless one of 5 specific conditions exists, and it requires the Governor to provide certain information upon delaying or forgoing issuance of a bond;
2. It eliminates the requirement that registered bonds bear the facsimile signature of the Governor; and
3. It provides that the bill applies to all general obligation bonds ratified by the voters but as yet unissued as well as all future general obligation bonds ratified by the voters.

[**LD 373**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078596) **An Act To Authorize A General Fund Bond Issue To Invest In Maine's Railroad Infrastructure**

(In Committee)

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $50,000,000, will be used for investments in railroad infrastructure to expand passenger rail service, with a priority for railroad track corridors that could support passenger and freight intermodal operations and enhance the movement of agricultural products.

[**LD 466**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078734) **An Act To Authorize A General Fund Bond Issue To Support A Climate Center At The Gulf Of Maine Research Institute**

(In Committee)

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $16,000,000, will be used to complete the design, engineering and construction of a climate center at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute to support Maine communities and the State in the development and funding of climate adaptation plans, to support improved fisheries management and aquaculture development and to advise seafood businesses in the pursuit of opportunities and the navigation of challenges arising from climate change.

[**LD 481**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078760) **An Act To Propose A General Fund Bond Issue To Train Workers In High-demand Sectors And Support The State's 10-year Economic Plan Goal Of Increasing Wages By 10 Percent**

(In Committee)

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $80,000,000, will be used to provide funding to train workers in high-demand sectors and support the State's goal of increasing average annual wages in the State by 10%. The funding would be provided in $20,000,000 increments over 4 years in accordance with programmatic and return-on- investment goals that must be met by the Maine Community College System.

[**LD 634**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079086) **An Act To Cap The Value Of Contracts For Renewable Resources And Distributed Generation Resources**

(In Committee)

This bill caps contracts entered into under the renewable portfolio standard procurement laws and the distributed generation procurement laws to reasonable costs associated with making a resource or project commercially operable, plus $100,000. It directs the Public Utilities Commission to adopt routine technical rules to develop the method the commission will use to determine the contract limitations imposed by this cap for each contract.

[**LD 682**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079148) **An Act To Ensure The Viability Of The Northern Maine Electric Transmission Grid**

(In Committee)

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill would ensure the viability of the northern Maine electric transmission grid by implementing the recommendations of the stakeholder group convened by the Governor's Energy Office pursuant to Resolve 2019, chapter 71.

[**LD 702**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079177) **An Act To Authorize A General Fund Bond Issue To Recapitalize The School Revolving Renovation Fund**

(In Committee)

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $30,000,000, will be used to recapitalize the School Revolving Renovation Fund for the purpose of providing funds to public schools for renovation and capital repairs.

[**LD 856**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079325) **An Act To Balance Renewable Energy Development With Natural And Working Lands Conservation**

(In Committee)

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill would balance renewable energy development with the conservation of natural and working lands.

[**LD 866**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079323) **An Act Concerning Advanced Refrigeration Technology**

(In Committee)

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to enact measures concerning advanced refrigeration technology that reduce climate super-pollutant and energy use and bring advanced refrigeration technology into financial parity with solar technology rebates on a cost per environmental benefit basis.

[**LD 969**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079435) **An Act To Authorize A General Fund Bond Issue For The Construction Of A Convention Center In Portland, Improvements To The Augusta Civic Center And A Competitive Grant Program For Capital Improvements To Public Venues Across The State**

(In Committee)

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $115,000,000, will be used for the construction of a convention center in Portland, improvements to the Augusta Civic Center and a competitive grant program for capital improvements to public venues across the State.

[**LD 987**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079453) **An Act To Authorize A General Fund Bond Issue For The Portland Harbor Commercial Revitalization Project's Confined Aquatic Disposal Cell And Dredging Projects**

(In Committee)

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $28,000,000, will be used to construct a confined aquatic disposal cell within Portland Harbor and engage in a maintenance dredge of the marine facilities of Portland and South Portland in order to promote commercial economic growth, maintain the working waterfront and improve the sediment and water quality of the harbor, allowing the marine industry to continue to grow and support the State's economy.

[**LD 1094**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079601) **An Act To Authorize A General Fund Bond Issue To Reduce Homeowner And Municipal Energy Bills Through Increased Efficiency And Weatherization Projects**

(In Committee)

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $20,000,000, will be administered by the Efficiency Maine Trust and used to reduce energy costs for senior citizens, low-income residents, municipalities and schools through investments in weatherization and energy efficiency.

[**LD 1168**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079757) **An Act To License Operators Of Personnel Hoists**

(In Committee)

This bill establishes the Elevator Advisory Board as well as requirements for the licensure of operators of personnel hoists. It creates exceptions to these licensure requirements for short-term emergency operation and operation by inspectors and operation of automatic operation or continuous pressure operation passenger or freight elevators or existing shipper rope elevators.

**LD 1350 An Act To Expand Maine's Clean Energy Economy**

(In Committee)

This bill amends the State's renewable portfolio standard procurement law to authorize 2 additional competitive solicitations by the Public Utilities Commission for contracts with Class IA resources to procure, in total, an amount of energy or renewable energy credits equal to 15% of retail electricity sales in the State during calendar year 2019. It requires 100% of the energy or renewable energy credits contracted following those additional competitive solicitations to come from Class IA resources that begin commercial operations after June 30, 2021. The bill also amends the renewable portfolio standard procurement law to require the Public Utilities Commission, in conducting the solicitation and selection of Class IA resources for contracts, to give special consideration to selection of projects in economically depressed areas of the State and to give consideration to evidence of project viability. It also authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to adopt routine technical rules necessary to implement the requirements of the renewable portfolio standard procurement law, which may include provisions stipulating the financial security mechanisms that will be required as a condition of the selection of Class IA resources for contracts under that law.

## [LD 1488](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP1102&item=1&snum=130) Resolve, To Study and Recommend Improvements to Maine's Dam Safety

## (Special Appropriations Table)

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## This Resolve requires the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to conduct a study of the State's dams and the State's dam safety efforts, including an assessment of the hazard potential and classification of each dam, the potential risk of dam failure to downstream communities and public resources, dam resiliency, and the efficacy of the State's dam safety efforts. The department is required to have the Association of State Dam Safety Officials conduct a peer review of the State's dam safety efforts by December 1, 2021. The department is required to submit a report on the results of its study, including suggested legislation, and the peer review to the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs by January 14, 2022. The committee is authorized to submit a bill based on the report to the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

[**LD 1511**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080444) **An Act To Finance Distribution Investments At The Lowest Cost To Customers And To Encourage Utility Performance**

(In Committee)

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill would finance distribution investments at the lowest cost to customers and to encourage utility performance.

[**LD 1532**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080470) **An Act To Protect Maine's Air Quality By Strengthening Requirements For Air Emissions Licensing**

(In Committee)

This bill repeals the provision that allows the Department of Environmental Protection to grant a variance from ambient air quality standards to a person who owns or is in control of specified sources for which an air emission license was granted. It repeals the provision that prohibits the Commissioner of Environmental Protection from requiring a person to submit more than one copy of ambient monitoring data or meteorological data more frequently than quarterly. This bill also:

1. Creates new hearing requirements for applications for air emission licenses or renewals;
2. Creates new civil penalties for violation of air emission standards and requires any penalties recovered to be transferred to the municipality where the violation occurred;
3. Prohibits the department from granting a license when certain requirements are not met; and
4. Changes the term of an air emission license to 3 years, except when the term is specified in federal law as a fixed term.

## [LD 1554](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP1159&item=1&snum=130) An Act To Provide 10 Climate Change Transition Assistance for Maine's Energy-intensive Businesses

## (Special Appropriations Table)

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## This bill repeals provisions concerning the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 10109 regarding the transfer of funds from that fund to the Public Utilities Commission for disbursement to affected customers to support efficiency measures. It directs the Efficiency Maine Trust to establish an industrial climate transition initiative to develop and support climate change mitigation strategies designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at industrial facilities in the State. It provides a General Fund appropriation of $6,000,000 in fiscal year 2021-22 to the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Trust Fund within the Efficiency Maine Trust to fund the establishment and activities of that industrial climate transition initiative.

## [LD 1555](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP1160&item=1&snum=130) An Act To Fund Broadband Internet Infrastructure For Marginalized Groups In The State

## (Special Appropriations Table)

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## This bill appropriates $15,000,000 from the General Fund to the ConnectMaine Authority for the provision of broadband Internet infrastructure to benefit marginalized groups. The ConnectMaine Authority is directed to consult with organizations representing marginalized groups, including historically disadvantaged racial, indigenous and tribal communities, individuals who were formerly incarcerated or are unhoused, individuals in substance use disorder recovery and low-income individuals, when making determinations regarding the distribution of these funds.

[**LD 1634**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080681) **An Act To Create The Maine Generation Authority**

(In Committee)

This bill establishes the Maine Generation Authority as a state authority authorized to issue revenue bonds that are backed by Maine electric ratepayers. The purpose of the authority is to finance and own electricity generation projects that generate electricity using renewable fuels that produce zero greenhouse gas emissions and that are located in the State or, for those located in federal waters in the Gulf of Maine, capable of delivering all electricity generated into Maine in amounts sufficient to meet or offset residential and business energy requirements, and electricity storage systems located in the State that can store sufficient quantities of electricity generated by renewable generation projects to enable Maine's electricity grid to meet total in-state demands for electricity at all times. The governance structure, administration, powers, obligations, property rights and bond issuance authority of the authority are modeled on the Maine Turnpike Authority. The amount of authorized bonding is intended to provide sufficient funding to allow the authority to meet the energy and storage targets set forth in the bill. The bill authorizes the authority to undertake the following activities in fulfillment of its purpose: 1. Acquire fee simple ownership or easements in or enter long-term leases of real estate within the State or in federal waters in the Gulf of Maine; 2. Issue revenue bonds for up to 100% of the costs of a renewable generation project or electricity storage system, including capitalized interest during construction of the project and system and working capital related to the operations and administration of the authority; and 3. Enter into contracts with 3rd parties for the construction of renewable generation projects or electricity storage systems, the operations and maintenance of renewable generation projects or electricity storage systems owned by the authority and the provision of support services to the authority, including energy planning, energy market sales, energy contract review, accounting, legal and other types of administrative services.

To ensure that the activities of the authority do not expose ratepayers to additional financial risks, the authority is explicitly prohibited from engaging in any of the following activities: 1. Energy trading, except to the extent necessary to sell the electricity generated by those renewable generation projects owned by the authority; 2. Entering into any short-term or long-term energy contracts for speculation or hedging purposes; 3. Acting in any manner as a retail electricity supplier for any ratepayers located in any utility service territory in the State; 4. Selling or otherwise disposing of any environmental credits or benefits in any form, referred to as environmental attributes, derived from electricity generated by a renewable generation project owned by the authority, except through the retirement of such environmental attributes for the authority's account; and 5. Hiring persons to provide operations or maintenance services for any renewable generation project owned by the authority.

The bill requires the authority to develop capital plans and budgets to meet specific renewable generation and energy storage targets each year from 2024 to 2033, and allows the authority to collect revenues from a Maine Generation Authority surcharge imposed on all electric ratepayers in Maine. It requires the authority to sell 100% of the output generated by each renewable generation project or electricity storage system it owns into the relevant wholesale market administered by New England independent system operator, ISO-NE, at the spot market price or its equivalent for those components of electricity for which a spot market does not exist. It directs the authority to contract with the Efficiency Maine Trust to enable all such sales and to settle financially all outputs and environmental attributes sold to the accounts of the authority. It stipulates that the beneficial title to the electricity generated by or any environmental attribute associated with any renewable generation project or electricity storage system owned by the authority may not be held by any entity other than the authority prior to the point of its sale. It allows the authority to borrow $1,000,000 from the Efficiency Maine Trust as a 3-year maturity loan at 3% to fund start-up costs of the authority and requires the trust to provide this financial assistance to the authority. It provides that the authority is subject to the same freedom of access and confidentiality provisions that apply to the Efficiency Maine Trust.

[**LD 1656**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080748) **An Act To Promote Energy-efficient Affordable Housing**

(Special Appropriations Table)

This bill provides funds in the amount of $100,000,000 to be used by the Maine State Housing Authority to provide energy-efficient affordable housing. It also authorizes the authority to accept federal funds for this purpose.

This bill creates a green housing construction program and allocates it to the statutes. The amendment also does the following. 1. It removes a requirement that between 55% and 65% of apartments built under the program must be set-rate apartments. 2. It changes the bill to reflect that tenants of subsidized apartments may not pay more than a required percentage of income on rent and utilities combined as determined by federal standards. 3. It specifies that subsidized units must be reserved for households at or below 70% of area median income as calculated and published by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development at the time of application. Developers may set more restrictive income limits for subsidized units. Once tenancy is established, the increase in a household's income cannot be used as a reason for terminating tenancy. 4. It specifies that housing built through the program must provide renewable energy production for onsite use of annual energy production of no less than that of a standard photovoltaic array of an area totaling 80% of the project buildings' roof area. 5. It specifies that housing built through the program may be owned and controlled by a corporation whose primary purpose is the development, operation or preservation of permanently affordable housing on a nonprofit basis for low-income and moderate-income households, such as a land trust, housing trust or limited-equity housing cooperative. 6. It specifies that housing built using funds awarded through the program may be owned wholly or in part by a for-profit corporation under certain conditions. 7. It removes a provision allowing the Attorney General to act against the authority if it does not comply with the provisions of this bill. 8. It establishes the Green Housing Construction Program Fund. 9. It adds an appropriations and allocations section.

[**LD 1689**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080781) **An Act To Ensure Equity In The Clean Energy Economy By Providing A Limited Tax Exemption For Certain Clean Energy Infrastructure Projects**

(In Committee)

This bill allows a person who purchases machinery or equipment for direct use in the development and construction of a clean energy product a refund or exemption from a portion of the sales tax due on that machinery or equipment. "Clean energy project" is defined as the development and construction of infrastructure for the generation, storage, transformation or transmission of electricity generated using fuel cells, wind, solar cells, biomass, tides or waves, geothermal resources or technology that converts otherwise lost energy from exhaust. A person may obtain a refund or exemption of 75% of the sales tax by demonstrating to the Department of Labor that the clean energy project results in a meaningful economic impact on an overburdened community, as defined; supports local manufacturing; and is developed under a community benefits agreement or project labor agreement.

[**LD 1691**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080785) **An Act To Require Licensing For Certain Mechanical Trades**

(In Committee)

This bill requires licensure of persons who perform sheet metal work, refrigeration and air conditioning system installation and repair, pipefitting, mechanical insulating and fire protection sprinkler system installation, repair and testing. The bill grandfathers persons who have completed apprentice programs in or have been compensated for a minimum of 2,000 hours in the business of performing sheet metal work, refrigeration and air conditioning system installation and repair, pipefitting or fire protection sprinkler system installation, repair and testing.

[**LD 1694**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080793) **An Act To Create The Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority**

(In Committee)

This bill establishes the Community Redevelopment Land Bank Authority to coordinate the acquisition of blighted, abandoned and environmentally hazardous or functionally obsolete property for redevelopment, including property identified as historic but not including real property owned by a federally recognized Indian tribe, unimproved land or an active or former military facility. The bill establishes a fund to support the purpose of the authority, which includes as a source of revenue a fee on the disposal of construction and demolition debris. The bill also authorizes the creation of municipal redevelopment authorities to work with the Community Redevelopment Land Bank Authority for the purpose of transferring property and coordinating redevelopment. The Community Redevelopment Land Bank Authority is required to establish a Development Ready Community Planning Committee for the purposes of establishing statewide community redevelopment guidelines.

***Bills That Did Not Pass***

[**LD 64**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078000) **Resolution, Proposing An Amendment To The Constitution Of Maine Regarding Environmental Rights**

[**LD 83**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078038) **An Act To Clarify The Meaning Of "unserved Area" Within The State's Broadband Service Laws**

**LD 87 An Act To Implement The State Climate Action Plan, Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions And Enhance Maine's Economy**

[**LD 105**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078076) **An Act To Adopt The Department Of Economic And Community Development's 10-year Economic Development Strategy For Maine**

[**LD 164**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078147) **An Act To Establish Maximum Contaminant Levels Under The State's Drinking Water Rules For Certain Perflouroalkyl And Polyflouroalkyl Substances**

[**LD 260**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078367) **An Act To Clarify The Establishment, Collection And Use Of Certain Fees For Nonwetland Habitat Mitigation Required By The Department Of Environmental Protection For Project Permitting**

[**LD 311**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078498) **An Act To Require Third-party Certification For Persons Undertaking Corrosion Prevention And Mitigation Projects For Public Water Supply And Wastewater Infrastructure And Bridges**

[**LD 390**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078616) **An Act Regarding The Mapping Of Shoreland Zones**

[**LD 436**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078698) **An Act Regarding The Authority Of The Department Of Environmental Protection Regarding Applications, Permits And Fines**

[**LD 502**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280078829) **An Act To Broaden The Definition Of "working Waterfront" With Respect To Land Use Planning**

[**LD 553**](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0054&item=1&snum=130) **An Act To End At-will Employment**

[**LD 612**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079050) **An Act To Recognize Occupational Licenses And Certifications From Other States To Attract New Residents And Businesses To Maine**

[**LD 667**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079126) **An Act To Create Synergy Between Maine Industry And Maine's Energy Goals In The Use Of Certain Funds By The Efficiency Maine Trust**

[**LD 709**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079175) **Resolve, To Provide A Brief Moratorium On Certain New Net Energy Billing Arrangements And To Examine The Costs And Benefits Of Net Energy Billing**

## [LD 729](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0280&item=1&snum=130) An Act To Provide Transparency Regarding State Contracts during a State of Emergency

[**LD 744**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079213) **An Act To Extend The Right-of-way Surrounding Power Lines For The Purpose Of Tree Trimming**

[**LD 827**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079147) **An Act To Help Veterans Access Jobs, Education And Housing**

[**LD 848**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079311) **An Act To Increase High-speed Internet In Rural Maine**

[**LD 890**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079341) **An Act To Protect Maine Consumers And Decrease Environmental Pollution**

[**LD 959**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079415) **An Act To Protect Small Businesses By Ensuring That A Prevailing Wage Is Paid On Public Works Construction Projects**

[**LD 960**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079421) **An Act To Require Reporting Of Perfluoroalkyl And Polyfluoroalkyl Substances, Pfas, In Products And Of Discharges Of Firefighting Foam Containing Pfas**

[**LD 988**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079454) **An Act To Increase Economic Development By Expanding The Special Fee Application Review Process Of The Department Of Environmental Protection**

[**LD 992**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079459) **An Act To Prevent The Denial Or Revocation Of A Professional Or Business License For A Violation Not Related To That Profession Or Business**

**LD 1038 An Act To Facilitate A Timely Revision Process In The Site Location Of Development Laws**

[**LD 1089**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079592) **An Act To Increase Municipal Oversight In The Site Location Of Development Laws**

[**LD 1097**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079632) **An Act Regarding The Definition Of "development Of State Or Regional Significance That May Substantially Affect The Environment"**

[**LD 1116**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079678) **Resolve, To Require Review Of The Outcomes Of Utility Restructuring And Electricity Generation Divestiture**

[**LD 1118**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079689) **An Act To Promote Reliable Rural High-speed Internet**

[**LD 1131**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079720) **An Act To Allow Reciprocity For Licensed Workers From Out Of State**

[**LD 1162**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079741) **An Act To Dedicate A Percentage Of The Sales And Use Tax On Motor Vehicles And Motor Vehicle Parts To The Highway Fund**

[**LD 1191**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280079770) **Resolve, To Study The Feasibility Of Time-of-use Rates**

[**LD 1304**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080034) **An Act To Create The Career And Technical Education Workforce Fund**

[**LD 1332**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080073) **An Act Regarding Net Energy Billing Limits**

[**LD 1366**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080188) **An Act To Require A Majority Vote Of The Legislature For Maine To Join Any Multistate Compact**

[**LD 1367**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080191) **An Act To Create A Grant Program To Promote Innovation In Municipal Carbon Reduction Initiatives**

[**LD 1372**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080208) **An Act To Collect Data To Assess The Need And Plan For Noise Abatement By The Maine Turnpike Authority**

[**LD 1388**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080214) **An Act To Require Testing Of Public Drinking Water Supplies For Toxic Perfluoroalkyl And Polyfluoroalkyl Substances And To Establish Maximum Contaminant Levels**

[**LD 1396**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080200) **Resolve, To Ensure Proper Funding For Recreational Trails And Transportation Alternatives**

## [LD 1411](http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0461&item=1&snum=130) An Act To Establish the Maine Buy American and Build Maine Act

[**LD 1421**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080301) **Resolve, Directing The Department Of Economic And Community Development To Update Its Current Priorities Under The Northern Border Regional Commission's Allowable Grant Requests To Include Support Of Population Growth Strategies Around The State In Concert With The State's 10-year Economic Development Strategy**

[**LD 1472**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080372) **An Act To Require Legislative Approval For The State's Participation In Compacts, Programs And Agreements Regarding Transportation And Climate Change**

[**LD 1473**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080373) **An Act To Exempt Land-based Aquaculture Facilities From The Maine Uniform Building And Energy Code Requirements**

[**LD 1498**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080402) **An Act To Prevent Increased Heating Fuel, Natural Gas, Gasoline And Diesel Fuel Pricing In Maine By Prohibiting Adoption Of Rules Limiting Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

[**LD 1534**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080472) **An Act To Preserve And Protect The State's Rail Corridors**

[**LD 1540**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080516) **An Act To Reduce Hunger And Use Food Scraps In Farming And Energy Production**

[**LD 1545**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080503) **An Act Regarding Greenhouse Gas Emissions And Reductions Associated With Significant Development Projects**

[**LD 1556**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080490) **Resolve, To Create The Commission To Study And Recommend A Financing Model To Increase Capital Investment In Renewable Energy, Clean Energy Technology, Energy Efficiency Projects And Jobs In Maine**

[**LD 1567**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080598) **An Act To Equitably Fund Maine's Climate Change Mitigation Efforts**

[**LD 1595**](http://legislature.maine.gov/LawMakerWeb/summary.asp?ID=280080628) **An Act To Address Waste Associated With Solar Energy Equipment**