Summaries of bills and adopted amendments and laws enacted or finally passed during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Maine Legislature coming from the

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

July 2007

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SEN. JOHN L. MARTIN  
SEN. KARL W. TURNER  
REP. JEREMY R. FISCHER, CHAIR  
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REP. EMILY ANN CAIN  
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REP. DAVID C. WEBSTER  
REP. H. SAWIN MILLETT, JR.  
REP. PATRICK S. A. FLOOD  
REP. JOHN C. ROBINSON  
REP. JAYNE CROSBY GILES

**STAFF:**
JAMES K. DIONNE, PRINCIPAL ANALYST  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND PROGRAM REVIEW  
5 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333  
(207)287-1635
## Summary of Committee Actions

### I. Bills and Papers Considered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Bills/Papers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of Comm</td>
<td>% of All Bills/Papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Bills referred to Committee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bills referred and voted out</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bills Carried Over</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Bills referred</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Bills reported out by law or joint order</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Bills considered by Committee</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Orders and Resolutions referred to Committee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Bills/Papers</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of this Committee’s Committee</td>
<td>% of All Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Study Orders referred and voted out</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joint Resolutions referred and voted out</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orders and Resolutions Carried Over</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Orders and Resolutions Referred</td>
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### II. Committee Reports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Bills/Papers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of Comm</td>
<td>% of All Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Unanimous committee reports</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ought to Pass</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ought to Pass as Amended</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ought to Pass as New Draft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ought Not to Pass</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. Divided committee reports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two-way reports</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three-way reports</td>
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<td>Four-way reports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total divided reports</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total committee reports</td>
<td>93</td>
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### III. Confirmation Hearings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Bills/Papers</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of Comm</td>
<td>% of All Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</table>

### IV. Final Disposition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Bills/Papers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of Comm</td>
<td>% of All Bills/Papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Bills and Papers enacted or finally passed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Study Orders</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public laws</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private and Special Laws</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Resolves</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Constitutional Resolutions</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Enacted or Finally Passed</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Resolves to authorize major substantive rules</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules authorized without legislative changes</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules authorized with legislative changes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rules not authorized by the Legislature</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of rules reviewed</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. Bills vetoed or held by Governor</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vetoes over-ridden</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vetoes sustained</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Held by the Governor</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: A committee vote on a bill is not included here if the bill was subsequently re-referred to another committee or recommitted and carried over.

Prepared by the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
123rd Legislature, First Regular Session
### LD 58  
**An Act To Ensure State Budget Funding for Wastewater Treatment Facilities and Water Supply Facilities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
<th>Committee Report</th>
<th>Amendments Adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FLOOD, SHERMAN</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LD 58 makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $2,900,000 per year for grants and loans for public drinking water systems and wastewater treatment facilities.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

### LD 59  
**An Act To Restore Continuing Funding for the Maine Institute for Public Safety Innovation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
<th>Committee Report</th>
<th>Amendments Adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAKAS</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

LD 59 restores funding to the Maine Institute for Public Safety Innovation, formerly entitled the Maine Community Policing Institute, by reestablishing a 2% surcharge on all fines collected by the courts.

### LD 60  
**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Maine's Roads and Bridges**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
<th>Committee Report</th>
<th>Amendments Adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DUPREY, MCCORMICK</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $60,000,000, will be used to repair Maine's roads and bridges.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

### LD 63  
**An Act To Increase Access to After-school Programs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
<th>Committee Report</th>
<th>Amendments Adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BARSTOW</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This bill provides funds for grants to establish after-school programs in communities that currently do not have such programs.

This bill was initially reported out of committee on a unanimous "ought to pass" vote, placed on the Senate Special Appropriations Table and carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LD 64</th>
<th>An Act To Recapitalize the Maine Downtown Center</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor(s)</td>
<td>Committee Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WATSON</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BENOIT</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $300,000 to the Executive Department, State Planning Office to recapitalize the Maine Downtown Center.

Public Law 2007, chapter 240 provided funding for a similar initiative.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LD 65</th>
<th>An Act To Provide Funding for Mentoring Programs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor(s)</td>
<td>Committee Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FISCHER</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDMONDS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $100,000 per year to fund the Maine Mentoring Partnership Grant Program.

This bill was initially reported out of committee on a unanimous "ought to pass" vote, placed on the Senate Special Appropriations Table and carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LD 93</th>
<th>An Act To Appropriate Funds from the General Fund to the Maine Correctional Center</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor(s)</td>
<td>Committee Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARSTOW</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARTLETT</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

LD 93 makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $250,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 for the construction of an automotive facility to allow inmates at the Maine Correctional Center to train on the maintenance of public safety vehicles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LD 118</th>
<th>An Act To Provide Funding for the Drinking Water Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor(s)</td>
<td>Committee Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAYES</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARTIN</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $1,660,000 in fiscal year 2006-07 to match 20% of an $8.3 million federal grant for public drinking water improvements.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.
LD 119  An Act To Increase Funding for Private Nonmedical Institutions

Sponsor(s)    Committee Report    Amendments Adopted
CRAVEN

This bill includes ongoing General Fund appropriations for the Department of Health and Human Services to increase reimbursement rates to all providers of private nonmedical institution services by 5% beginning on October 1, 2007. It also establishes a procedure for transferring funds out of the Departmentwide program to the appropriate MaineCare and non-MaineCare programs and includes a reporting requirement.

LD 120  An Act To Provide Transitional Support for the Downeast Heritage Museum in Calais

Sponsor(s)    Committee Report    Amendments Adopted
PERRY A      RAYE

This bill makes General Fund appropriations of $250,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 and $225,000 in fiscal year 2008-09 to the Downeast Heritage Museum in Calais for the first 2 years of a 5-year funding effort to raise $1,000,000 to support the museum in its becoming self-sustaining.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

LD 186  An Act To Provide Funding to the St. Francis Water District for New Wells

Sponsor(s)    Committee Report    Amendments Adopted
JACKSON      MARTIN

LD 186 makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $50,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 for the St. Francis Water District.

This bill was initially reported out of committee on a unanimous "ought to pass" vote, placed on the Senate Special Appropriations Table and carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

LD 187  An Act To Increase Access to Child Care and Early Education for Maine's Working Families

Sponsor(s)    Committee Report    Amendments Adopted
RAND

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $7,000,000 per year for subsidized child care, Head Start and early Head Start services.
### Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

**LD 188**  
**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Public Transportation in Rural Areas**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
<th>Committee Report</th>
<th>Amendments Adopted</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SCHATZ</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>DAMON</td>
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</table>

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $2,500,000, provide for public transportation in rural areas of the State.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

**LD 189**  
**An Act To Invest in an Allied Health Center at Northern Maine Community College**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
<th>Committee Report</th>
<th>Amendments Adopted</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FISCHER</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHERMAN</td>
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</table>

This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $500,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 to Northern Maine Community College to help fund a collaborative allied health center in partnership with the University of Maine at Presque Isle, the State and local health care providers. This funding is to be used primarily to purchase equipment for the center.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

**LD 190**  
**An Act To Fund Business Attraction Efforts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
<th>Committee Report</th>
<th>Amendments Adopted</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BEAUDETTETTAUDETTE</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>SULLIVAN</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $200,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2007-08 for Maine and Company to support business attraction, retention and expansion efforts.

**LD 194**  
**An Act To Establish More Probation Officer Positions in the Department of Corrections for Better Oversight of Sex Offenders**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
<th>Committee Report</th>
<th>Amendments Adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CROCKETT</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCCORMICK</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

LD 194 makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $709,758 in fiscal year 2007-08 and $993,092 in fiscal year 2008-09 to establish 12 new Probation Officer positions within the Department of Corrections to be dedicated for the oversight of convicted sex offenders.
LD 215 is the Governor's proposed Fiscal Year 2006-07 Emergency Supplemental Budget Bill.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-3)

Committee Amendment "A" (H-3) is the unanimous report of the Committee in response to the Governor's proposed bill.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 1 does the following:

PART A makes supplemental appropriations and allocations of funds for fiscal year 2006-07.

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

PART C does the following.

1. It lapses $147,344 of the unencumbered balance in the Disproportionate Share - Riverview Psychiatric Center General Fund account in the Department of Health and Human Services to the General Fund in fiscal year 2006-07.

2. It lapses $717,693 of the unencumbered balance in the Disproportionate Share - Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center General Fund account in the Department of Health and Human Services to the General Fund in fiscal year 2006-07.

PART D does the following.

1. It removes the Director of Special Projects and External Affairs from the list of major policy-influencing positions within the Department of Education and eliminates a reference to the position. This position was eliminated in Public Law 2003, chapter 20, Part B as part of the reorganization of the department.

2. It removes the Assistant to the Commissioner position from the list of major policy-influencing positions within the Department of Labor and eliminates a reference to the position. This position was exchanged administratively for a classified Public Service Coordinator I position in fiscal year 2005-06.

PART E removes the Assistant to the Commissioner position from the list of major policy-influencing positions within the Department of Marine Resources. This position was eliminated in Public Law 2005, chapter 519, Part JJ.

PART F removes the Executive Director, Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board from salary range 80 in the statutes. This position was eliminated pursuant to Public Law 2005, chapter 519, Part JJ, section 1.

PART G does the following.

1. It transfers $58,000 from the Carrying Account as established by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

10202, subsection 5 in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to the Licensing Services - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife General Fund account to fund the final vendor payment for the MOSES program by June 30, 2007.

2. It transfers $75,600 from the Carrying Account as established by the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 12, section 10202, subsection 5 in the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to the Enforcement Operations - Inland Fisheries and Wildlife General Fund account on or before June 30, 2007 to fund training reimbursement costs for the Maine Warden Service.

PART H renames several programs of the Department of Health and Human Services.

PART I does the following.

1. It allows remaining All Other balances in the Food Stamps Administration program of the Department of Health and Human Services to carry forward.

2. It requires remaining All Other balances in the Medical Care Services, General Fund account to carry from June 30, 2007 to June 30, 2008 to be used for the same purposes.

PART J does the following.

1. It requires the State Controller to transfer $331,264 in fiscal year 2006-07 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Bureau of Child and Family Services - Central, Federal Expenditures Fund account within the Department of Health and Human Services to settle indirect cost allocation settlements.

2. It requires the State Controller to transfer $374,386 in fiscal year 2006-07 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Purchased Social Services, Federal Expenditures Fund account within the Department of Health and Human Services to settle federal audit findings related to the 2003 Victims of Crimes grant.

3. It requires the State Controller to transfer $619,000 in fiscal year 2006-07 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Office of Management and Budget, Federal Expenditures Fund account within the Department of Health and Human Services for indirect cost allocation settlements.

4. It requires the State Controller to transfer $5,020 in fiscal year 2006-07 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Office of Management and Budget, Federal Expenditures Fund account within the Department of Health and Human Services for federal grant overdraws.

5. It requires the State Controller to transfer $5,606,160 in fiscal year 2006-07 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Office of Management and Budget Operations - Regional, Federal Expenditures Fund account within the Department of Health and Human Services for indirect cost allocation settlements.

6. It requires the State Controller to transfer $3,117,000 in fiscal year 2006-07 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Foster Care, Federal Expenditures Fund account within the Department of Health and Human Services for federal audit settlements.

PART K authorizes the transfer of certain Personal Services salary savings balances in the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center and Riverview Psychiatric Center accounts to All Other upon recommendation of the State Budget Officer and approval of the Governor.

PART L authorizes the transfer of up to $82,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Medical Care - Payments to Providers, General Fund account. Any amounts transferred are to be considered adjustments to appropriations in fiscal year 2007-08 and may be allotted by financial order. This Part also requires the Department of Health and Human Services to provide weekly reports to the Joint Standing Committee on
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services describing the status of interim payment collections and expenditures in MaineCare seed accounts.

PART M repeals provisions enacted in PL 2005, chapter 519, Part AA governing the distribution of a deallocation from the Fund for a Healthy Maine. This language is no longer required as the deallocation is proposed to be offset in Part A.

PART N authorizes that any fiscal year 2006-07 All Other unencumbered balances in the Management Information Systems program, General Fund account may be carried forward to the Learning Through Technology program to be carried forward to fiscal year 2007-08 and fiscal year 2008-09 to be used for distance learning and technology maintenance and support services.

PART O delays education attainment credits.

PART P removes the provision requiring that the budget document contain a part that lists and describes each tax expenditure and revenue loss. This Part also refines the definition of "tax expenditures" for purposes of the budget document.

PART Q authorizes the transfer of an additional $1,000,000 by June 30, 2007 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Callahan Mine Site Restoration Other Special Revenue Funds program within the Department of Transportation.

PART R authorizes the one-time transfer by the State Controller of $500,000 in General Fund undedicated revenue to the Office of Information Services Internal Service Fund, retroactively to July 1, 2005, as partial funding towards the development and implementation of the AdvantageME System.

PART S removes the Director, Office of Agricultural, Natural and Rural Resources position from the list of major policy-influencing positions within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources. This position was eliminated pursuant to Public Law 2005, chapter 457, Part D.

PART T changes where the fees collected from reservations by the Department of Conservation will be deposited from the General Fund to the Parks Reservations Other Special Revenue Funds account. This change will allow for the proper accounting of providing Internet reservation services. The net collections will then be transferred as undedicated revenue to the General Fund.

PART U authorizes the State Treasurer to use available salary savings in fiscal year 2006-07 to fund the reorganization of several positions within the Administration - Treasury program General Fund account.

PART V authorizes the establishment of an earned revenue account within the Department of Health and Human Services.

PART W extends the acting capacity appointment of the Acting Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation by 6 months beyond the current scheduled end date for the appointment.

PART X amends the law regarding determination of the Dirigo Health savings offset payment to change the date for the Board of Directors of Dirigo Health determination of aggregate measurable cost savings from April to August of each year and to require the savings offset payment to be determined by January 1st. The changes apply to the savings offset payment for plan years beginning on or after July 1, 2008.

PART Y directs the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt routine technical rules to increase fees in the Office of Substance Abuse Driver Education and Evaluation Program.

Public Law 2007, chapter 1 was enacted as an emergency measure effective February 13, 2007.
### LD 218  
**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Encourage Municipal High-speed Internet Access**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
<th>Committee Report</th>
<th>Amendments Adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BLISS</td>
<td></td>
<td>ONTP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRIMLING</td>
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</table>

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $2,000,000, will be used to provide matching funds to communities to build the infrastructure necessary to provide high-speed Internet access to underserved areas of the State.

### LD 244  
**An Act To Provide Additional Funding for the Office of Substance Abuse**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
<th>Committee Report</th>
<th>Amendments Adopted</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ROSEN R</td>
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</table>

This bill provides additional funding of $150,000 in each year of the biennium for the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Substance Abuse.

### LD 247  
**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fight Global Warming through Energy Conservation**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
<th>Committee Report</th>
<th>Amendments Adopted</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STRIMLING</td>
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The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $100,000,000, will be used to fight global warming through energy conservation.

### LD 248  
**Resolve, Honoring Women Veterans of Maine**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
<th>Committee Report</th>
<th>Amendments Adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MITCHELL</td>
<td></td>
<td>S-359 ROTUNDO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This resolve provides initial funding to begin construction of the Women Veterans Monument as recommended by the Commission to Arrange for a Monument Honoring Women Veterans of Maine.

#### Senate Amendment "A" (S-359)

This amendment removes the General Fund appropriation and requires the State Controller to transfer $10,000 from the General Fund unappropriated surplus to the Buildings and Grounds Operations, Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services by June 30, 2008.

#### Enacted Law Summary

Resolve 2007, chapter 141 provides initial funding of $10,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 to begin construction of the Women Veterans Monument. This funding is provided through a transfer from the General Fund unappropriated surplus to the Buildings and Grounds Operations, Other Special Revenue Funds account within
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

the Department of Administrative and Financial Services by June 30, 2008.

Resolve 2007, chapter 141 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 29, 2007.

LD 269  An Act To Retire the Mortgage of York County Community College

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
BEAUDETTE  ONTP
HOBBINS

This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $3,710,633 in fiscal year 2007-08 for the Maine Community College System to retire the mortgage of the York County Community College. This bill also deappropriates $400,000 of the $1,600,000 in ongoing General Fund appropriations provided in Private and Special Law 2005, chapter 69 to the Maine Community College System beginning in fiscal year 2006-07 for general operating expenses. These funds were provided to cover the mortgage fee that would otherwise be paid by York County Community College students and will no longer be needed once the mortgage is retired.

LD 291  An Act To Expand Workforce Development Programs

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
FISCHER  ONTP

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $250,000 per year for the Maine Community College System's Maine Quality Centers program to expand the current program to create more new jobs in Maine and to offset fees for incumbent retraining.

LD 292  An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Help Construct a Recreation Center for the City of Presque Isle

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
FISCHER  ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $500,000, will be used to help construct a recreation center for the City of Presque Isle through its Department of Parks and Recreation.

LD 304  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Capital Projects for the Maine Community College System and the University of Maine System

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
RECTOR  ONTP  MAJ
TURNER  OTP  MIN

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $40,000,000, will be used for capital projects for the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.
LD 305  An Act To Increase the Availability of Cellular Telephone Service for Rural Residents  

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted  
JACKSON  MARTIN  

This bill makes one-time General Fund appropriations of $125,000 in each year of the 2008-2009 biennium for the Department of Economic and Community Development to enter into partnerships with private businesses to install cellular telephone towers in underserved rural areas where there is currently no signal or to place cellular telephone equipment on state-owned towers in areas that lack cellular telephone service.

This bill was initially reported out of committee on a unanimous "ought to pass" vote, placed on the Senate Special Appropriations Table and carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

LD 314  An Act To Restore Funding for the Reading Recovery Program  

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted  
MILLS P  

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $1,220,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2007-08 to restore state support for the Reading Recovery program.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

LD 315  An Act Authorizing a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve the Quality and Safety of Science and Teaching Laboratories, General Classrooms and Libraries at Maine's Public 

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted  
SCHNEIDER  ONTP  MAJ  OTP  MIN  

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $62,000,000, will be used to modernize and improve the teaching laboratories, libraries and general classrooms in the University of Maine System.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

LD 318  An Act To Provide Funds for the Coordination and Promotion of the 400th Anniversary of the Popham Colony  

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted  
BENOIT  OTP  

This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $50,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 to the Maine State Museum for the Friends of Phippsburg to support the coordination of educational programs to commemorate the 400th
anniversary of the founding of Popham Colony.

LD 335 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Research and Development To Stimulate Maine's Innovation Economy

This bill implements a recommendation of the Joint Select Committee on Research, Economic Development and the Innovation Economy. The bill authorizes a bond issue of up to $50,000,000 per year for each of the next 5 years totaling up to $250,000,000 to be used for competitive grants to stimulate economic growth and job creation through investments in research and development and commercialization.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

LD 357 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Land for Maine's Future Program

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $40,000,000, will be used to recapitalize the Land for Maine's Future program over 2 years to continue the State's land conservation efforts, leveraging a minimum of $20,000,000 in required matching funds.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

LD 374 An Act To Provide Funding for the Maine-Canada Trade Ombudsman

LD 374 makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $108,638 in fiscal year 2007-08 and $148,284 in fiscal year 2008-09 to fund the Maine-Canada Trade Ombudsman position within the Executive Department.

LD 376 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Capitalize the Maine Marine Research Fund

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $30,000,000, will be used to provide funds to the Maine Marine Research Fund managed by the Maine Technology Institute for the development of marine research infrastructure that supports collaboration between Maine's public, nonprofit and for-profit marine research organizations.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.
This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $300,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 to provide funding for the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency to establish a pilot program for return of unused prescription drugs by mail consistent with the recommendations of the Maine Drug Return Implementation Group established in Public Law 2003, chapter 679.

**Senate Amendment "A" (S-360)**

Unlike the bill, which appropriated $300,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Public Safety, Maine Drug Enforcement Agency to establish a pilot program for the return of unused prescription drugs by mail, this amendment allocates $150,000 from the Fund for a Healthy Maine to the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency to establish the pilot program.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 27 allocates $150,000 from the Fund for a Healthy Maine to the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency to establish the pilot program.

**LD 417** An Act To Authorize the Issuance of a Highway Fund Bond Issue for Maine's Roads and Bridges

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $60,000,000, will be used for highway and bridge construction.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

**LD 425** An Act Regarding the Accounting Procedure for Certain State Programs

This bill provides more transparency to the appropriations process by returning the funding mechanism for the Maine Residents Property Tax Program and business equipment tax reimbursement to General Fund appropriations rather than an offset to General Fund revenue within the individual income tax category beginning in the 2010-2011 biennium. It also requires the State Tax Assessor to issue an annual financial report for the Maine Residents Property Tax Program at the same time as a similar existing report is required for the Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement program.

This bill requires the State Controller's official annual report of the State and the state budget to specifically identify all nonexpenditure payments that are accounted for as an offset to revenue to increase access to the information by the public.
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

LD 426  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Repairs to Traditional Meetinghouses

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
SCHATZ  ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $2,500,000, will be used for the repair of traditional meetinghouses in the State, such as grange halls, community houses and other traditional public areas of gathering in a community.

LD 427  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Recreational Facilities

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
SCHATZ  ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $2,500,000, will be used to establish recreational health facilities for areas in the State that lack access to physical fitness facilities.

LD 432  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Maintain, Improve and Develop Trails

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
DAMON  ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $10,000,000, will be used to improve, maintain and develop a trails network in Maine.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

LD 440  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Revitalize Communities and Expand Maine's Innovative Economy through the New Century Program

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
EDMONDS  ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $5,000,000, will be used to revitalize downtown areas, support cultural tourism, increase access to digital resources and expand Maine's creative economy.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

LD 445  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Municipal Investment Trust Fund

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $10,000,000, will be used to recapitalize the Municipal Investment Trust Fund.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

LD 450  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Maine's Working Waterfronts

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
PINGREE  ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $20,000,000, will be used to support land purchases and the preservation of Maine's working waterfronts.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.


Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
FISCHER  OTP-AM  H-412
H-445  FISCHER

LD 499 was the Governor's proposed 2008-2009 Biennial Budget Bill.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-412)

Committee Amendment "A" (H-412) is the unanimous report of the Committee in response to the Governor's proposed bill.

House Amendment "T" (H-445)

House Amendment "T" (H-445) makes technical corrections to Committee Amendment "A" to accomplish the following:

This amendment strikes language that is duplicated on page 370, lines 11 to 14 in the committee amendment.

This amendment inserts the General Fund appropriation for the Maine Historical Society that was inadvertently omitted from the committee amendment.
This amendment also corrects language covering a reduction of allotments.

This amendment corrects a reference to the building in the Lockwood Mill Historic District in the City of Waterville for which a taxpayer is entitled to a historic rehabilitation tax credit and changes the tax years for which the credit is allowed.

This amendment makes the following changes to Part XXXX:

1. It amends the language authorizing regional school unit boards to create local school committees by removing unneeded language.
2. It clarifies that cost-sharing agreements pursuant to certain laws remain in effect unless the parties to the agreement modify or terminate the agreement.
3. It clarifies that a municipality that is part of a regional school unit may raise money and direct the spending of those funds to a school serving children from kindergarten to grade 8.
4. It amends the penalty provisions for nonconforming school administrative units by:
   A. Providing a 50% reduction in the minimum state allocation, rather than the full amount;
   B. Adjusting the cost component for system administration by half, rather than to zero;
   C. Removing the ineligibility for the isolated small school adjustment; and
   D. Removing the percentage increase of the unit's mill rate.
5. It adjusts the full-value education mill rate for nonconforming school administrative units.
6. It clarifies the intent of the Legislature to achieve sustainable, long-term administrative efficiencies by consolidating the current number of school units into 80 regional units or into a number of units that meets the administrative efficiencies established by Part XXXX.
7. It adds language that allows for an efficient, high-performing district to submit a notice of intent to submit an alternate plan.
8. It adds a requirement that school administrative units must exercise due diligence and act in good faith in developing a reorganization plan.
9. It allows an exception to the minimum student population parameter for a school administrative unit that has performed due diligence to develop a regional plan but is surrounded by other units that are included in other consolidation plans.
10. It removes the percentage reductions under the plan parameters and instead requires reorganizing administrative functions, duties and noninstructional personnel so that projected expenditures will not have an adverse impact on the instructional program.
11. It requires written findings by the Commissioner of Education providing specific reasons why a plan does not meet with the requirements of Part XXXX if the plan is returned to the governing body of the affected school administrative units.
12. It prohibits the Commissioner of Education from making a finding that a plan does not meet the requirements of Part XXXX solely on the ground that a finding that it meets the requirements would cause the number of school administrative units to exceed 80.
13. It also amends the referendum procedure to provide for a 2nd referendum date of June 10, 2008 for plans that did not meet the requirements of Part XXXX.
14. It adds a provision requiring the Commissioner of Education to establish criteria for high-performing and low-performing districts.

This amendment enacts a Part YYYYY that adjusts the appropriation made in Part A relating to the Maine Community College System and makes an appropriation and an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services that were inadvertently omitted from the committee amendment.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Public Law 2007, chapter 240 does the following:
PART A makes appropriations and allocations for necessary expenditures of State Government and other purposes for the 2008-2009 biennium.

PART B provides appropriations and allocations for approved reclassifications and range changes.

PART C authorizes Jobs for Maine’s Graduates, the Maine School of Science and Mathematics, the Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf to be included as miscellaneous costs under the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools funding formula to replace General Fund deappropriations in Part A. It also reduces the annual target for the state share percentage for fiscal year 2007-08 and establishes the mill rate expectation at 7.44 for fiscal year 2007-08. It also establishes the state and local components of the cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 for fiscal year 2007-08.

PART D clarifies and makes technical changes to address issues of eligibility for salary supplements and minimum teacher salaries. It continues the legislative intent that certain municipalities receive the minimum state allocation. It also authorizes additional uses of funding provided for General Purpose Aid for Local Schools and makes statutory changes regarding the disbursement of funds for regionalization, consolidation and efficiency assistance.

PART E repeals the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services within the Department of Education.

PART F increases the number of qualifying contributions for Maine Clean Election Act gubernatorial candidates from 2,500 to 3,250. In lieu of the $2,000,000 transfer authorized to be made on January 1, 2009, it authorizes the transfer of $700,000 from the General Fund to the Maine Clean Election Fund on September 1, 2008.

PART G requires the State Budget Officer to calculate and transfer by financial order, as adjustments to appropriations, savings in the cost of health insurance in Part A and report the transferred amounts to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs by November 1, 2007.

PART H changes the distribution of the State’s share of real estate transfer tax proceeds by reducing the amount paid to the Maine State Housing Authority by $5,000,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 and fiscal year 2008-09.

PART I eliminates from the list of major policy influencing positions the Forest Insect Manager position in the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Forestry.

PART J authorizes the Department of Corrections to transfer by financial order Personal Services, All Other and Capital Expenditures between accounts within the same fund for the purpose of paying overtime expenses.

PART K changes the name of the EPSCoR steering committee to the Governor’s Maine Science and Technology Advisory Council.

PART L changes the name of the Maine Small Business Commission program within the Department of Economic and Community Development to the Maine Small Business and Entrepreneurship Commission.

PART M continues the voluntary employee incentive programs for use prior to July 1, 2009 and allows the continuation of certain state paid benefits during an employee’s participation in such a program. It also directs the State Budget Officer to transfer savings from the program to the General Fund Compensation and Benefit Plan account and lapses $350,000 in each year of the biennium from identified savings attributable to the programs.

PART N authorizes the State Budget Officer to transfer available balances of General Fund appropriations for Personal Services in fiscal years 2007-08 and 2008-09 to be used for costs associated with collective bargaining.

PART O delays implementation of the Fiscal Stability Program until the 2010-2011 biennium.
PART P removes the limitation on the number of employees that may be funded using the funds collected from the Public Utilities Commission’s regulatory assessment.

PART Q authorizes the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to issue additional securities up to $11,000,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 and $6,000,000 in fiscal year 2008-09 for preliminary planning costs and capital repairs and improvements to various state facilities. It also requires the unexpended balance in the Debt Service - Government Facilities Authority account in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services on June 30, 2007 to be carried forward for the same purpose until June 30, 2009.

PART R authorizes the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, in cooperation with others, to enter into certain financing arrangements including: $5,000,000 for the acquisition of motor vehicles for the Central Fleet Management Division; $1,800,000 for the acquisition of motor vehicles for the Maine State Police; and $15,000,000 for the acquisition of hardware, software and systems to support the operations of the Statewide Radio and Network System Reserve Fund.

PART S delays the increase in revenue sharing from 5.1% to 5.2% from July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2009.

PART T recognizes savings from the prepayment of teachers’ retirement in fiscal year 2008-09 and provides a plan of action in the event the State Controller determines insufficient cash flow exists to make the entire prepayment.

PART U changes the methodology for funding the administrative expenses of the Maine State Retirement System, the Maine Legislative Retirement System and the Maine Judicial Retirement System.

PART V amends the 3-factor corporate income tax apportionment factor to a single factor, based on sales, effective for tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2007. This Part also applies the so-called “market share” approach for sourcing receipts from intangibles and the sales of services by multistate taxpayers.

PART W increases from .04% to .08% the percentage of Maine adjusted gross income for reporting use tax.

PART X provides that any All Other balance in the Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Medical Services, General Fund account must be carried forward to June 30, 2009 to be used for the same purpose and defines available balances and authorizes the transfer between accounts by financial order of available balances of appropriations in MaineCare General Fund accounts. It also includes MaineCare financial reporting requirements.

PART Y requires that any unexpended balance in the Department of Health and Human Services, Nursing Facilities, Other Special Revenue Funds account as of June 30, 2007 and June 30, 2008 be carried forward for the purpose of funding cost-of-living adjustments for licensed nursing facilities and residential care facilities. It also requires the department to provide cost-of-living adjustments up to 2%, depending on the availability of funds, to all components of the reimbursement rate except the fixed cost component for nursing facilities and for residential care facilities in fiscal years 2007-08 and 2008-09. It also requires that any facility that accepts a cost-of-living increase must provide an equal percentage increase in wages and benefits to all employees other than the administrator. It also requires the department to prepare and issue quarterly reports on nursing facilities tax balances for the remainder of the 2008-2009 biennium.

PART Z authorizes the transfer of up to 30 Intensive Case Manager positions in the Mental Health Services - Community program as they become vacant to the Office of Integrated Access and Support program to be reorganized to Family Independence Specialist positions. It also provides for transfers of related funding and reorganization of allocations based on the permissible federal match.

PART AA provides the method of distributing a departmentwide appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services to pay for legal services.
PART BB provides the method of distributing a departmentwide appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services to pay for information technology.

PART CC provides the method of distributing a departmentwide savings to the Department of Health and Human Services from the implementation of a managed care effort for behavioral health services.

PART DD provides the method of distributing departmentwide savings and position eliminations in the Department of Health and Human Services resulting from a departmentwide reorganization.

PART EE provides the method of distributing a departmentwide savings to the Department of Health and Human Services resulting from a reduction in payments to the Health and Human Services Service Center.

PART FF authorizes the transfer of State Cost Allocation Program (STA-CAP) revenue received in excess of budgeted amounts to the Office of Information Technology for certain statewide financial information systems.

PART GG requires the Commissioner of Health and Human Services to review the structure, systems and operations of the Office of MaineCare Services program to transition to a model operated by a fiscal agent. Transfers of position counts and available balances between line categories by financial order are authorized and considered adjustments to appropriations.

PART HH merges the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Employee Relations and Human Resources.

PART II continues funding for individual tax expenditures reported in the budget document submitted by the Governor on January 5, 2007 pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 1666.

PART JJ authorizes interest earned on the Bangor court facility bonds to be used to offset any Judicial Department principal or interest payments and requires a report on the status of construction fund interest earnings and balance. It also allows calculated savings from interest earnings to lapse to the General Fund unappropriated surplus.

PART KK directs the State Controller to transfer unexpended Personal Services balances in the General Fund lapping accounts on June 30, 2007, June 30, 2008 and June 30, 2009 to the Compensation Salary Plan General Fund account to be used for costs associated with collective bargaining agreements for state employees.

PART LL changes the Workers’ Compensation Board assessment for administrative operations from a statutorily specified amount to the amount required for expenditures allocated by the Legislature for operating the board.

PART MM authorizes the transfer of up to $107,500,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Medical Care - Payments to Providers General Fund account to increase prospective interim payments to hospitals in fiscal year 2007-08 (up to $82,000,000 less any amount received in fiscal year 2006-07) and for hospital settlements ($25,500,000 representing the first of 4 equal payments).

PART NN transfers the Maine Conservation Corps from the Department of Labor to the Department of Conservation.

PART OO establishes the consumer-directed personal care services program within the Office of Adults with Cognitive and Physical Disabilities Services of the Department of Health and Human Services and repeals the program of state-funded consumer-directed personal care assistance services within the Department of Labor.

PART PP authorizes rather than requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology to charge a fee to agencies using the statewide radio and network system.
PART QQ merges the Atlantic Salmon Commission into the Department of Marine Resources.

PART RR renames several programs of the Department of Health and Human Services.

PART SS renames the Youth in Need of Services Program within the Department of Health and Human Services and makes certain statutory changes and requires the department to distribute the Homeless Youth Program funding based on a request for proposal and requires the Commissioner to provide a draft of the request to the Joint Standing Committees on Health and Human Services and Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

PART TT renames the Human Leukocyte Antigen Screening Fund and the Fund for a Healthy Maine - Human Leukocyte program within the Department of Health and Human Services and makes certain statutory changes.

PART UU authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to accept funding to create a supply or stockpile of items necessary in the event of pandemic influenza or other epidemic.

PART VV repeals the Maine Small Business Health Coverage Plan and corrects a cross-reference.

PART WW provides up to $50,000 funding per year from the Victims’ Compensation Fund to pay the costs of sexual assault forensic examiner training and education provided by the State’s sexual assault forensic examiner program. This Part also provides that $104,317 of the unencumbered balance in the Fair Drug Pricing Contingent Account in the Department of the Attorney General lapses to the General Fund in fiscal year 2007-08.

PART XX authorizes the issuance of $12,000,000 in additional securities by the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority for courthouses in the Judicial Department.

PART YY authorizes the State Budget Officer to transfer technology-related positions to the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology in fiscal year 2007-08.

PART ZZ requires a farm that stores more than 100 tons of manure per year not generated on that farm to have a nutrient management plan.

PART AAA lapses available General Fund balances in several Department of Health and Human Services accounts.

PART BBB makes adjustments to appropriations and allocations for fiscal year 2006-07.

PART CCC updates the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36 to conform the Maine tax code to the federal tax code, specifically to the changes in the federal Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006. This Part also continues Maine’s nonconformity with the federal temporary increases in the United States Internal Revenue Code, Section 179, which concerns business expense deductions. In May 2006, the Code was amended to extend the federal increases in Section 179 to tax years beginning in 2008 and 2009. Under prior federal law, the increases in allowable Section 179 business expense deductions were set to expire for tax years beginning after December 31, 2007.

PART DDD authorizes the State Controller to transfer $1,000,000 by June 30, 2007 from the Office of Securities Other Special Revenue Funds account in the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.

PART EEE transfers $9,500,000 currently available in the General Fund Profit and Loss account to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund and subsequently transfers the same amount from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Medical Care - Payments to Providers General Fund account. As a result of the transfers, $9,500,000 is available for deappropriation from the Medical Care - Payments to Providers account.

PART FFF authorizes the State Controller to transfer $6,000,000 no later than June 30, 2008 from Other Special
Revenue Funds to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund and to reverse this transfer along with interest on July 1, 2008, as repayment. This transfer is considered an interfund advance to be repaid with interest compounded annually at the earnings rate within the Treasurer of State’s cash pool on the date of the advance.

PART GGG increases the prescription drug copayment to be collected from MaineCare members from $2.50 to $3.00 per prescription dispensed. The per member per month cap on total copayments is changed from $25 to $30.

PART HHH authorizes the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology to enter into financing arrangements on or after January 1, 2008 and on or after January 1, 2009: to acquire hardware, software and systems to support the development of new applications; and to enhance and modify current application systems. This Part also establishes principal amounts, terms and maximum interest rates; specifies that payment for the debt service costs must be paid by the affected departments; and includes departmentwide appropriations to the Department of Health and Human Services for information technology costs.

PART III authorizes the State Controller to transfer $2,229,354 by June 30, 2007 from the Accident, Sickness and Health Insurance Internal Service Fund in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.

PART JJJ makes statutory changes related to Medicaid 3rd-party liability provisions. These changes are needed to meet federal requirements and to enhance the ability of the Office of MaineCare Services in the Department of Health and Human Services, to identify and recover when 3rd-party payers are responsible for making payments on behalf of MaineCare recipients.

PART KKK provides the method for distributing departmentwide savings within the Department of Health and Human Services that will result from restructuring its cooperative agreement with the University of Maine System and Maine Community College System.

PART LLL requires the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to biennially conduct a review of fees assessed by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation and submit a report to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs, insurance and financial services matters and business, research and economic development matters identifying any fee changes recommended by the commissioner. This Part also transfers funds from the department with the intent that the transfer not result in an increase of fees imposed by the department.

PART MMM authorizes the Department of Health and Human Services to adopt rules on an emergency basis to implement those provisions of this Act over which the department has subject matter jurisdiction.

PART NNN requires that any amount in excess of $500,000 transferred in a fiscal year to the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Local and Regional Services must be transferred to General Fund undedicated revenue.

PART OOO authorizes the Maine Milk Commission to establish and amend target prices for milk producers in the State through major substantive rulemaking and, beginning July 1, 2007, establishes interim target prices that may be changed through adoption of major substantive rules.

PART PPP makes revisions to the milk handling fee. This Part establishes a rate schedule with a minimum handling fee of 2¢ when the basic price of milk drops below $24 per hundredweight up to a handling fee of 36¢ a gallon when the basic price of milk is between $15 and $15.49 per hundredweight. The handling fee would then increase by 6¢ per gallon for every 50¢ decrease in the basic price of milk below $15 per hundredweight.

PART QQQ requires the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs to conduct the initiative to streamline State Government, a comprehensive analysis of State Government with the goals of consolidating functions and eliminating duplication and inefficiencies in programs, in contracted personal services and
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

administrative and management positions within State Government. The committee shall investigate and identify major sources of administrative excess, redundancy, inefficiency and program overlap with other state, local or federal programs. The committee shall identify $10,100,000 in savings to be achieved during the 2008-2009 biennium.

PART RRR establishes the Irrevocable Trust Fund for Other Post-employment Benefits to meet the State’s unfunded liability obligations for retiree health benefits, establishes the Retiree Health Insurance Post-employment Benefits Investment Trust Fund within the Maine State Retirement System, designates the members of the Board of Trustees of the Maine State Retirement System as trustees of the investment trust fund and assigns responsibility for investment of the assets of the investment trust fund to the trustees. It provides for the calculation and transfer of funds from the Retiree Health Insurance Internal Service Fund in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the Retiree Health Insurance Post-employment Benefits Investment Trust Fund at the Maine State Retirement System.

PART SSS approves the cost items in tentative collective bargaining agreements reached by the State and the bargaining units pursuant to Maine Revised Statutes, Title 26, section 979-D. It authorizes the use of the Salary Plan accounts in the General Fund and Highway Fund for the costs of collective bargaining. It also amends the statutes to increase the mileage allowance paid by the State for travel by employees using privately owned vehicles to the federal rate of reimbursement or 40¢ per mile beginning July 1, 2007, 42¢ per mile beginning July 1, 2008 and 44¢ per mile beginning January 1, 2009, whichever is lower.

PART TTT provides that a total of $1,588,928 of unencumbered balance forward at the close of fiscal year 2006-07 in the Education in Unorganized Territory, General Fund account in the Department of Education lapses to the General Fund at the close of fiscal year 2006-07.

PART UUU requires the Commissioner of Education to convene a working group to study the current offering of remedial college courses at the University of Maine System and the Maine Community College System and to provide a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs with its findings and recommendations for changes in the delivery of remedial college courses no later than February 1, 2008.

PART VVV defines “semester” for Title 20-A, chapter 208-A as the fall, spring or summer terms of an academic year and requires that not more than 10% of the total funding available for postsecondary education, either through a direct appropriation to the postsecondary education program within the Department of Education or as part of the ongoing funds included in the appropriation for the general purpose aid for local schools program, may be used for secondary students to take a postsecondary course during the summer term.

PART WWW establishes the authority and requirements for the Department of Health and Human Services to establish rules to implement the MaineCare radiology services prior authorization initiative included in Part A.

PART XXX expands the membership of the Maine Maritime Academy board of trustees from 13 to 16.

PART YYY requires the State Court Administrator and the Commissioner of Corrections, when preparing impact statements on legislation, to consult with certain persons and associations in order to provide accurate estimates of the impact of that legislation on the judicial branch and the correctional system, respectively.

PART ZZZ allows the Commissioner of Corrections, without a prisoner’s consent, to transfer a prisoner to supervised community confinement if that prisoner has less than 18 months remaining on that prisoner’s sentence. The inmate would have had to serve at least 2/3 of the inmate’s sentence if the sentence was more than 5 years or at least 1/2 of the sentence if the sentence was 5 years or less. This Part also requires a pro rata reimbursement to the Department of Corrections for the costs of training a corrections officer who then leaves the department to seek work as a corrections officer in a county facility or other law enforcement agency. This is consistent with current law regarding the costs of training law enforcement officers who change employment after training.
PART AAAA defines the process by which the Department of Health and Human Services will work with providers to achieve savings from standardized rates, system redesign and reduction of administrative burdens. It provides that if the department decides to use rate standardization adjustments to generate a larger part of the total budgeted savings than the amount shown for rate standardization in Part A or the amount recommended by the Rate Standardization Work Group pursuant to this Part, the department must first report that difference to the appropriate committees of the Legislature and allow for adequate public comment on its intentions before proceeding. It also provides that this initiative is departmentwide.

PART BBBB lapses a total of $1,350,000 from accounts within the Legislature to the General Fund over the fiscal years ending June 30, 2007 and June 30, 2008.

PART CCCC directs the State Controller to transfer surplus funds not needed for current operations by June 30, 2007 from the Emergency Services Communications Bureau Other Special Revenue Funds account in the Public Utilities Commission and the Conservation Program Fund Other Special Revenue Funds account within the Public Utilities Commission to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.

PART DDDD requires the Department of Health and Human Services to maintain day habilitation services at the level they were provided on January 1, 2007 while the department transitions to a new federal Medicaid waiver.

PART EEEE directs the State Controller to transfer surplus funds not needed for current operations by June 30, 2007 from various Other Special Revenue Funds accounts in the Department of Public Safety to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.

PART FFFF directs the State Controller to transfer $127,176 of the unencumbered balance in fiscal year 2007-08 in the Federal-State Inspection Fund Other Special Revenue Funds account of the Division of Quality Assurance and Regulations program within the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to the General Fund in fiscal year 2007-08.

PART GGGG authorizes the State Controller to transfer funds by June 30, 2008 from the Administration - Attorney General Other Special Revenue Funds account to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund from the State’s share of a multistate settlement.

PART HHHH directs the State Controller to transfer surplus funds not needed for current operations by June 30, 2007 from the Baxter Compensation Authority Other Special Revenue Funds account to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund.

PART IIII requires the State Court Administrator to increase certain fees collected by the Judicial Department.

PART JJJJ recognizes savings of $1,400,000 annually in fiscal years 2007-08 and 2008-09 to be realized through increased efficiencies.

PART KKKK provides that a captive insurance company is not subject to an insurance premiums tax in this State and, therefore, is no longer exempted from taxation under Maine’s corporate income tax. Accordingly, a captive insurance company is required to be included in a combined income tax return when it is part of a unitary business that operates in this State. This Part also exempts from the definition of “corporation” a person that is engaged solely in the business of reinsuring risks of one or more affiliated insurance companies that are not captive insurance companies formed or licensed under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 24-A, chapter 83 or under the laws of another state.

PART LLLL redirects the $20 initial registration fee for the sportsman motor vehicle specialty registration plate from the Lifetime License Fund to the Boat Launch Facilities Fund. It also redirects and divides the $20 renewal fee
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

for the sportsman registration plate from the Lifetime License Fund to the fish hatchery maintenance fund, the Boat Launch Facilities Fund, the Maine Endangered and Nongame Wildlife Fund and the Support Landowners Program. It authorizes the Secretary of State to issue sportsman registration plates with fewer than the 3-digit and 3-letter combination that is currently required for other specialty plates. This Part also directs the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to submit a new proposed design for the sportsman registration plate every 6 years for approval or modification by the Secretary of State. Finally, this Part transfers $650,000 from the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife carrying account for the construction of a Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife regional headquarters in Aroostook County.

PART MMMM directs the State Controller to transfer $27,300 in fiscal year 2007-08 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Maine Coast Environmental Trust Fund in the Department of Marine Resources.

PART NNNN provides an income tax credit to qualified taxpayers eligible for a federal historic rehabilitation credit with regard to the Lockwood Mill Historic District in the City of Waterville.

PART OOOO requires the State Controller to monitor the accounts receivable established as a result of a use tax liability. It also provides a General Fund appropriation of $200,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 for certain air ambulance organizations contingent upon certification by the State Controller that the air ambulance accounts receivable balance is $200,000 or less.

PART PPPP increases the property tax exemption for veterans and their eligible survivors from $5,000 to $6,000.

PART QQQQ authorizes the State to provide Pine Tree Development Zone benefits to Maine manufacturing companies that would not otherwise qualify for these benefits. It specifies the criteria for the application that an applicant must submit to the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development, adds a sunset provision that requires applications for benefits to be received by the commissioner by December 1, 2009 and authorizes the Department of Economic and Community Development to adopt rules to implement the enacted subchapter.

PART RRRR augments the efforts of Realize!Maine, under the auspices of the Maine Development Foundation, to retain and attract young people to live, work and recreate in the State. This Part also repeals the “S.W.A.T. team” law and incorporates the responsibilities formerly set out in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 389 into the responsibilities of the Maine Development Foundation. This Part also appropriates funds to the Maine Development Foundation.

PART SSSS allows the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services to make renovations to house a women’s transitional corrections facility in Bangor.

PART TTTT directs the State Controller to transfer $300,000 from the Other Special Revenue Funds elderly tax deferral program in fiscal year 2007-08 to the General Fund unappropriated surplus.

PART UUUU directs the Chancellor of the University of Maine System, the President of the Maine Community College System and the President of the Maine Maritime Academy to form an administrative savings group to review potential savings in noninstructional costs for the 3 systems by combining administrative services to the extent practicable and report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs on or before January 1, 2008.

PART VVVV establishes the Marine Fisheries Stock Enhancement Fund in the Department of Marine Resources. Money in the fund must be administered by the department for commercial marine stock enhancement to improve the marine economy in this State through applied research, development, production of harvested marine species, infrastructure, monitoring and assessment. Money in the fund may be used as federal matching funds.

PART WWWWW exempts diesel internal combustion engine fuel used for the purpose of operating or propelling a
commercial groundfishing boat from the sales tax for fiscal year 2007-08. “Commercial groundfishing boat” is defined as a boat that is licensed to harvest and is used for harvesting northeast multispecies fish.

PART XXXX provides a framework for the reorganization of school administrative units into regional school units to maximize efficiencies in administrative and other noninstructional areas of kindergarten to grade 12 education.

Part YYYYY adjusts the appropriation made in Part A relating to the Maine Community College System and makes an appropriation and an allocation to the Department of Health and Human Services that were inadvertently omitted from Part A.

Public Law 2007, chapter 240 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 7, 2007, except as otherwise indicated.

**LD 501**  
**An Act To Provide Relief to the Commuters on Casco Bay Islands**

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This bill makes ongoing appropriations to the Casco Bay Island Transit District to stabilize passenger, vehicle and freight rates and to make ferry transportation affordable to year-round residents served by the transit district.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar provision in the bond proposal.

**LD 502**  
**An Act To Ensure That Maine Residents Have Reliable Winter Heating Assistance**

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This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $17,000,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2007-08 to the Maine State Housing Authority for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to provide necessary heating assistance funding for Maine residents in a timely manner. Funding received from the Federal Government for LIHEAP must be used to offset the General Fund appropriation.

**LD 538**  
**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Promote Increased Research and Development Collaboration between the Environmental and Energy Technology Sector and the University of Maine System**

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The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $2,000,000, will be used to promote increased research and development collaboration between the environmental and energy technology sector of the State and the University of Maine System.
LD 572  An Act To Fund the Western Maine Career Centers

**Sponsor(s)**  
MILLS J

**Committee Report**  
OTP

**Amendments Adopted**  
S-361  ROTUNDO

This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $350,000 in fiscal year 2006-07 to sustain the career centers in Wilton, Rumford and South Paris.

**Senate Amendment "A" (S-361)**

This amendment strikes the emergency preamble and clause from the bill and eliminates the one-time General Fund appropriation of $350,000 in fiscal year 2006-07 and provides a one-time General Fund appropriation of $15,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 to sustain the career centers in Wilton, Rumford and South Paris.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 31 provides a one-time General Fund appropriation of $15,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 to sustain the career centers in Wilton, Rumford and South Paris.

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LD 573  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Western Maine Creative Arts Center

**Sponsor(s)**  
MILLS J

**Committee Report**  
ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $10,000,000, will be used for renovation of certain buildings on the University of Maine at Farmington campus to create the Western Maine Creative Arts Center for a creative economy.

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LD 594  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Facilitate Laboratory and Education Facility Construction for the Gulf of Maine Research Institute

**Sponsor(s)**  
TURNER

**Committee Report**  
ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $2,000,000, will be used for the Gulf of Maine Research Institute for reconstruction of a bulkhead and wharf to prepare the site for additional laboratory and education facility construction.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

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LD 603  An Act To Support the Capital Riverfront Improvement District

**Sponsor(s)**  
MITCHELL

**Committee Report**  
OTP

**Amendments Adopted**  
S-362  ROTUNDO
This bill makes General Fund appropriations in fiscal year 2007-08 and fiscal year 2008-09 for the Capital Riverfront Improvement District.

**Senate Amendment "A" (S-362)**

This amendment makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $20,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 for the Capital Riverfront Improvement District.

**Enacted Law Summary**

Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 26 makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $20,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 for the Capital Riverfront Improvement District.

Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 26 was enacted as an emergency measure effective June 27, 2007.

**LD 611** An Act To Generate Entrepreneurship, Small Business Development and Employment among Women and Rural Residents through Training and Technical Support

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This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $375,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2007-08 to maintain capacity to provide entrepreneurial training, small business development and financial management assistance to help women and rural entrepreneurs create, sustain and expand microenterprises throughout the State.

Public Law 2007, chapter 240 provided funding for a similar initiative.

**LD 612** An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Capital Improvements for the Maine Community College System

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The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $30,000,000, will be used for capital improvements to the Maine Community College System.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

**LD 646** An Act To Support and Expand Regional Teacher Development Centers and Early College Readiness Programs

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This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $1,000,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2007-08 to the University of Maine System to support and expand the University of Maine System Regional Teacher Development
Centers and early college readiness programs.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

LD 647  An Act To Encourage Economic Development

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
MILLS J  ONTP  

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $750,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2007-08 for local economic development efforts in rural counties to be distributed based on objective criteria.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar provision in the bond proposal.

LD 657  An Act To Provide Funding for Transitional Employment Training Opportunities for Persons with Mental Illness

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
CANAVAN  OTP  

This bill makes one-time and ongoing General Fund appropriations for Kennebec Valley Mental Health Center's transitional employment training programs for people with mental illness.

The Department of Health and Human Services indicated that some existing funding would be dedicated to this effort.

LD 670  An Act To Promote Economic Growth through Entrepreneurship, the Creative Economy and Rural Economic Development

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
MARTIN  OTP  

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $700,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 and $1,800,000 in fiscal year 2008-09 to the University of Maine System to enhance activities in entrepreneurship education, leadership and community outreach; expand academic programs in multimedia software and technologies necessary to the support, production and management of the creative economy; and create a Center for Rural Sustainable Development to engage in research on issues important to those who live in rural areas.

LD 674  An Act To Restore Funding to the Maine Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
MARTIN  OTP  S-363 ROTUNDO  

LD 674 makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $20,500 per year for the Maine Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee program.
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Senate Amendment "A" (S-363)

This amendment reduces the General Fund appropriation and makes a General Fund appropriation of $10,000 for fiscal year 2007-08 for the Maine Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee program.

Enacted Law Summary

Private and Special Law 2007, chapter 29 provides a General Fund appropriation of $10,000 for fiscal year 2007-08 for the Maine Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee Program.

LD 707 An Act To Fund the Fractionation Development Center

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
BRYANT B OTP

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $350,000 per year for the Fractionation Development Center.

LD 718 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Stimulate the Midcoast Economy

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
GERZOFSKY ONTP
EDMONDS

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $20,000,000, are to be used for economic stimulation to the midcoast area of Maine for infrastructure improvement and property acquisition directly related to economic development and job growth, to help businesses and landlords through the transition period of the decommissioning of Brunswick Naval Air Station, to provide funding for the expansion of existing business, to provide venture capital for start-ups and expansion of existing businesses, to fund research and development projects in the midcoast area by the Maine Technology Institute and to improve the rail and highway infrastructures.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

LD 721 An Act To Restore Support for HIV and AIDS Treatment and Prevention

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted
CAIN ONTP
TURNER

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $600,000 per year to the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention in the Department of Health and Human Services for HIV and AIDS treatment and prevention.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.
LD 744  An Act To Stabilize and Expand Funding for the Graduate School of Biomedical Science at the University of Maine

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted

CAIN

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $4,000,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2007-08 to the University of Maine System to stabilize and expand the Graduate School of Biomedical Science through the formation of a partnership with the University of New England to collaborate on a school of pharmacy.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

LD 745  An Act To Expand the Maine Economic Improvement Fund

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted

CAIN  ONTP

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $10,000,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2007-08 to the University of Maine System to increase the amount of funding available for research and development in the Maine Economic Improvement Fund.

Public Law 2007, chapter 240 provided funding for a similar initiative.

LD 746  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Finance the Acquisition of Land and Water Access and To Access Matching Contributions

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted

PINGREE  TURNER  ONTP

The purpose of this legislation is to recapitalize the Land for Maine's Future program with $75,000,000 over 3 years to continue Maine's land conservation efforts, leveraging a minimum of $37,500,000 in required matching funds.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

LD 747  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Municipal Investment Trust Fund

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted

CROCKETT  MITCHELL  ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $5,000,000, will be used to finance the Municipal Investment Trust Fund so that an eligible municipality or group of municipalities may apply for a public service infrastructure grant or loan.
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

LD 777  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Affordable Rental Housing

Sponsor(s) | Committee Report | Amendments Adopted
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EDMONDS | ONTP | |

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $20,000,000, will be used to establish affordable rental housing through the Maine State Housing Authority.

LD 782  An Act To Establish a New Method of Determining the State Budget

Sponsor(s) | Committee Report | Amendments Adopted
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JOY | | |

LD 782 shifts the start of the fiscal biennium for the state budget from the first regular session of the Legislature to the second regular session of the Legislature, beginning for the fiscal year that begins on July 1, 2010. This bill also provides that the state budget beginning on July 1, 2009 is a one-year budget.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H. P. 1369.

LD 793  An Act To Provide Essential Library Resources to All Maine Communities

Sponsor(s) | Committee Report | Amendments Adopted
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EDMONDS | | |

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations to the Maine State Library for grants to improve library collections throughout the State, to support interlibrary deliveries, to digitize materials for preservation and statewide access, to improve online data resources and to improve area reference and resource centers. The bill also provides funds for 2 librarian positions.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

LD 800  An Act To Enhance the Maine State Grant Program

Sponsor(s) | Committee Report | Amendments Adopted
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MITCHELL | ONTP | |

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $9,600,000 per year to the Finance Authority of Maine for the Maine State Grant Program to enhance postsecondary educational opportunities for Maine students attending Maine colleges and universities.
Part A of this bill provides funds through a bond issue in the amount of $2,000,000 to be used for infrastructure improvements for Canton Village to assist in the town's flood recovery and prevention efforts.

Part B of this bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $159,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 and $200,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2008-09 for 3 Career Center Consultant positions and related All Other for the career center in Rumford effective October 1, 2007.

Part A of this bill establishes new procedures to govern the act of exceeding or increasing the various spending limitations that currently apply to state, county, municipal and school governments. On the state level, Part A establishes a system to make the determination of compliance with the spending limitation system an accurate year-to-year comparison if the Legislature decides to fund a General Fund expenditure outside of the General Fund appropriation process. For counties, schools and municipalities, the existing approval procedures to exceed the current spending limitations would still be required, but, if the local government was proposing to exceed or increase the applicable limitation and the local government was the recipient of net new funding from the State, the approval would have to be accomplished by a referendum vote. For municipal and school governments, a 2/3 vote of the legislative body, such as the town meeting or school district meeting or city council, would avoid the need to obtain a referendum approval of the budget.

Part B of this bill establishes a 5% limit on the amount of General Fund and Highway Fund revenues that may be allocated for tax-supported debt service in any fiscal year. Part B also directs the State Treasurer to annually calculate and report to the Legislature on the aggregate unfunded actuarial liability of the State, taking into consideration health and life insurance and pension benefits that are scheduled to be provided to retired state employees, teachers and other governmental workers provided benefits pursuant to state law.

Part C of this bill establishes as a goal a 10% reduction by the year 2010 in the statewide expenditure for educational administrative services in kindergarten to grade 12 public education as that expenditure is measured as a percent of total personal income. It establishes goals for specific categories of costs and services. It also establishes a comprehensive system of analysis, recommendation, outreach and implementation to be accomplished on the local level through the creation of regional planning alliances to achieve that goal within the 26 career and technical education regions in Maine. If the cost reduction goal is not achieved, the Commissioner of Education must submit a plan to the Legislature to achieve the cost reductions.

Part D of this bill amends the law governing the responsibilities of the Executive Department, State Planning Office to collect data and report about the effects of government spending limitation law on Maine's overall tax burden. It also requires the State Planning Office to work with the Maine Development Foundation to prepare the required compliance reports in a manner designed to be accessible to the general public. It also requires the State Planning
Office to perform calculations of Maine's state and local government employment and expenditure levels in comparison with other states for the purpose of identifying categories of government employment and expenditure that deviate significantly from national and peer state averages. Finally, it directs the State Planning Office, working in conjunction with Maine Revenue Services, to establish a contract with the Maine Development Foundation to comprehensively analyze the sources of government revenue available to each state in the United States, including Maine, with a focus on comparing the various state and local taxes and fees in terms of nominal revenues by category, tax and revenue burdens, rates of taxes and fee schedules and levels of reliance and exportation.

This bill is carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369. The Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs requested the Joint Select Committee on Prosperity consider this bill in the conduct of their deliberations.

LD 806  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Maine Biomedical Research Fund to Create Jobs and Strengthen Maine's Economy

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The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $75,000,000 to stimulate economic growth and job creation through investments to support capital infrastructure and equipment for medical research and development, will be used to provide funds for the Maine Biomedical Research Fund. The bonds will be issued in 5 increments of $15,000,000 each during the next 5 years in anticipation of approximately $150,000,000 in federal and private funds.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

LD 817  An Act To Support the Maine Keeping Seniors Home Program

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This bill makes an ongoing General Fund appropriation of $350,000 in fiscal years 2007-08 and 2008-09 to the Department of Health and Human Services for the statewide Keeping Seniors Home program administered by Western Maine Community Action, Inc.

This bill was initially reported out of committee on a unanimous "ought to pass" vote, placed on the Senate Special Appropriations Table and carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

LD 818  An Act To Provide Support for the Volunteer Medical Ride Network

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This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $50,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 for direct grants to local area agencies on aging to support the volunteer medical ride network. These funds are to be distributed to each area agency on aging via the guidelines identified in the federal Older Americans Act of 1965. The funds will be used to
support and expand a volunteer medical ride network focused on using volunteers to transport Maine's elderly to health care services such as kidney dialysis and cancer therapy.

Public Law 2007, chapter 240 provided funding for a similar initiative.

**LD 819** An Act To Provide Supplemental Funding for Mileage Reimbursement for Volunteers for Meals on Wheels Programs

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This bill appropriates funds to reimburse volunteers for meals on wheels programs for increased travel expenses resulting from increased motor fuel costs.

Public Law 2007, chapter 240 provided funding for a similar initiative.

**LD 858** An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the University of Maine for Research and Development

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The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $66,214,500, are to be used for research and development purposes by the University of Maine System for biotechnology, aquaculture, information technology, precision manufacturing, forestry and agriculture and geographic information systems for strategic economic development.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

**LD 862** An Act To Improve Health Care for Maine Children through the Expansion of School-based Health Care Centers

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This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $443,687 in fiscal year 2007-08 and $713,597 beginning in fiscal year 2008-09 to support 20 school-based health centers in fiscal year 2007-08 and 25 school-based health centers in fiscal year 2008-09 as well as additional funding for planning grants, data evaluation and technical assistance contracts.

Public Law 2007, chapter 240 provided funding for a similar initiative in the FHM - Bureau of Health account.

**LD 863** An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Acquiring Land and Water Access through the Land for Maine's Future Program

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The purpose of this legislation is to recapitalize the Land for Maine's Future program with $95,000,000 over 4 years to continue Maine's land conservation efforts, leveraging a minimum of $45,000,000 in required matching funds.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

**LD 874**  
*An Act To Provide Funding for the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program*

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<th>Sponsor(s)</th>
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This bill provides $5,000,000 to the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program and specifies that the funds may be used only for fuel purchases.

**LD 896**  
*An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Cleanup of Hazardous Waste Sites*

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This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill, as emergency legislation, proposes to create a General Fund bond issue in the amount of $10,000,000 to fund cleanup of hazardous waste sites such as the Statler Tissue mill site in Augusta.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

**LD 925**  
*An Act To Provide Funds To Support Residential Programs for People with Developmental Disabilities*

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The bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $6,000,000 per year for room and board costs for people with developmental disabilities served under the MaineCare home and community-based care waiver for people with developmental disabilities. These room and board costs are no longer Medicaid reimbursable and therefore require a state appropriation for grants to make up for the loss in federal funds.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

**LD 926**  
*An Act To Support the Marine Law Institute*

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This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $200,000 to the University of Maine School of Law to support the Marine Law Institute.
LD 942  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Educational Facilities and Research and Development Facilities for the University of New England

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
BRANNIGAN  ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $5,000,000, will be used to fund the University of New England for proposed construction of educational facilities for a pharmaceutical college and other facilities for research and development at the Portland campus of the university.

LD 1009  An Act To Provide Firearms Safety Instruction for Adolescents

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
STRIMLING

This bill requires secondary schools to provide firearms safety instruction as part of the curriculum.

The bill was printed for reference to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs but died between the bodies over insistence for reference to either the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs or the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

LD 1019  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Replenish the School Revolving Renovation Fund

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
BOWMAN  ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $25,000,000, will be used to replenish the School Revolving Renovation Fund for school repair and renovation.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

LD 1035  An Act To Increase Wheelchair Van Services Reimbursement Rates

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
TUTTLE  ONTP
MITSHEL

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $463,089 in fiscal year 2007-08 and $483,095 in fiscal year 2008-09 and adds an allocation of federal matching funds.

Public Law 2007, chapter 240 provided funding for a similar initiative.
LD 1065  Resolve, To Enhance the Education Opportunities for Maine's Early Childhood Workers

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
SILSBY

This resolve makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $125,000 per year to increase the number of scholarships the Finance Authority of Maine awards under the Quality Child Care Education Scholarship Fund and makes a one-time General Fund appropriation to the University of Maine System to develop a degree program for those seeking training for working with preschool children with special needs. This resolve also directs the Finance Authority of Maine to adopt rules to make a nonmatriculated student eligible for a grant under the Quality Child Care Education Scholarship Fund.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369. The bill did not have a public hearing during the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature.

LD 1114  An Act To Appropriate Funds for the School Breakfast Program

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
ROTUNDO  ONTP

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $130,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2007-08 for the School Breakfast Program within the Department of Education.

Public Law 2007, chapter 240 provided funding through the Fund for a Healthy Maine for a similar initiative.

LD 1134  An Act To Ensure Access to the Community College for Students in Maine

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
BLISS  MITCHELL  ONTP

This bill makes one-time General Fund appropriations of $7,500,000 per year in fiscal year 2007-08 and fiscal year 2008-09 necessary to eliminate the backlog of students awaiting entrance to the community college degree programs.

Public Law 2007, chapter 240 provided funding for a similar initiative.

LD 1149  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve Child Care Facilities in Maine

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
CONNOR  ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $2,000,000, will be used to establish a combination of low-interest loans and grants to develop new child care options in all communities, to bring existing facilities and programs up to higher quality standards and to assist existing programs with higher quality standards in repaying.
existing loans and mortgage expenses during an expansion.

**LD 1165**  
**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Development of 2 Educational Facilities for Spurwink**  
Sponsor(s): MILLS P  
Committee Report: ONTP  
Amendments Adopted: 

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $1,200,000, will be used by the Spurwink Corporation to expand a special needs regional vocational center in Casco and construct a special needs regional elementary school in Cornville.

**LD 1190**  
**An Act To Promote Economic Growth through Education for Androscoggin County**  
Sponsor(s): ROTUNDO  
Committee Report: 
Amendments Adopted: 

This bill makes a one-time General Fund appropriation of $3,000,000 in fiscal year 2007-08 to complete a portion of a building to address overcrowding at Lewiston-Auburn College.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

**LD 1199**  
**An Act To Resolve Unfunded State Mandates**  
Sponsor(s): HOBBS N  
Committee Report: ONTP  
Amendments Adopted: 

LD 1199 requires the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services to maintain a list of unfunded state mandates that have been imposed by act of the Legislature on towns, cities, counties and other units of government. In the same manner that the Secretary of State must submit legislation to repeal inactive boards each first regular session, the commissioner is required to submit legislation to repeal the unfunded state mandates to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs each Legislature.

**LD 1222**  
**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Wastewater Infrastructure on the Penobscot River and To Require Testing Relating to Publicly Owned Treatment Works**  
Sponsor(s): ROSEN R  
Committee Report: ONTP  
Amendments Adopted: 

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $10,000,000, will be used to fund a state wastewater revolving fund for combined sewer overflow abatement of publicly owned treatment works on the Penobscot River from Millinocket to Penobscot Bay. The bill also requires publicly owned treatment works to submit monthly reports to the Department of Environmental Protection in connection with effluent received from users that are not connected to the publicly owned treatment works.
Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

**LD 1224**  
**An Act To Prevent Violence against Maine Families and To Provide Adequate Intervention in Cases of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault**

This bill makes a General Fund appropriation of $4,600,000 in each of fiscal years 2007-08 and 2008-09 for the Department of Health and Human Services to contract with community-based agencies to provide school-based and community-based sexual assault and domestic violence prevention education and to sustain the efforts already in place to protect Maine citizens from domestic violence and sexual assault and to provide services to victims of those crimes.

Public Law 2007, chapter 240 provided funding for a similar initiative.

**LD 1237**  
**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Create Jobs through Enhancing Maine's Commercial Marine Resources**

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $55,000,000, will be used for creating jobs through the establishment of an ongoing fund to enhance the State’s marine resource economy.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

**LD 1245**  
**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Encourage Research and Development in Renewable Energy**

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $5,000,000, will be used to encourage research and development in renewable energy.

**LD 1256**  
**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Community Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste Collection**

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $6,000,000, will be used to continue funding the program for technical and financial assistance for waste reduction and recycling and the household hazardous waste collection and disposal program, with emphasis given to providing planning and coordination assistance to encourage regional recycling efforts by multiple municipalities and giving priority to a municipality that has a goal.
of recycling more than 50% of the waste generated in that municipality.

LD 1268  An Act To Fund the Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program and Fund

Sponsor(s)                  Committee Report                  Amendments Adopted
MAKAS

This bill appropriates $50,000 from the General Fund each year for the next 2 years to finance the nursing education loan repayment program, which was established in Public Law 2005, chapter 417.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.

LD 1279  An Act To Terminate the Authority of the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority

Sponsor(s)                  Committee Report                  Amendments Adopted
GOOLEY ONTP

LD 1279 prohibits the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority from undertaking new projects or financing projects other than those approved by the Legislature prior to January 1, 2007. The bill authorizes the authority to carry out its responsibilities for current projects and outstanding debt on those projects.

LD 1312  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Preservation of Forest Lodge in the Town of Upton

Sponsor(s)                  Committee Report                  Amendments Adopted
BRYANT B ONTP

This bill proposes a General Fund bond issue of $1,000,000 for the purpose of having the Department of Conservation purchase the historical Forest Lodge property in the Town of Upton. Contingent upon approval of the bond issue by the voters, it appropriates $500,000 from the General Fund on a one-time basis to the Department of Conservation for the repair and maintenance of the Forest Lodge property.

LD 1344  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Maine's Economy and Quality of Place through the New Century Community Program

Sponsor(s)                  Committee Report                  Amendments Adopted
PINGREE ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $25,000,000, will be used to fund a grant program under the New Century Community Program to distribute grants on a competitive basis using criteria that include but are not limited to the importance of a project to foster growth of arts and culture within the community, project viability, the likelihood of funding success, geographic diversity and the ability to attract matching funds on a one-to-one ratio or better.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.
Part A of the bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue. The funds provided by the bond issue, in the amount of $40,000,000, will be used to finance the upgrade of sewage treatment systems in the State. Part B of the bill directs the Department of Environmental Protection to amend the rules to end the combination of sewage and storm water discharge.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $20,000,000, will be used to expand research in adult stem cells and embryonic stem cells, establish a public umbilical cord blood bank, award grants to aid in the development of umbilical cord blood banks and establish an advisory council on umbilical cord blood banks.

LD 1424 requires that the state budget document include a long-range plan for State Government and describe any imbalance between projected revenues and projected expenditures.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369. The Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs requested the Joint Select Committee on Prosperity consider this bill in the conduct of their deliberations.

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $8,700,000, to be appropriated over 3 years, will be used to fund drinking water programs and wastewater treatment facilities.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.
LD 1513  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
RAYE  ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $40,000,000, will be used to match federal funds for the construction of wastewater pollution control facilities, to match federal funds for a revolving loan match for drinking water facilities, for funds to repair, upgrade and complete new wastewater control facilities, for combined sewage overflow and for removing and replacing some of the 1,500 overboard discharge systems in the State, as well as to help repair failing septic systems that are polluting surface waters.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

LD 1520  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Biorefineries

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
BRYANT B  ONTP

This bill provides funds through a bond issue in the amount of $12,500,000 to be used to create a pool for the start-up costs of biorefineries to generate power, fuels and specialty chemicals.

LD 1526  An Act To Enhance Family Development Accounts

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
STRIMLING  ONTP

This bill makes ongoing General Fund appropriations of $100,000 per year for the Family Development Account program within the Finance Authority of Maine to serve as matching funds for federal and private dollars.

LD 1531  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Land for Maine's Future Program

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
ADAMS  ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $70,000,000, will be used to recapitalize the Land for Maine's Future program over 2 years to continue the State's land conservation efforts.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.
### LD 1611  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Research and Development to Create Jobs in Maine's Emerging Biobased Plastics Industry

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The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $30,000,000, are to fund research, development and commercialization of the emerging biobased plastics industry in Maine. The Maine Technology Institute will administer competitive awards through a biobased plastics and green chemistry fund for collaborative projects that include, but are not limited to, research and development of processes to manufacture biobased plastics from agricultural and forest products and the commercialization of biobased plastics production from potatoes and agricultural crops in Aroostook County.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

### LD 1628  An Act To Fund the Fuel Assistance Reserve Fund To Ensure That Help from the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program Is Received in a Timely Fashion

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This bill appropriates one-time funds for the Maine State Housing Authority to establish and capitalize the Fuel Assistance Reserve Fund as described in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 4992-A. The authority shall use the Fuel Assistance Reserve Fund to ensure that fuel assistance benefits for the State's eligible elderly and low-income residents are available in a timely fashion.

### LD 1654  An Act To Reduce the Cost of the Unfunded Liability of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Fund and To Reduce the Cost to Maine Citizens of Purchasing State Bonds

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This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to accomplish 2 goals. Part A would reduce the cost of the unfunded actuarial liability to the state employee and teacher retirement fund by authorizing the issuance of pension cost reduction bonds by the Maine Municipal Bond Bank. Part B would authorize the Treasurer of State to institute a program to make the purchase of State general obligation bonds more accessible to Maine citizens.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369. The Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs requested the Joint Select Committee on Prosperity consider this bill in the conduct of their deliberations.
LD 1677  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Riverfront Community Development

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
ROTUNDO  ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $25,000,000, will 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.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

LD 1692  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Improvements to Passenger Rail Service

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
EDMONDS  ONTP

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of $40,000,000, will be used to make improvements to passenger rail service in Maine.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 enacted a similar bond proposal.

LD 1796  An Act To Authorize Bond Issues for Ratification by the Voters for the June and November 2007 Elections and the June 2008 Election and To Transfer Certain Funds

Sponsor(s)  Committee Report  Amendments Adopted
EDMONDS  OTP-AM  S-26

LD 1796 was the Governor's proposed bond issue for improvements to highways and bridges, airports, public transit facilities, ferry and port facilities including port and harbor structures and statewide bicycle and pedestrian trails.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-26)

Committee Amendment "A" (S-26) was the unanimous report of the Committee in response to various general obligation bond proposals.

Enacted Law Summary

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 does the following:

Part A authorizes a $112,975,000 bond issue for improvements to highways and bridges, airports, public transit facilities, ferry and port facilities including port and harbor structures and bicycle and pedestrian trails. Part A requires a June 2007 referendum.

Part B authorizes a bond issue in the amount of $18,300,000 for grants and low-interest loans to support construction of wastewater treatment facilities and to support improvements to Maine's public water systems. Part B requires a June 2007 referendum.
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Part C authorizes a $43,500,000 bond issue to make interior and exterior building renovations, improvements and additions at all campuses of the Maine Community College System, Maine Maritime Academy and the University of Maine System; provides funds for the School Revolving Renovation Fund; and provides funds for the New Century Community Program. Part C requires a November 2007 referendum.

Part D authorizes a bond issue for $50,000,000 in research and development funds and $5,000,000 in loan and grant funds for economic development. Part D requires a November 2007 referendum.

Part E authorizes a $35,500,000 bond issue to be matched by at least $21,875,000 in private and public contributions. The proceeds must be used to recapitalize the Land for Maine's Future program, of which $3,000,000 will support the working waterfront program; to fund the agricultural water source development grant program; to fund capital improvements at state parks and historic sites; to invest in river-based community development pursuant to a competitive process under the program authorized in Part F; and to fund the Municipal Investment Trust Fund. Part E requires a November 2007 referendum.

Part F establishes the Riverfront Community Development Program, which is contingent on voter approval of the bonds proposed in Part E.

Part G authorizes a $29,725,000 bond issue for natural resource and environmental quality investments, fish hatcheries, dam safety, pollution control and monitoring measures to protect water quality and public health, and for improvements to highways and bridges, airports, public transit facilities, ferry and port facilities and statewide bicycle and pedestrian trails. This Part requires a June 2008 referendum.

Part H authorizes the State Budget Officer to transfer by financial order in fiscal year 2006-07 any unexpended balance of Personal Services to All Other in the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Administrative Services and Corporations for expenses associated with the special election to be held in June 2007.

Public Law 2007, chapter 39 was enacted as an emergency measure effective April 10, 2007.

LD 1848 An Act To Promote Sustainable Prosperity

CARRIED OVER

Sponsor(s) Committee Report Amendments Adopted

EDMONDS

This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208.

This bill proposes to accomplish 2 goals. Part A would reduce the cost of the unfunded actuarial liability to the state employee and teacher retirement fund by authorizing the issuance of pension cost reduction bonds by the Maine Municipal Bond Bank. Part B would authorize the Treasurer of State to institute a program to make the purchase of State general obligation bonds more accessible to Maine citizens.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369. The Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs requested the Joint Select Committee on Prosperity consider this bill in the conduct of their deliberations.

The purpose of this bill is to implement the recommendations of the report by the Brookings Institution entitled “Charting Maine's Future: An Action Plan for Promoting Sustainable Prosperity and Quality Places.”

Part A of this bill establishes the Maine Government Efficiency Commission and directs the commission to identify government expenditures that can be eliminated or reduced by consolidating governmental entities, increasing
efficiency in the provision of services and eliminating duplication.

Part B of this bill establishes the Maine Government Efficiency Fund, which consists of that portion of undedicated General Fund revenues that is certified by the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability to be directly attributable to savings resulting from reductions in spending in state and local government recommended by the Maine Government Efficiency Commission.

Part C of this bill authorizes the issuance of bonds for competitive grants for collaborative research and development activities with the goal of stimulating the State's economic development.

Part D of this bill establishes the Maine Cluster Development Fund within the Office of Innovation in the Department of Economic and Community Development for the purpose of providing cluster development grants to be used for competitive grants to industry-led coalitions in the targeted technology sectors and the Innovation Jobs Fund within the Office of Innovation within the Department of Economic and Community Development. Part D also transfers funds from the Government Efficiency Fund, if sufficient funds exist and in this order of priority, to the Maine Cluster Development Fund, the Innovation Jobs Fund and the Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Local and Regional Services. Part D also requires that, when sufficient funds are available in the Government Efficiency Fund to fund the changes, the State Tax Assessor shall submit legislation to reduce the highest tax rate applicable to income from 8.5% to 8.0% and to increase by 20% the threshold for applying that rate.

Part E of this bill:

1. Establishes the Maine Community Enhancement Fund for the purposes of providing resources to towns and municipalities for community planning and facilitating and implementing comprehensive plans;

2. Authorizes, until December 31, 2012, a surcharge of $20 per transaction for all documents that are recorded in the registry of deeds and transfers revenue from this surcharge for deposit into the Maine Community Enhancement Fund;

3. Directs the Executive Department, State Planning Office to establish a pilot project for a regional planning initiative involving multiple political subdivisions of the State;

4. Allocates funds from the Maine Community Enhancement Fund to the Maine Downtown Center, to the State Planning Office for assisting municipalities in implementing any applicable statewide building code, and to the State Planning Office for a pilot project for a regional planning initiative involving multiple political subdivisions of the State.

Part F of this bill directs the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Revenue Services to implement a program to reimburse service center communities for property taxes lost by reason of the nontaxable status of property of regional significance located within that community.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369. The Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs requested the Joint Select Committee on Prosperity consider this bill in the conduct of their deliberations.

LD 1852 An Act To Provide Taxpayer Relief CARRIED OVER

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This bill proposes to restrain the growth in state and local government by imposing expenditure limitations on state and local government and by requiring a procedure of voter approval of certain tax and fee increases.

Under this bill, growth in annual expenditures of the General Fund, the Highway Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds are limited according to increases in population and inflation. For the General Fund and Highway Fund budgets, revenues exceeding the expenditure limitation must be distributed by directing 20% of that excess to a budget stabilization fund and 80% of that excess to a tax relief fund. The budget stabilization funds may be used only in years when revenues are not sufficient to fund the level of expenditure permitted by the growth limits. The tax relief funds must be used to provide tax relief through refunds proportional to individual income tax personal exemptions claimed in the previous tax year or a decrease in motor fuels taxes. For state agencies that manage Other Special Revenue Funds, the managers of those funds must report excess surpluses to the Legislature with a plan for refund of those revenues.

State expenditure limits contained in this bill could be exceeded by a 2/3 vote of each House of the Legislature and approval by the voters. Local district expenditure limits could be exceeded by a majority vote of the voters of the local district.

Under this bill, an increase in state revenue would be possible only by a 2/3 vote of each House of the Legislature and the approval of the voters.

This bill was carried over to any special or regular session of the 123rd Legislature by joint order, H.P. 1369.
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

SUBJECT INDEX

Budget Bills

Enacted


Fiscal Policy

Not Enacted

LD 425 An Act Regarding the Accounting Procedure for Certain State Programs CARRIED OVER

LD 782 An Act To Establish a New Method of Determining the State Budget CARRIED OVER

LD 804 An Act To Ensure Responsible Government Spending and Investment CARRIED OVER

LD 1199 An Act To Resolve Unfunded State Mandates ONTP

LD 1279 An Act To Terminate the Authority of the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority ONTP

LD 1424 An Act Requiring Long-range Budget Planning CARRIED OVER

LD 1654 An Act To Reduce the Cost of the Unfunded Liability of the State Employee and Teacher Retirement Fund and To Reduce the Cost to Maine Citizens of Purchasing State Bonds CARRIED OVER

LD 1852 An Act To Provide Taxpayer Relief CARRIED OVER

General Obligation Bond Bills

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LD 1796</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize Bond Issues for Ratification by the Voters for the June and November 2007 Elections and the June 2008 Election and To Transfer Certain Funds</td>
<td>Not Enacted</td>
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<tr>
<td>LD 60</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Maine's Roads and Bridges</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
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<tr>
<td>LD 188</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Public Transportation in Rural Areas</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
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<tr>
<td>LD 218</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Encourage Municipal High-speed Internet Access</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
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<tr>
<td>LD 247</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fight Global Warming through Energy Conservation</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
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<tr>
<td>LD 292</td>
<td>An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Help Construct a Recreation Center for the City of Presque Isle</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
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<tr>
<td>LD 304</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Capital Projects for the Maine Community College System and the University of Maine System</td>
<td>ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT</td>
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<tr>
<td>LD 315</td>
<td>An Act Authorizing a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve the Quality and Safety of Science and Teaching Laboratories, General Classrooms and Libraries at Maine's Public</td>
<td>ACCEPTED ONTP REPORT</td>
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<tr>
<td>LD 335</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Research and Development To Stimulate Maine's Innovation Economy</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
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<tr>
<td>LD 357</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Land for Maine's Future Program</td>
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<td>LD 376</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Capitalize the Maine Marine Research Fund</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize the Issuance of a Highway Fund Bond Issue for Maine's Roads and Bridges</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Repairs to Traditional Meetinghouses</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Recreational Facilities</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Maintain, Improve and Develop Trails</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Revitalize Communities and Expand Maine's Innovative Economy through the New Century Program</td>
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<td>LD 445</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Municipal Investment Trust Fund</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Maine's Working Waterfronts</td>
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LD 538  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Promote Increased Research and Development Collaboration between the Environmental and Energy Technology Sector and the University of Maine System

LD 573  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Western Maine Creative Arts Center

LD 594  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Facilitate Laboratory and Education Facility Construction for the Gulf of Maine Research Institute

LD 612  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Capital Improvements for the Maine Community College System

LD 718  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Stimulate the Midcoast Economy

LD 746  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Finance the Acquisition of Land and Water Access and To Access Matching Contributions

LD 747  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Municipal Investment Trust Fund

LD 777  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Affordable Rental Housing

LD 801  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Infrastructure Improvements for Canton Village and To Provide Funding for the CareerCenter in Rumford

LD 806  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Maine Biomedical Research Fund to Create Jobs and Strengthen Maine's Economy

LD 858  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the University of Maine for Research and Development

LD 863  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Acquiring Land and Water Access through the Land for Maine's Future Program

LD 896  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Cleanup of Hazardous Waste Sites

LD 942  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Educational Facilities and Research and Development Facilities for the University of New England

LD 1019  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Replenish the School Revolving Renovation Fund

LD 1149  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve Child Care Facilities in Maine

LD 1165  An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Development of 2 Educational Facilities for Spurwink
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<td>LD 1222</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Wastewater Infrastructure on the Penobscot River and To Require Testing Relating to Publicly Owned Treatment Works</td>
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<td>LD 1237</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Create Jobs through Enhancing Maine's Commercial Marine Resources</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Encourage Research and Development in Renewable Energy</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Community Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste Collection</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Preservation of Forest Lodge in the Town of Upton</td>
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<td>LD 1344</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Maine's Economy and Quality of Place through the New Century Community Program</td>
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<td>An Act To Protect Maine Rivers and To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Enhance Funding for Stem Cell Research in Maine</td>
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<td>LD 1448</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Wastewater Treatment Facilities and Water Supply Facilities</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Water and Wastewater Infrastructure</td>
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<td>LD 1520</td>
<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Biorefineries</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Land for Maine's Future Program</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Research and Development to Create Jobs in Maine's Emerging Biobased Plastics Industry</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Riverfront Community Development</td>
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<td>An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Improvements to Passenger Rail Service</td>
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**Miscellaneous Funding and Other Requests**

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<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>LD 248</td>
<td>Resolve, Honoring Women Veterans of Maine</td>
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<td>LD 411</td>
<td>An Act To Establish a Pilot Program for Return of Unused Prescription Drugs by Mail</td>
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<tr>
<td>LD 572</td>
<td>An Act To Fund the Western Maine Career Centers</td>
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<tr>
<td>LD 603</td>
<td>An Act To Support the Capital Riverfront Improvement District</td>
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<td>LD 674</td>
<td>An Act To Restore Funding to the Maine Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee</td>
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**Not Enacted**

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<tr>
<th>LD 58</th>
<th>An Act To Ensure State Budget Funding for Wastewater Treatment Facilities and Water Supply Facilities</th>
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<td>LD 59</td>
<td>An Act To Restore Continuing Funding for the Maine Institute for Public Safety Innovation</td>
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<td>LD 63</td>
<td>An Act To Increase Access to After-school Programs</td>
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<td>LD 64</td>
<td>An Act To Recapitalize the Maine Downtown Center</td>
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<td>LD 65</td>
<td>An Act To Provide Funding for Mentoring Programs</td>
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<td>LD 93</td>
<td>An Act To Appropriate Funds from the General Fund to the Maine Correctional Center</td>
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<td>An Act To Provide Funding for the Drinking Water Program</td>
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<td>An Act To Increase Funding for Private Nonmedical Institutions</td>
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<td>An Act To Provide Transitional Support for the Downeast Heritage Museum in Calais</td>
<td>CARRIED OVER</td>
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<tr>
<td>LD 186</td>
<td>An Act To Provide Funding to the St. Francis Water District for New Wells</td>
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<tr>
<td>LD 187</td>
<td>An Act To Increase Access to Child Care and Early Education for Maine's Working Families</td>
<td>ONTP</td>
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<td>LD 189</td>
<td>An Act To Invest in an Allied Health Center at Northern Maine Community College</td>
<td>CARRIED OVER</td>
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<td>LD 190</td>
<td>An Act To Fund Business Attraction Efforts</td>
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<td>An Act To Establish More Probation Officer Positions in the Department of Corrections for Better Oversight of Sex Offenders</td>
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<td>An Act To Provide Additional Funding for the Office of Substance Abuse</td>
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<td>LD 269</td>
<td>An Act To Retire the Mortgage of York County Community College</td>
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LD 291  An Act To Expand Workforce Development Programs

LD 305  An Act To Increase the Availability of Cellular Telephone Service for Rural Residents

LD 314  An Act To Restore Funding for the Reading Recovery Program

LD 318  An Act To Provide Funds for the Coordination and Promotion of the 400th Anniversary of the Popham Colony

LD 374  An Act To Provide Funding for the Maine-Canada Trade Ombudsman

LD 501  An Act To Provide Relief to the Commuters on Casco Bay Islands

LD 502  An Act To Ensure That Maine Residents Have Reliable Winter Heating Assistance

LD 611  An Act To Generate Entrepreneurship, Small Business Development and Employment among Women and Rural Residents through Training and Technical Support

LD 646  An Act To Support and Expand Regional Teacher Development Centers and Early College Readiness Programs

LD 647  An Act To Encourage Economic Development

LD 657  An Act To Provide Funding for Transitional Employment Training Opportunities for Persons with Mental Illness

LD 670  An Act To Promote Economic Growth through Entrepreneurship, the Creative Economy and Rural Economic Development

LD 707  An Act To Fund the Fractionation Development Center

LD 721  An Act To Restore Support for HIV and AIDS Treatment and Prevention

LD 744  An Act To Stabilize and Expand Funding for the Graduate School of Biomedical Science at the University of Maine

LD 745  An Act To Expand the Maine Economic Improvement Fund

LD 793  An Act To Provide Essential Library Resources to All Maine Communities

LD 800  An Act To Enhance the Maine State Grant Program

DIED ON ADJOURNMENT

CARRIED OVER

ONTP
LD 817  An Act To Support the Maine Keeping Seniors Home Program  CARRIED OVER

LD 818  An Act To Provide Support for the Volunteer Medical Ride Network  ONTP

LD 819  An Act To Provide Supplemental Funding for Mileage Reimbursement for Volunteers for Meals on Wheels Programs  ONTP

LD 862  An Act To Improve Health Care for Maine Children through the Expansion of School-based Health Care Centers  ONTP

LD 874  An Act To Provide Funding for the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program  ONTP

LD 925  An Act To Provide Funds To Support Residential Programs for People with Developmental Disabilities  CARRIED OVER

LD 926  An Act To Support the Marine Law Institute  ONTP

LD 1009  An Act To Provide Firearms Safety Instruction for Adolescents  DIED BETWEEN HOUSES

LD 1035  An Act To Increase Wheelchair Van Services Reimbursement Rates  ONTP

LD 1065  Resolve, To Enhance the Education Opportunities for Maine's Early Childhood Workers  CARRIED OVER

LD 1114  An Act To Appropriate Funds for the School Breakfast Program  ONTP

LD 1134  An Act To Ensure Access to the Community College for Students in Maine  ONTP

LD 1190  An Act To Promote Economic Growth through Education for Androscoggin County  CARRIED OVER

LD 1224  An Act To Prevent Violence against Maine Families and To Provide Adequate Intervention in Cases of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault  ONTP

LD 1268  An Act To Fund the Nursing Education Loan Repayment Program and Fund  CARRIED OVER

LD 1526  An Act To Enhance Family Development Accounts  ONTP

LD 1628  An Act To Fund the Fuel Assistance Reserve Fund To Ensure That Help from the Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program Is Received in a Timely Fashion  ONTP

LD 1848  An Act To Promote Sustainable Prosperity  CARRIED OVER
<table>
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<tr>
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