

LD# & Name	Legislation Summary	Legislative Committee	Chamber Status	Chamber Position	Level	Remarks	Amended
1 - "An Act To Stimulate Capital Investment for Innovative Businesses in Maine" Sponsored by Senator Peter Mills	This bill is modeled on statutes in Arkansas, Iowa, Michigan, Montana and Utah. It authorizes the establishment of the Maine Fund of Funds within the Small Enterprise Growth Board for the purpose of increasing the availability of venture capital to the Maine economy. The fund is managed by a director chosen by the Small Enterprise Growth Board by means of a competitive selection. The Small Enterprise Growth Board has authority to close the fund if necessary to protect the State's interests. The board raises capital for the fund by offering as security refundable tax credits issued by the board, with the goal of attracting venture capital investment in the State's economy. The board maintains regulatory control over the fund. The bill requires annual audits and reports on the fund. The goal of the fund is to create investments in the Maine economy, which is broadly described as including the development of intellectual capital as well as job creation. The director may invest outside of the State as necessary to maximize returns and reduce the likelihood that tax credits will be redeemed. The bill provides that net profits from the fund after pay	Business, Research and Economic Development	CARRIED OVER TO ANY SPECIAL OR REGULAR SESSION OF THE 124th LEGISLATURE - 6/15/2009	OPPOSE		1	
5 - "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Liquor Licenses" Sponsored by Senator Bill Diamond	This bill amends the laws governing liquor licenses by deleting that provision of law that limits the number of liquor stores that may be licensed in a municipality.	Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs	Dead- 3/25/2009	NSO	Monitor		
17 - "An Act To Prohibit the Sale of Energy Drinks to Minors" Sponsored by Representative Peggy Pendleton	This bill prohibits the sale of energy drinks to minors. An energy drink is a soft drink specifically designed to provide energy that contains 80 or more milligrams of caffeine per 8 fluid ounces.	Committee on Health and Human Services	Dead- 2/12/2009	OPPOSE		2	
20 - "An Act To Require Insurance Companies To Cover the Cost of Prosthetics" Sponsored by Representative Mark Bryant	This bill requires health insurance policies, contracts and certificates to provide coverage for prosthetics. The provisions of this bill apply to all policies, contracts and certificates issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2010.	Insurance and Financial Services	CARRIED OVER TO ANY SPECIAL OR REGULAR SESSION OF THE 124th LEGISLATURE - 6/15/2009	OPPOSE		3	Letter Completed - Joel A.
27 - "An Act To Amend the Definition of Employment for Purposes of Unemployment Compensation" Sponsored by Representative Patrick Flood	Under current law, an employment relationship exists and unemployment insurance coverage is required unless all three parts of the so-called "ABC test" can be demonstrated. This bill limits application of the ABC test to situations in which the individual has performed services for a total of no less than 16 hours.	Labor	Dead- 2/12/2009	TABLED			
42 - "An Act To Increase the Time Period for Motor Vehicle Inspections to 2 Years" Sponsored by Representative Walter Wheeler	This bill changes the annual inspection requirement for motor vehicles, except for commercial vehicles, trailers and semitrailers, to a biennial inspection requirement. This bill also changes the annual enhanced inspection requirement for vehicles registered in Cumberland County to a biennial requirement. Finally, this bill changes the annual partial inspection requirement for farm trucks, fish trucks and woods tractors to a biennial requirement.	TRANSPORTATION	Dead- 4/2/2009	NSO			
52 - "An Act To Require Unredeemed Beverage Container Deposits To Be Provided to the State" Sponsored by Representative John	Most returnable beverage containers in the State are subject to commingling agreements and, as such, are not currently subject to the provisions that require initiators of the deposits to transfer abandoned deposit amounts to the State. This bill amends current law to capture the abandoned deposit amounts on returnable beverage containers that are subject to commingling agreements and credits 50% of the amount collected from all transfers of abandoned deposit amounts to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources to administer the provisions regarding returnable beverage containers. This bill also addresses the same issue historically by requiring an audit to estimate amounts unaccounted for during the last 10 years and requires initiators of deposits to pay the estimates, plus interest, within 60 days of notice from the department. Failure to pay will result in an additional daily fine added to the assessment.		Dead- 2/17/2009	OPPOSE		3	

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63- "An Act To Reduce Registration Fees for Certain Generators of Biomedical Waste" Sponsored by Representative Wright Pinkham	This bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt rules assessing a one-time registration fee of \$50 for generators of less than 10 pounds of biomedical waste per month in lieu of the current rules that provide for an annual registration fee. It also provides that a generator registered as producing less than 10 pounds of biomedical waste per month may not be reclassified based on immunizations for annual influenza or mass immunizations for a pandemic.	NATURAL RESOURCES	Dead- 3/5/2009	SUPPORT		1	
83 - "An Act To Increase the Percentage of Retired Teachers' Health Insurance Paid by the State" Sponsored by Senator Troy Jackson	This bill increases the State's contribution for health insurance for retired teachers from 45% to 50% beginning January 1, 2010.	Labor	Dead- 6/13/2009	OPPOSE		3	Need Letter X
84 - "An Act To Ensure Fair Pay" Sponsored by Senator Deborah Simpson	This bill protects from employer discrimination employees who inquire about, disclose, compare or otherwise discuss employee wages.	Labor	PASSED. Signed by Gov 4/16/2009	OPPOSE		3	Amended Need Letter X
91 - "An Act To Fund the Maine Downtown Center" Sponsored by Representative Thomas Watson	This bill includes ongoing General Fund appropriations of \$75,000 per year to recapitalize the Maine Downtown Center.	BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, and APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS	CARRIED OVER TO ANY SPECIAL OR REGULAR SESSION OF THE 124th LEGISLATURE - 6/15/2009	OPPOSE		1	X
146 - "An Act To Require Telephone Directories To Include Cellular Telephone Numbers for Businesses" Sponsored by Representative Wesley Richardson	This bill requires telephone directories published by telephone utilities to include cellular telephone numbers for businesses at the request of a customer.	UTILITIES AND ENERGY	Dead- 2/19/2009	OPPOSE		1	
175 - "An Act To Modify the Maine Seed Capital Tax Credit Program" Sponsored by Senator Christopher Rector	This bill modifies the Maine Seed Capital Tax Credit Program administered by the Finance Authority of Maine by changing the requirements for increased credits from businesses located in high unemployment areas to those located in areas of the State classified as Pine Tree Development Zones.	BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Dead - 3/5/2009	TABLED			
176 - "An Act To Equitably Adjust the Workers' Compensation Board's Assessment" Sponsored by Senator Philip Bartlett	This bill requires the Workers' Compensation Board to use collections that exceed the maximum assessment by more than 10% to reduce the assessment on insured employers.	Labor	PASSED. Signed by Gov 5/11/2009	SUPPORT		1	
192 - "An Act To Index the State Minimum Wage to Inflation" Sponsored by Representative John Tuttle	This bill provides for the state minimum hourly wage to be adjusted for inflation beginning January 1, 2010 and annually thereafter. The bill requires the Department of Labor to calculate the inflation-adjusted minimum hourly wage based on changes in the consumer price index and to exclude from the calculation any month in which the State's unemployment rate exceeds the national unemployment rate.	Labor	CARRIED OVER TO ANY SPECIAL OR REGULAR SESSION OF THE 124th LEGISLATURE - 6/15/2009	OPPOSE		3	
195 - "An Act To Base the Excise Tax on Vehicles on a Percentage of the Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price" Sponsored by	Current law requires the excise tax paid on motor vehicles to be based on the manufacturer's suggested retail price, regardless of the amount actually paid for the motor vehicle. This bill instead requires the excise tax to be based on 90% of the manufacturer's suggested retail price for the motor vehicle, regardless of the amount actually paid for the motor vehicle.	TAXATION	CARRIED OVER TO ANY SPECIAL OR REGULAR SESSION OF THE 124th LEGISLATURE - 6/15/2009	SUPPORT		1	

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214- "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Economic Recovery" (Emergency) Sponsored by Representative Jayne Giles	The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$20,000,000, will be used to increase 2 Finance Authority of Maine business programs, a direct loan program and a loan insurance program, by \$10,000,000 each to assist businesses facing loss of revenues and that require business restructuring.	BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Dead-6/8/2009	OPPOSE		3 Letter Completed - Jack D.	
232- "An Act To Require Businesses To Make Toilet Facilities Available to Individuals with Certain Medical Conditions" Sponsored by Representative Wesley Richardson	This bill requires an owner or employee of a retail establishment to make an employee toilet facility available to an individual upon request if that individual has an eligible medical condition as specified in the bill. It includes liability protection for an owner or employee of a retail establishment who provides a customer with an eligible medical condition access to an employee toilet facility.	BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	PASSED. Signed by Gov 5/18/2009	OPPOSE		3 Amended Need Letter	X
242 - "An Act To Repeal the Informed Growth Act" Sponsored by Senator David Hastings	This bill repeals the Informed Growth Act.	State and Local Government	Dead- 5/17/2009	SUPPORT		3 Need Letter	
270 - "An Act To Allow a Gasoline Retailer To Offer Discounts to Customers Who Pay by Cash or Similar Means" Sponsored by Representative W. MacDonald	This bill establishes that motor fuel franchise agreements in Maine may not prohibit a retail dealer or distributor from offering a discount to a buyer to induce the buyer to pay by cash, debit card, check or similar means rather than by credit card. The bill also provides that any provision in such a franchise agreement prohibiting a retail dealer or distributor of motor fuels from offering such a discount is void and without effect as contrary to public policy.	BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Dead - 3/5/2009	SUPPORT		1	
272 - "An Act To License Home Building and Improvement Contractors" Sponsored by Representative W. MacDonald	This bill creates the Maine Home Contractor Licensing Act. The bill contains provisions concerning: requirements for licensure of general contractors and persons who perform framing, roofing, siding, insulating, window work or chimney work, if the work concerns residential dwellings; certain specific exemptions from licensure; required qualifications for general and specialty licenses; requirements for criminal and financial disclosures; creation of the Maine Home Contractor Licensing Board; and fees for licensing.	BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	CARRIED OVER TO ANY SPECIAL OR REGULAR SESSION OF THE 124th LEGISLATURE - 6/15/2009	MONITOR			
290 - "An Act To Allow Maine Residents To Purchase Health Insurance from Out-of-state Insurers" Sponsored by Representative Jonathan McKane	This bill permits out-of-state health insurers, which are referred to as regional insurers in the bill, to offer their individual and group health plans for sale in this State if certain requirements of Maine law are met, including minimum capital and surplus and reserve requirements, disclosure and reporting requirements and grievance procedures. The bill defines regional insurers as those insurers authorized to transact individual or group health insurance in one of the following states: Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. It also permits Maine health insurers to offer individual health plans of out-of-state parent or subsidiary health insurers if similar requirements are met. If out-of-state health plans are offered for sale in this State, the bill requires that prospective enrollees be provided adequate disclosure of how the plans differ from Maine health plans in a format approved by the Superintendent of Insurance. The bill takes effect January 1, 2010.	INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	Dead- 5/20/2009	SUPPORT		5	
300 - "An Act To Increase Child Support Collection by Expanding the New Hire Reporting Requirements" Sponsored by Senator Deborah Simpson	The purpose of this bill is to increase child support collection by expanding the new hire reporting requirements to include the reporting of independent contractors by any employer who is already required to report new hires. The report is required when the aggregate compensation to be paid to the independent contractor equals or exceeds \$600. This is consistent with the filing of the federal Internal Revenue Service 1099-MISC form under federal requirements. This bill is modeled on the New Hampshire independent contractor reporting requirements.	JUDICIARY	PASSED. Signed by Gov. 5/26/2009	MONITOR			X
323 - "An Act To Improve Transparency in the Health Insurance Markets" Sponsored by Representative Sharon Treat	This bill amends the Maine Insurance Code to require that health insurers provide updated information to group enrollees regarding the status of their employer-sponsored insurance coverage when a notice of termination for nonpayment has been issued, post on their publicly accessible websites current versions of their individual and small group policies that have the most residents of the State enrolled and send clear explanations of benefits to explain the services and payments made by insurance companies on behalf of their policyholders.	INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	Dead- 5/7/2009	TABLED			

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327 - "An Act To Strengthen Maine Small Business by Establishing a Preference Percentage for State Contract Bids" Sponsored by Representative Steven Butterfield	This bill requires the Director of the Bureau of General Services within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to adopt rules establishing a preference percentage of up to 15% for Maine small businesses bidding for state contracts. The rules are routine technical rules.	STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	Dead- 3/31/2009	SUPPORT			
347 - "An Act To Reduce Regulatory Costs for Maine Businesses" Sponsored by Senator Douglas Smith	This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to reduce regulatory costs for businesses in the State by establishing a council on private sector regulatory costs composed of private sector business leaders	BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Dead- 6/1/2009	TABLED			
392 - "An Act To Reduce Minimum Participation to 60% for Group Health Insurance" Sponsored by Senator	Under current law, a carrier's minimum participation requirements for a small group health plan may not exceed 75%. This bill reduces the minimum participation requirement to 60%.	INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	Dead- 3/25/2009	SUPPORT		3 Need Letter	
403 - "An Act To Increase the Minimum Wage" Sponsored by Representative John Tuttle	This bill increases the minimum wage to \$8.20 per hour in 2010 and to \$8.90 in 2011. Each year after that, the minimum wage is adjusted based on changes in prices, so that the minimum hourly wage rate maintains employee purchasing power. The price adjustment is based on the change in the Consumer Price Index.	LABOR	CARRIED OVER TO ANY SPECIAL OR REGULAR SESSION OF THE 124th LEGISLATURE - 6/15/2009	OPPOSE		5	
406 - "An Act To Allow a Retailer To Offer To Pay Sales Tax on Items and Services Sold by That Retailer" Sponsored by Senator Jonathan Courtney	This bill repeals the law that prohibits a retailer from advertising or offering to pay or refund to a consumer the tax imposed on the sale of goods and services.	TAXATION	Dead- 4/15/2009	SUPPORT		2	
448 - "An Act To Modify the Informed Growth Act" Sponsored by Representative Stephen Beaudette	This bill exempts a municipality that has adopted a review process for large-scale retail development applications that include economic and community impacts from the Informed Growth Act rather than a municipality that has adopted economic and community impact review criteria that require a study.	STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	PASSED. Signed by Gov. 6/4/2009	TABLED			X
462 - "An Act To Amend the Retail Tobacco and Liquor Licensing Laws" Sponsored by Senator Peter Mills	This bill clarifies that all retail tobacco licenses expire March 31st each year and requires the Department of Health and Human Services' rules to provide for prorated license fees for new applications received after April 1st. The bill further clarifies the jurisdiction of and provides consistent procedures for the District Court over agents and employees of both retail tobacco licenses and liquor licensees when charged with administrative violations.	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	Emergency PASSED: Signed by Gov. 5/26/2009	SUPPORT		1	X
496 - "An Act To Amend the Employment Practices Laws" Sponsored by Representative John Tuttle	Current law allows public employers to deduct service fees owed by an employee to a collective bargaining agent from employee's pay. This bill requires an employer to deduct the fees.	LABOR	Dead- 5/5/2009	OPPOSE		3 Need Letter	
514 - "An Act To Clarify Criminal Responsibility in the Sale of Alcohol and Tobacco to Minors" Sponsored by Representative Peter Edgecomb	This bill amends the law to specify that only the person who furnishes tobacco or liquor to a minor is criminally responsible for the act.	LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS	Dead- 3/17/2009	SUPPORT		3	

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539 - "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Allowable Uses of Tax Increment Financing Funds" Sponsored by Representative Herbert Clark	This bill allows for tax increment financing proceeds reserved for use by municipalities to be used for expenses relating to recreational trails to enhance recreational opportunities to promote economic growth.	TAXATION	PASSED. Signed by Gov 5/6/2009	OPPOSE		2 Amended	X
566 - "Resolve, Relating to Federal Stimulus Funds for Energy Programs" (Emergency)	This resolve, reported by the Joint Select Committee on Maine's Energy Future pursuant to Joint Order 2009, H.P. 63, provides for legislative review and approval of state spending of expected federal economic stimulus funds designated for energy purposes.	EMERGENCY	PASSED. Signed by Gov 2/27/2009	SUPPORT		1	X
579 - "An Act To Provide Wraparound Medical Coverage in the Workers' Compensation System" Sponsored by Representative Elizabeth Miller	This bill proposes to establish an integrated health insurance program that incorporates health coverage provided by Dirigo Health into the workers' compensation system.	LABOR	Dead- 3/26/2009	OPPOSE		2	
606 - "An Act To Enable the Maine Employers' Mutual Insurance Company To Better Serve the Needs of All Employers" Sponsored by Senator	Current law permits the Maine Employers' Mutual Insurance Company to offer employment practices liability insurance to its policyholders that have an average of 100 or fewer employees. This bill removes that limitation and allows the company to offer that insurance to its policyholders regardless of the number of employees employed by the policyholder.	INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	PASSED. Signed by Gov 4/16/2009	SUPPORT		1	
612 - "An Act To Assist Small Businesses with Creating Jobs" Sponsored by Senator	This bill proposes to assist small businesses with the creation of jobs and increased employment.		Dead- 2/24/2009	TABLED			
669 - "An Act To Clarify an Employer's Ability To Collect the Overcompensation of Wages" Sponsored by Senator Troy Jackson	This bill proposes to limit an employer's ability to collect an overpayment of wages due to the employer's error.	LABOR	Dead- 3/25/2009	OPPOSE		1	
682 - "An Act Regarding Agency Liquor Stores" (Emergency) Sponsored by Senator Nancy Sullivan	This bill removes the provision in current law that limits the number of agency liquor stores that may be licensed in a municipality. It also provides for additional criteria that an applicant must meet in order to receive an agency liquor store license after July 1, 2009.	LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS	Dead- 6/1/2009	SUPPORT		4	
732 - "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Small Businesses' Access to Capital" Sponsored by President Elizabeth Mitchell	The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$30,000,000, will be used to provide for disbursements to qualifying small businesses in the State seeking to pursue eligible projects and for funds for the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program Fund and the economic recovery loan program administered by the Finance Authority of Maine.	APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS	Dead- 6/9/2009	TABLED			
782 - "An Act To Require Health Insurers To Provide Coverage for Nutritional Wellness and Prevention Measures and Products" Sponsored by Representative	The purpose of this bill is to improve health, reduce health care usage and costs and help prevent disease through nutritional wellness and prevention measures and allow for nonpharmacological alternatives to enrollees who choose them. The bill requires that health insurance policies provide coverage for nutritional wellness and prevention that is shown to be beneficial to the enrollee and recommended by the enrollee's physician. The bill applies to all individual and group policies issued or renewed on or after January 1, 2010.	INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	Dead- 5/21/2009	OPPOSE		1	

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792 - "Resolve, Regarding On-bill Financing Programs for Energy Efficiency" Sponsored by Senator Kevin Raye	This bill directs the Public Utilities Commission to develop on-bill financing programs for energy efficiency improvements for small businesses. The bill also authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to direct investor-owned transmission and distribution utilities to implement on-bill financing programs for small business customers. On-bill financing is a method by which energy efficiency improvements are financed through the monthly electricity bill at 0% interest.	UTILITIES AND ENERGY	PASSED. Signed by Gov 5/18/2009	OPPOSE		3 Amended Jinger will help draft letter	X
855 - "Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Study the Reform of Taxes and Spending in Maine" (Emergency) Sponsored by Senator	This resolve establishes a study commission to review the Brookings Institution report, "Charting Maine's Future: An Action Plan for Promoting Sustainable Prosperity and Quality Places." The commission is to report with suggested legislation on tax and spending reform for the State, with a focus on efficiency.	TAXATION	Dead- 5/7/2009	OPPOSE		3 Jack will help write letter	
867 - "An Act Regarding Unemployment Compensation" Sponsored by Representative Emily	This bill requires the Director of Unemployment Compensation, when sending a written notice of determination of employment, to include the documentation that supported the determination. The bill also requires the director to treat both claimant and employer equally and to make available the record of interviews and documentation to both parties.	LABOR	Dead- 5/7/2009	SUPPORT		1	
906 - "An Act To Amend the Rate of Tax on New Manufactured Housing" Sponsored by Representative Linda Valentino	Under current law, new manufactured housing receives a partial sales tax exemption of up to 50% of the sales price, or 2.5% based on the current sales tax rate of 5%. This bill removes that partial sales tax exemption and corrects cross-references to reflect that.	TAXATION	PASSED. Signed by Gov 5/26/2009	OPPOSE		4	X
922 - "RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Require a Supermajority Approval of the Legislature for Tax Increases" Sponsored by Senator Christopher Pactor	This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require a 2/3 vote of both Houses of the Legislature to approve an increase in state revenue.	TAXATION	Dead- 5/29/2009	SUPPORT		3	
946 - "An Act To Reverse the Effects of Grant v. Central Maine Power, Inc. on Workers' Compensation" Sponsored by Representative Andre Cushing	The purpose of this bill is to address the issue identified in Grant v. Central Maine Power, Inc., 2003 ME 96, 828 A.2d 800 by amending the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 to permit an employer to reduce weekly benefits by the amount of earnings paid by an employer that is not liable or responsible for paying the weekly benefits.	LABOR	PASSED. Signed by Gov 6/8/2009	MONITOR			X
955 - "An Act To Transform the Maine Economy and Create Jobs" Sponsored by President Elizabeth Mitchell	This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to reduce regulatory costs for businesses in the State by establishing a council on private sector regulatory costs composed of private sector business leaders	MAINE'S ENERGY FUTURE	Dead- 4/28/2009	MONITOR			
962 - "An Act To Protect Family Caregivers" Sponsored by Representative Cynthia Dill	This bill amends the Maine Human Rights Act to expand the protections against discrimination in employment to include family caregivers. "Family caregiver" means a person who cares for that person's child, parent, spouse, domestic partner or sibling.	JUDICIARY	Dead- 6/13/2009	OPPOSE		4	
987 - "An Act To Clarify the Definition of "Employee" in the Employment Security Law" Sponsored by Senator Lisa Marraché	This bill exempts licensed cosmetologists, massage therapists and manicurists who operate within an establishment owned by another under a booth rental agreement or other rental agreement from the definition of employment for purposes of unemployment compensation law.	LABOR	Dead- 4/15/2009	SUPPORT		1	

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974 - "An Act To Decrease the Automobile Excise Tax and Promote Energy Efficiency"	This bill decreases the excise tax imposed on motor vehicles for the first year from 24 mills to 12 mills, for the 2nd year from 17 1/2 mills to 8 mills and for the 3rd year from 13 1/2 mills to 4 mills and imposes a 4 mills rate for the 4th and succeeding years. This bill also exempts from the excise tax imposed on motor vehicles the first 3 model years of a hybrid gasoline-electric vehicle, a fuel-cell-fueled or hydrogen-fueled vehicle or a highly energy efficient vehicle that has a highway fuel economy estimate of at least 40 miles to the gallon. After the first 3 years, the rate of excise tax is the same as on other motor vehicles of the same age. This bill also exempts from the sales tax 100% of the sale or lease price of a new hybrid gasoline-electric vehicle, a fuel-cell-fueled or hydrogen-fueled vehicle or a vehicle with a highway fuel economy estimate of at least 40 miles per gallon.	TAXATION	Dead- 4/9/2009	PEOPLE'S INITIATIVE		Poll Members	
975 - "An Act To Establish the Maine Medical Marijuana Act"	Current law allows a person who has been diagnosed by a physician as suffering from certain medical conditions to possess marijuana for medical use. This initiated bill changes the description of the medical conditions for which the medical use of marijuana is permitted. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services to issue registry identification cards to patients who qualify to possess marijuana for medical use and to their designated primary caregivers. It sets limits on the amount of marijuana that may be possessed by qualifying patients and their designated primary caregivers. It allows the establishment of nonprofit dispensaries to provide marijuana to qualifying patients and directs the Department of Health and Human Services to issue a registration certificate to a nonprofit dispensary that meets certain criteria. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services to establish application and renewal fees sufficient to pay the expenses of implementing and administering the provisions of the initiated bill.	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	Dead- 4/30/2009	PEOPLE'S INITIATIVE		Poll Members	
976 - "An Act To Provide Tax Relief"	This initiated bill imposes expenditure limitations on state and local government and requires voter approval of certain state tax increases. Under this bill, growth in annual expenditures of the General Fund, the Highway Fund and Other Special Revenue Funds are limited according to increases in population and inflation. For the General Fund and Highway Fund budgets, revenues exceeding the expenditure limitation must be distributed by 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 Reserve Fund must be used to provide tax relief through broad-based tax rate reductions or refunds proportional to individual income tax personal exemptions claimed in the previous tax year. The Highway Fund Reserve Fund must be used to provide a decrease in motor fuel 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 refun	TAXATION	Dead- 6/10/2009				
977 - "An Act To Repeal the School District Consolidation Laws"	This initiated bill repeals the laws related to the consolidation of school administrative units that were enacted by the First Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature in Public Law 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX. It restores the laws that were amended or repealed to accommodate the consolidation.	EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS	Dead- 6/12/2009				
987 - "An Act To Clarify the Definition of "Employee" in the Employment Security Law" Sponsored by Senator Lisa Marraché	This bill exempts licensed cosmetologists, massage therapists and manicurists who operate within an establishment owned by another under a booth rental agreement or other rental agreement from the definition of employment for purposes of unemployment compensation law.	LABOR	Dead- 4/15/2009	SUPPORT		1	
1002 - "Resolve, To Conduct an Updated Study of the Feasibility of Establishing a Single-payor Health Care System in the State" Sponsored by Representative Paulette Beaudoin	This resolve requires the Legislative Council to contract for an update to a 2002 study of the feasibility of establishing a single-payor health plan in the State. The update is contingent on the successful securing of outside funding by August 1, 2009. The updated study must be submitted to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature during which the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services may submit legislation based on the updated study.	INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	PASSED. Signed by Gov 6/17/2009	OPPOSE			X

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1004- "An Act Relating to Self-insurance" Sponsored by Representative Wesley Richardson	This bill amends the laws relating to group self-insurance reinsurance accounts to clarify that individual self-insurers authorized under Maine law and group self-insurers authorized under the laws of other states may participate in the account.	INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	PASSED. Signed by Gov 6/2/2009	TABLED			X
1005- "An Act To Continue Access to Dirigo Choice Health Insurance by Reducing Administrative Costs and Replacing the Savings Offset Payment" Sponsored by Representative Sharon Treat	This bill repeals the savings offset payment used to fund subsidies for the Dirigo Health Program and eliminates the administrative costs associated with the annual adjudicatory hearings. In place of the savings offset payment, the bill establishes a health access surcharge of 2.14% on all paid claims to be paid monthly as a source of funding for Dirigo Health Program subsidies. The bill changes the payment date for savings offset payments that have been previously assessed but not yet paid before the effective date of the bill. The bill also prohibits insurance carriers from including the costs of the health access surcharge used to support the Dirigo Health Program in health insurance premium rates.	INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	Dead- 5/7/2009	OPPOSE		3	
1019- "An Act To Strengthen the Informed Growth Act" Sponsored by Senator John Nutting	This bill requires the comprehensive economic impact study under the Informed Growth Act for a large-scale retail development having over 150,000 square feet of gross floor area to provide information concerning the average number of part-time and full-time employees of the prospective tenant who are covered by the prospective tenant's health insurance policy.	STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	Dead- 4/16/2009	OPPOSE		1	
1023- "An Act To Require a Seller of a Gas Station To Provide an Updated Inspection Prior to Sale of the Property" Sponsored by Senator Walter Gooley	This bill provides that in the case of the sale or transfer of any real estate where an underground gasoline storage tank used in connection with the retail sale of gasoline is located, the owner of the real estate, prior to such a sale or transfer, shall file a copy of the most recent annual inspection results relating to the underground gasoline storage tank with the purchaser or transferee.	BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Dead- 4/9/2009	OPPOSE		2	
1040- "An Act Relating to Health Benefit Plan Coverage of Chemotherapy" Sponsored by Representative Kimberley Rosen	This bill requires that, if a carrier provides coverage for cancer chemotherapy, the carrier shall provide coverage for a prescribed orally administered cancer medication on a basis no less favorable than intravenously administered or injected cancer medications that are covered benefits.	INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	Dead- 4/9/2009	MONITOR			
1048- "An Act To Increase the Amount of the Deposit on Returnable Beverage Containers" Sponsored by Representative Lawrence Sirois	This bill raises the refund value on nonrefillable beverage containers by 5¢ and directs the State Tax Assessor to apply the increase in revenue from unclaimed deposits as a result of this bill toward the cost of the total allocation for kindergarten to grade 12 education.	BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	Dead- 3/26/2009				
1057- "An Act To Require Hospitals To Make Publicly Available the Cost of Medical Procedures" Sponsored by Representative Sara Stevens	This bill requires hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers to post their price lists for their most common inpatient and outpatient procedures and services in an easily accessible place on their publicly accessible websites.	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	Dead- 4/15/2009	SUPPORT		1	
1074- "An Act To Promote Responsible Sales of Alcoholic Beverages" Sponsored by Representative Anne Perry	This bill requires that any person who sells or serves alcoholic beverages to any person must verify that person's age through photo identification. It also requires that licensees post a sign regarding that requirement in a prominent location visible to patrons of the establishment. The bill requires any person hired by a licensee who will sell or serve alcoholic beverages to successfully complete seller server training within 30 days of employment. The bill adds to the approval criteria for training courses that refresher courses be available and that training be available online. Finally, this bill requires the Commissioner of Public Safety to recommend graduated penalties for failure to comply with the identification requirement proposed in this bill.	LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS	Dead- 5/14/2009	SUPPORT		2	

LD# & Name	Legislation Summary	Legislative Committee	Chamber Status	Chamber Position	Level	Remarks	Amended
1088- "An Act To Modernize the Tax Laws and Provide over \$75,000,000 to Residents of the State in Tax Relief" Sponsored by Representative John Piotti	This bill reforms the State's tax structure and reduces the burden of taxes on residents of the State. The bill contains the following provisions. Part A makes fundamental changes to simplify and reduce the burden of the State's income tax and create an income tax that is intended to be more beneficial to investment and economic growth in the State. The current structure of 4 tax brackets, personal exemptions and deductions is replaced by a flat rate of 6.5% on all taxable income. The progressivity of the current income tax is maintained through a household credit that alleviates the impact of the 6.5% rate on low-income and middle-income households. The alternative minimum tax on individuals is abolished. Part B broadens the sales tax base by including certain services, including certain amusement, entertainment and recreation services; installation, repair and maintenance services; personal property services; transportation and courier services; and long distance telephone service. Part B also changes the point of imposition of sales tax related to leased property from the sale of that property to the leasing business to the lease payments by the consumer. Part B	TAXATION	Dead- 6/12/2009	OPPOSE		5	X
1091- "An Act To Reduce the Cost of Health Insurance" Sponsored by Representative Jonathan McKane	This bill repeals the individual health insurance provisions relating to rating and reinsurance enacted as part of Public Law 2007, chapter 629 because the funding sources for those provisions were repealed by people's veto in November 2008. In their place, the bill makes the following changes to the individual and small group health insurance laws: 1. It amends guaranteed issuance and community rating for individual and small group health plans; and 2. It creates the Maine High-risk Reinsurance Pool Association. The purpose of the association is to provide reinsurance to spread the cost of high-risk individuals and small groups among all health insurers. The bill funds the high-risk reinsurance pool through an assessment on insurers.	INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	Dead- 5/5/2009	SUPPORT		1	
1109- "An Act To Prohibit the Reduction of Benefits under the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 for Certain Prior Injuries" Sponsored by Representative Thomas Watson	This bill is in response to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court's decision in Legassie v. Securitas, Inc., 2008 ME 43, 944 A.2d 495. The decision in that case authorized a reduction to an injured worker's wage replacement and medical benefits because of a previously settled workers' compensation claim. This bill specifies that reducing an injured worker's benefits because of a prior settled injury is direct apportionment against the employee and is prohibited. This bill also clarifies the applicability of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court's decision in Cust v. University of Maine, 2001 ME 29, 766 A.2d 566. This bill specifies that when an injured worker's permanent impairment rating under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 39-A, section 213, subsection 1-A is above the applicable threshold on account of a single injury or the sum of multiple injuries, all of the worker's weekly benefits under the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992 are exempt from the durational limit of Title 39-A, section 213, subsection 1.	LABOR	Dead- 4/8/2009	OPPOSE		5	
1148- "An Act To Designate Sales Tax Holiday Weekends" Sponsored by Representative Meredith Strang Burgess	This bill provides an exemption from the sales tax for all items sold on Columbus Day weekend in October. The bill also sets out exemptions to the sales tax holiday weekend. The bill requires the Director of the Bureau of Revenue Services within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to report to the State Controller the amount of sales tax unpaid, as well as revenue raised from personal and corporate income taxes and other sources as a result of the sales tax holiday weekend. The Bureau of Revenue Services and the Maine Merchants Association shall consult and present recommendations to the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation for 2 sales tax holiday weekends for the year 2010 and beyond. The Joint Standing Committee on Taxation has authority to submit legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 124th Legislature pertaining to the dates that are selected for the sales tax holiday	TAXATION	Dead- 6/9/2009	SUPPORT		3	
1185- "An Act To Require Cause for Employment Termination" Sponsored by Senator Margaret Conway	This bill enacts the Maine Employment Termination Act.	LABOR	Dead- 5/21/2009	OPPOSE		4	