

AIA, ME Chapter

<i>Bill#</i>	<i>Title (Sponsor)(Summary)(Link)</i>	<i>Comm</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Position (Date Time)</i>
110	An Act to Clarify Prepayment Requirements in Home Construction Contracts (McCreight)	IDEA	SAT Carry-over	
<p>This bill would clarify that a contractor must obtain informed consent from a homeowner or lessee in the event the initial down payment for a construction project is more than 1/3 of the total contract price, and requires a contractor to set forth a waiver from the requirement that an initial down payment not exceed 1/3 of the total contract price in writing, on a separate page included in the contract, signed by both the homeowner and the contractor. The bill would also require that the waiver document clearly state the initial down payment amount due.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 110</p>				
201	An Act To Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Promote Weatherization in the Buildings Sector by Extending the Sunset Date for the Historic Property Rehabilitation Tax Credit (Libby)	TAX	SAT Carry-over	
<p>This bill would extend the MHRTC to 2040, and was introduced by the MHRTC Coalition, including MEREDA.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 201</p>				
241	An Act to Support the Trades through a Tax Credit for Apprenticeship Programs (Curry)	TAX	SAT Carry-over	
<p>This bill would establish a tax credit for employers that employ an apprentice participating in an approved apprenticeship program in the amount of \$2,500 and provides for a partial credit if the employer employs a participating apprentice for fewer than 2,000 hours during the taxable year.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 241</p>				
463	An Act to Better House Maine Residents (Sylvester)	LH	Carry-over; Concept draft	TBD
<p>This bill is a concept draft, with no language. The summary states that the bill would “change certain laws to help the people of this State obtain housing.”</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 463</p>				
468	An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Labor and Housing (Slyvester)	LH	Carry-over; Concept draft	TBD
<p>This bill is a concept draft, with no language. The summary provides that the bill would “amend the laws governing labor and housing.”</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 468</p>				
473	An Act to Create the Maine Rental Assistance and Voucher Guarantee Program (Morales)	LH	SAT Carry-over	
<p>This bill would require MSHA to establish and administer the Maine Rental Assistance and Voucher Guarantee Program. The program would include a rental assistance component to assist individuals with the cost of rent and a rental voucher guarantee component to encourage landlords to work with the program and other rental assistance programs in the State. The bill would also create the Maine Rental Assistance and Voucher Guarantee Program Fund under the MSHA to carry out the program. The bill would include a general fund appropriation of \$8.5 million to fund the program in fiscal year 2021-2022 and fiscal year 2022-2023.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 473</p>				

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489	Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish a Right to a Healthy Environment (Maxmin)	ENR	Carry-over on unfinished business	
<p>This bill would ask the voters to approve a change to the Constitution of Maine to include a provision on “environmental rights.” Specifically, the amendment would state that “the People of the State have a the right to a clean and health environment, including pure water, clean air and healthy ecosystems, and to the preservation of the natural, cultural, recreational, scenic and healthful qualities of the environment. The State may not infringe upon these rights by action or through the action of others. The State... shall serve as trustee of the natural resources of the State, among them its waters, air, flora, fauna, ecosystems and public lands. The State shall conserve, protect and maintain these resources for the benefit of all the people, including generations yet to come. The rights stated in this section are inherent, inalienable and indefeasible and are among those rights reserved to all people and are on par with other protected alienable rights.”</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 489</p>				
551	An Act to Accelerate Weatherization Efforts in the State (Kessler)	EUT	SAT Carry-over	
<p>This bill would allow Efficiency Maine Trust funds for conservation programs that help reduce energy costs for electricity consumers to be used toward weatherization efforts to achieve the weatherization of 17,500 homes and businesses by 2025 and 35,000 homes and businesses by 2030, including at least 1,000 units of housing for low-income individuals or households per year. It would also define the term “low-income” in the laws governing the trust.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 551</p>				
736	An Act to Enhance the Ecological Reserve System (Grohoski)	AGR	2/8/22 Voted - OTP-AM	TBD
<p>This bill is a concept draft, with no language. The summary states that the bill would assess the status of the ecological reserve system and consider changes that reflect the importance of the ecological reserve system for supporting wildlife, sequestering and storing carbon, providing scenic and recreational value and serving as long-term ecological research sites.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 736</p>				
1240	Resolve, To Review Barriers to Regional Solutions for Housing Choices (Vitelli)	LH	2/9/22 WS Held - Tabled	
<p>This resolve would direct the DECD Office of Community Development to conduct a review of barriers to regional solutions to making housing affordable, accessible, available, functional and compatible with strategies outlined in the December 2020 climate action plan of the Maine Climate Council. This bill would require the office to report to the Labor and Housing Commission by December 1, 2021.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 1240</p>				
1246	Resolve, To Study Best Practices and Different Area Needs for Development of Affordable Homes and Expanding Home Ownership in Maine Communities (Gere)	LH	Special Study Table Carry-over	
<p>This resolve would create the Commission to Study Best Practices and Different Area Needs for Development of Affordable Homes and Expanding Home Ownership in Maine Communities, which would consist of 13 members of Legislators and other with interest or experience in affordable housing and financing in Maine. This bill would require the commission to report to the Labor and Housing Committee no later than December 7, 2022.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 1246</p>				

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1312	An Act to Remove Barriers to Accessory Dwelling Units and Allow Accessory Dwelling Units where Single-family Houses are Allowed (Geiger)	SLG	SAT Carry-over	
<p>This bill would require municipalities to allow one accessory dwelling unit to be included within or located on the same lot as a single-family dwelling unit. This bill would also prevent municipalities from imposing any of the following for accessory dwelling units: setback requirements on accessory dwelling units incorporated within an existing single-family dwelling unit; setback requirements of more than 5 feet for accessory dwelling units not included within a single-family dwelling unit; off-street parking requirements; separate sewer or water systems; or owner occupancy of one of the units unless one of the units is being used for short-terms or vacation rental. Finally, this bill would provide that: a municipality may not restrict use of one of the units on a lot as a short-term or vacation rental; a municipality may not require correction of a nonconforming use when an accessory dwelling unit is incorporated into an existing single-family dwelling unit or of an existing structure converted into an accessory dwelling unit (but building and fire safety codes may be required); a municipality's design standards for accessory dwelling units must be clear and concise; and, accessory dwelling units within historical preservation districts must comply with historical preservation standards.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 1312</p>				
1793	An Act To Support Statewide Economic Recovery through Strategic Investments (Roberts)	IDEA	2/3/22 Reported Out - OTP- AM/ONTP	Monitor
<p>This bill would authorize the Department of Economic and Community Development, through the Maine Economic Development Fund, to make strategic investments, through loans or direct equity investments, in economic development projects that support economic and business growth, rural manufacturing and industrial site redevelopment and implementation of a strategic plan.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 1793</p>				
1795	An Act To Update Statutory References to Building Code Standards for Public Improvements (Bryant)	SLG	WS 3/2/22 10:00 am www.mainelegislature.org	Support, testimony submission TBD
<p>This bill would eliminate references to building codes that are no longer in effect or have been superseded by the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. This bill would also apply the current Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code ventilation standards to buildings occupied by state employees. Finally, this bill would update references in regard to the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code from the Department of Economic and Community Development to the Department of Public Safety.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 1795</p>				
1809	An Act To Allow Exceptions to the Height Limitations under the Shoreland Zoning Laws (Brenner)	ENR	2/11/22 Reported Out - OTP- AM/ONTP	Monitor
<p>This bill would amend how the height of a new or existing principal or accessory structure, including a legally existing nonconforming structure, located in the shoreland zone is measured when the structure is also located in an area of special flood and there is a minimum elevation required for structures by a local floodplain management ordinance. This bill would specifically allow for an exception to shoreland zoning height requirements for legally existing nonconforming structures located in an area of special flood hazard in order to be consistent with a local floodplain management elevation requirement.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 1809</p>				

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1810	An Act Regarding Examinations and Applications for Professional Engineers and Engineer-interns (Curry) This bill moves from the section of law related to examinations to the section related to applications the requirement that an applicant for licensure as a professional engineer or certification as an engineer-intern reapply if the application process is not completed within 5 years and updates language to clarify the requirement. It also removes the requirement that the application form must be furnished by the State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers. The bill also eliminates the requirement that an applicant complete a period of mandated engineering work experience before the applicant is allowed to sit for the principles and practices of engineering examinations. Click here for text of LD 1810	IDEA	1/27/22 Reported Out - OTP-AM	Monitor
1863	An Act To Allow Bars with an Occupancy of 30 or Fewer Persons To Have Only One Bathroom (Pouliot) This bill prohibits municipal building codes or other law from requiring an establishment that permits on-premises consumption of alcoholic beverages that has an occupancy of 30 or fewer persons to have more than one toilet facility. Click here for text of LD 1863	CRIM	2/9/22 Reported Out - ONTP	Monitor
1884	An Act to Create Affordable Agricultural Homesteads (Bickford) This bill would prohibit a municipality from requiring an income requirement as a condition for residential construction. This bill would also prohibit a municipality from requiring a condition of residential construction in an agricultural zone that is more restrictive than any condition on farmland under the State's farm tax law. Lastly, this bill would prohibit a municipality from requiring a minimum lot size for zones primarily used for agriculture that is more than twice the minimum lot size of the most restrictive residential zone in that municipality. Click ere for text of LD 1884	SLG	PH 2/14/22 10:00 am www.mainelegislature.org	Monitor
1895	An Act to Prohibit Invasion of Privacy on Private Property by Cameras (Deschambault) This bill would make illegal the intentional installation or use of any fixed device like a camera outside a private residence and its curtilage without the consent of the person entitled to privacy therein. Click here for text of LD 1895	JUD	2/1/22 Voted - Divided Report	Monitor
1935	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 60: New School Siting Approval, Portions of Chapter 61: State Board of Education Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects & Portions of Chapter 125 (Brennan) This resolve would provide for legislative review of portions of Chapter 60: New School Siting Approval, portions of Chapter 61: State Board of Education Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects and portions of Chapter 125: Basic School Approval Standards: Public Schools and School Administrative Units, major substantive rules of the Department of Education, State Board of Education. Click here for text of LD 1935	EDU	2/15/22 Voted - Divided Report	Monitor

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1940	An Act to Ensure That Building Codes Allow the Installation and Use of Products and Equipment That Use Certain Federally Regulated Refrigerants (Timberlake)	CRIM	2/7/22 Voted - OTP-AM	TBD
<p>This bill would amend the law regarding building codes to ensure that building codes, including the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code, may not prohibit the installation or use of any product or equipment regulated under Maine's hydrofluorocarbon use restrictions law that uses a refrigerant listed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency in regulations adopted pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act as acceptable, acceptable subject to use conditions or acceptable subject to narrowed use limits and is installed in accordance with any applicable conditions or limitations imposed by those regulations. This bill would also correct a numbering problem created by Public Law 2021, chapter 433 and Revisor's Report 2021, chapter 1 by reallocating to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 1615 the version of Title 38, section 1613 that was reallocated in Revisor's Report 2021, chapter 1.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 1940</p>				
1977	An Act to Require Registration by General Contractors for Home Improvement and Construction (Curry)	IDEA	WS 3/3/22 9:30 am www.mainelegislature.org	
<p>This bill would establish a mandatory registration process for residential construction contractors for the purpose of providing consumers an opportunity to confirm whether the contractor is operating legally, whether the contractor has certain insurances and whether the contractor has been subject to claims related to fraud, theft, deception, breach of contract and other violations that may have a bearing on the integrity of the contractor. Registration confers no assurance of competence.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 1977</p>				
1995	An Act To Make Supplemental Approps & Allocations for the Expenditures of State Govt, General Fund & Other Funds & To Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Govt. for the Fiscal Years Ending 6/30/22 & 6/30/23	APPROP	PH 3/1/22 9:30 am / PH 3/4/22 1:00 pm (EUT/AFA)	
<p>This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208 and Joint Order 2021, Senate Paper 620. This bill as emergency legislation proposes to make supplemental appropriations and allocations for the expenditures of State Government and to change certain provisions of the law necessary to the proper operations of State Government for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2023. The documents submitted by the Governor may be found here: https://legislature.maine.gov/11892.</p> <p>Click here for text of LD 1995</p>				