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*Summary of the*  
**128<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature**  
**2nd Regular Session**

*Prepared for:*

**American Council of Engineering Companies**

*All laws have an effective date of August 1, 2018, unless otherwise noted.*

Eaton  
Peabody  
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## Bonds

**LD [139](#)      **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Maine's Community Colleges**  
**Status: Carried Over****

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$15,000,000, will be used to strengthen and expand business and industry training, upgrade and renovate instructional technology facilities and laboratories at Maine's 7 community colleges in order to strengthen educational programming and workforce development and install energy efficiency upgrades across the system.

This bill has been carried over into a possible special session.

**LD [178](#)      **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Provide Jobs, Improve Road Infrastructure and Protect Water Resources**  
**Status: Carried Over****

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$5,000,000, will be used to provide funding for cost sharing of at least 50% on projects that correct downstream pollution issues and provide contractor jobs and public safety improvements through improved storm water management and improved water quality.

This bill has been carried over into a possible special session.

**LD [318](#)      **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Support Economic Development with High-Resolution Geospatial Data**  
**Status: Carried Over****

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$6,000,000, will be used to provide partnership funds and matching grants for geospatial data acquisition to communities that are creating or improving digital parcel maps to accurately identify existing boundaries and land use, identify potential community development areas and protect environmental resources.

This bill has been carried over into a possible special session.

**LD [376](#)      **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for a New Engineering Design and Education Center at the University of Maine**  
**Status: Dead****

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$80,000,000, will be used for the construction of an engineering design and education center at the University of Maine in Orono.

This bill is dead.

**LD [638](#)      **An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Transportation Projects****

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$50,000,000, will be used for reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities or equipment related to ports, harbors, marine

transportation, aviation, freight and passenger railroads, transit and bicycle and pedestrian facilities, matching an estimated \$55,000,000 in federal and other funds.

This bill has been carried over into a possible special session.

**LD [836](#)      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Build Maine's Workforce Development Capacity by Modernizing and Improving the Facilities and Infrastructure of Maine's Public Universities**  
**Status: Carried Over**

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$75,000,000, will be used to build Maine's workforce development capacity by modernizing and improving the facilities and infrastructure of Maine's public universities. The bill also provides \$2,500,000 in debt service beginning in fiscal year 2018-19 to make critical information technology investments in wireless communications and classrooms across the University of Maine System.

This bill has been carried over into a possible special session.

**LD [1331](#)      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Recapitalize the School Revolving Renovation Fund**  
**Status: Carried Over**

This bill does the following for the purpose of increasing the revenue to the Highway Fund.

1. It increases by \$3 to \$10 certain fees charged by the Secretary of State for driver's license examinations, temporary license plates, nondriver identification cards, issuance of duplicate registrations, titles, licenses and nondriver identification cards and transfers of registrations.
2. It imposes a \$200 surcharge, dedicated to the Highway Fund, on the registration of hybrid motor vehicles, battery-electric motor vehicles and hydrogen fuel cell motor vehicles.
3. It requires 10% of the sales tax imposed on transportation-related items, such as motor vehicles and the products for the repair and maintenance of motor vehicles, such as motor oil, batteries and tires, to be transferred to the Highway Fund on a monthly basis.
4. It increases the tax imposed on motor vehicle fuel by 7¢ per gallon, to 36.5¢ per 28 gallon, beginning October 1, 2017.

This bill has been carried over to a possible special session.

**LD [1510](#)      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Wastewater Infrastructure Projects for Ratification by Voters in the June 2017 Election**  
**Status: Carried Over**

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$50,000,000, will be used to fund the replacement of malfunctioning septic systems, wastewater treatment facility planning, construction grants and hydrographic modeling in coastal watersheds, prioritizing areas with high-value shellfish resources, and assistance to homeowners whose homes are served by substandard or malfunctioning wastewater treatment systems.

This bill has been carried over to a possible special session.

**LD [1613](#)      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Assist in the Commercialization of Maine Products and Services**  
**Status: Carried Over**

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$50,000,000, will be used to further accelerate growth and capital investment in businesses in the State by leveraging private investment for the purpose of generating new revenue and providing new jobs.

This bill has been carried over to a possible special session.

**LD [1614](#)      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund the Maine Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Loan Program**  
**Status: Carried Over**

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$10,000,000, will be used by the Maine Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Loan Program within the Finance Authority of Maine to provide loans in amounts up to \$7,500 per year for a maximum of 5 years to selected students in this State pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees in the fields of science, computer science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

It has been carried over to a possible special session.

**LD [1815](#)      An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To improve Multimodal Facilities, Highways and Bridges**  
**Status: Carried Over**

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$100,000,000, will be used for construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities and equipment related to ports, harbors, marine transportation, freight and passenger railroads, aviation, transit and bicycle and pedestrian trails, matching an estimated \$137,000,000 in federal and other funds.

Status: This bill has been carried over to a possible special session.

## **Infrastructure**

**LD [1149](#)      An Act To Provide Revenue To Fix and Rebuild Maine's Infrastructure**  
**Status: Carried Over**

For the purpose of increasing the revenue to the Highway Fund, this bill:

1. Increases by \$3 to \$10 certain fees charged by the Secretary of State for driver's license examinations, temporary license plates, nondriver identification cards, issuance of duplicate registrations, titles, licenses and nondriver identification cards and transfers of registrations.
2. Imposes a \$200 surcharge, dedicated to the Highway Fund, on the registration of hybrid motor vehicles, battery-electric motor vehicles and hydrogen fuel cell motor vehicles.

3. Requires 10% of the sales tax imposed on transportation-related items, such as motor vehicles and the products for the repair and maintenance of motor vehicles, such as motor oil, batteries and tires, to be transferred to the Highway Fund on a monthly basis.
4. Increases the tax imposed on motor vehicle fuel by 7¢ per gallon, to 36.5¢ per gallon, beginning October 1, 2017.

It has been carried over to a possible special session.

**LD [1765](#)      An Act To Increase Revenue To Preserve the Integrity of Maine's Transportation Infrastructure  
Status: Dead**

This bill diverts 10% of the sales tax revenue on the sale of motor vehicles and motor vehicle-related items from the General Fund to the Highway Fund and 2% of that revenue from the General Fund to the Multimodal Transportation Fund.

This bill was ONTP in both chambers and is dead.

## **Permitting**

**LD [1810](#)      An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Expedited Permitting for Wind Energy Projects  
Status: Dead**

This bill would have amended the laws governing expedited permitting for wind energy development by changing the definition of "expedited permitting area" to mean specified places that are identified by rule and the eastern portion of Aroostook County, specifically described as the Town of St. Francis, St. John Plantation, the Town of Fort Kent, the Town of Wallagrass, the Town of Eagle Lake, Winterville Plantation, T14 R6 W.E.L.S., the Town of Portage Lake, Nashville Plantation, Garfield Plantation, T10 R6 W.E.L.S., Oxbow Plantation, the portion of Aroostook County east of those municipalities and also all municipalities in Aroostook County that are wholly located south of the northernmost extent of Penobscot County, excluding Cary Plantation and Molunkus Township.

The bill would have changed from 8 miles to 40 miles the farthest distance from a proposed expedited wind energy development for which a visual impact assessment for potentially affected scenic resources of state or national significance may be required.

Status: This bill died in non-concurrence.