

Maine Conservation Voters

# 2024 ENVIRONMENTAL SCORECARD

FOR MEMBERS OF THE 131ST MAINE LEGISLATURE



*Maine Conservation Voters is building a just, thriving future for all by acting on the climate crisis, protecting the environment, and safeguarding our democracy. We advocate for equitable policies, hold elected officials accountable, and win elections.*

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**On the cover:** bottom photo by Susan Young/Bangor Daily News



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[www.maineconservation.org](http://www.maineconservation.org)





# Welcome

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Dear Friends,

As we collectively move forward in our fight against climate change, every year seems to be marked by an alarming event—or several—that opens our eyes even wider and brings the stakes for our planet into greater focus. This winter we experienced three devastating extreme weather events between December 18 and January 13 that caused historic flooding, destroyed homes, roads, and bridges, and created an estimated \$90 million in damage to public infrastructure, with millions more to private homes, businesses, and property.

Sadly, these devastating events were a wake-up call to people across Maine that we need to accelerate the shift from a fossil fuel burning society to one that relies on clean, renewable energy to power our economy and our lives. We are facing a climate emergency and need to do more.

That is why holding our elected leaders accountable is more important than ever. Through the generous support of our treasured members, Maine Conservation Voters is proud to once again publish this annual Environmental Scorecard. Here you will see how each member of the State Senate and House of Representatives voted on environmental and democracy legislation passed during the 131st Legislature. We cover highlights and low points of the session and share which legislators are doing their part to address the climate crisis, advance environmental justice and equity, and protect the treasured natural resources that Mainers hold dear.

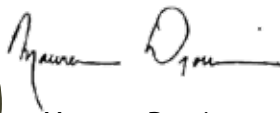
**This year, 86 lawmakers scored 100% on Maine's Environmental Scorecard, earning the title of Conservation Champion. Unfortunately, 56 policymakers scored ZERO on the Scorecard, voting against bills that would conserve the environment, protect our democracy, and build healthier communities.**

We are putting a powerful tool in your hands. Please use it. **Thank your legislators if they showed courage and took leadership to advance conservation and build momentum for an equitable clean energy transition – or express your disappointment if they didn't.** The Scorecard is also accessible online at [www.maineconservation.org/scorecard](http://www.maineconservation.org/scorecard).

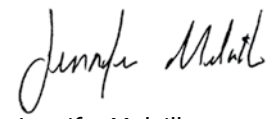
Thank you for your partnership in this important work!

Sincerely,



  
Maureen Drouin  
Executive Director



  
Jennifer Melville  
Board President

# Previously in the 131st Legislature



A group of MCV's partners, members, and supporters gathered at the State House for Conservation Lobby Day on May 18, 2023.

**T**he Maine State Legislature operates on a biennial schedule, meaning each legislative session lasts two years. The first regular session of the 131st Legislature, in 2023, stretched much longer than anticipated and saw significant wins for the environment and our democracy. This Environmental Scorecard tells the story of the entire 131st Legislature, including these bills scored in 2023:



## **LD 1895: An Act Regarding the Procurement of Energy from Offshore Wind Resources**

*Sponsored by Sen. Mark Lawrence*

LD 1895 launches a responsible and equitable offshore wind industry for Maine. It sets a procurement schedule for a goal of 3 GW of installed offshore wind energy by 2040; establishes strong labor standards for the installation of wind turbines and construction of a world-class offshore wind port in Maine; creates a framework for fairly and expeditiously permitting offshore wind port infrastructure; and centers equity and environmental justice. LD 1895 passed in both chambers and was signed into law by Governor Mills.



## **LD 1986: An Act Relating to Net Energy Billing and Distributed Solar and Energy Storage Systems**

*Sponsored by Sen. Mark Lawrence*

LD 1986 advances access to affordable clean energy. It prospectively reformed Maine's Net Energy Billing (NEB) program, which enables customers to offset their electricity bills with the solar power they generate. A conflicting proposal also advanced to the full Legislature, creating significant confusion before LD 1986 was finally passed in both chambers and signed into law by Governor Mills.



## **LD 894: An Act to Preserve Heating and Energy Choice by Prohibiting a Municipality from Prohibiting a Particular Energy System or Energy Distributor**

*Sponsored by Sen. Matthew Harrington*

Defeating LD 894 blocked the "Fossil Fuel Protection Act." It would have prevented Maine towns from passing ordinances that reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, from phasing out natural gas hookups in new construction to transitioning to more efficient, electrified heating. The Legislature rejected this "fossil fuel protection," upholding the home rule authority of towns to phase out fossil fuel infrastructure and increase the beneficial electrification of heating and transportation if they so choose.



### **LD 958: An Act to Expand Protections to Maine's Loons from Lead Poisoning by Prohibiting the Sale and Use of Certain Painted Lead Jigs**

*Sponsored by Rep. Allison Hepler*

LD 958 protects loons from lead poisoning. It closed a loophole in laws designed to protect loons from lead poisoning – one of the leading causes of death for adult loons in Maine – by prohibiting the sale and use of painted lead fishing tackle. (The sale and use of unpainted lead tackle has been illegal since 2017.) LD 958 was swiftly passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Mills.



### **LD 1365: An Act to Require Photograph Identification for Voting**

*Sponsored by Rep. Reagan Paul*

Defeating LD 1365 protects voting rights for eligible voters. It would have required voters to show a photo ID when voting, adding unnecessary barriers to Maine's secure and accessible elections and making it harder for some Mainers to vote, including seniors who don't drive and may not have a driver's license, people in rural areas, people of color, and younger voters. The Legislature affirmed a "Majority Ought Not to Pass" committee vote and rejected LD 1365.



### **LD 1518: An Act Regarding the Rights of Parents to Withdraw Their Children from Public School Classes or Activities That Include Certain Controversial Viewpoints**

*Sponsored by Rep. James Thorne*

Defeating LD 1518 helps safeguard democracy in the classroom. It would have limited what children may learn in school by defining discussions of race, color, sex, and national origin as "controversial" and allowing parents to withdraw their children temporarily from a class or school activity if, among other things, the parent believed the class might lead their child to adopt "controversial viewpoints." LD 1518 was swiftly defeated in the full Legislature.



### **LD 2004: An Act to Restore Access to Federal Laws Beneficial to the Wabanaki Nations**

*Sponsored by Speaker Rachel Talbot Ross*

LD 2004 would have restored access to Federal benefits for Wabanaki Nations. It would have allowed Wabanaki Nations to access federal laws retroactively and prospectively passed by Congress to benefit Indian Country by requiring that the tribes in Maine be specifically written out of federal legislation rather than written in as currently required because of the 1980 Settlement Act. The bill passed with two-thirds support in both chambers but was vetoed by Governor Mills.



*Scan here for more details  
about these bills and the full  
2023 Environmental Scorecard.*

# Joining the National Popular Vote Compact



## LD 1578: An Act to Adopt an Interstate Compact to Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote

*Sponsored by Rep. Arthur Bell*

This bill moves our country closer to choosing its president based on which candidate gets the most votes by having Maine join the National Popular Vote Compact. The nonpartisan compact works within the Electoral College and the U.S. Constitution and only goes into effect when states representing 270 electoral college votes – a majority of the national total – sign on to the agreement. National Popular Vote has been enacted into law in 17 states and Washington D.C., representing a total of 209 electoral votes. Should enough additional states join the compact, Maine's electoral college votes would be allocated to the presidential candidate that receives the most votes nationwide, further enshrining the principle of "one person, one vote."

### YES IS THE PRO DEMOCRACY VOTE

House Roll Call #453 April 2, 2024	Senate Roll Call #655 April 3, 2024
✓ 73	✓ 18
✗ 72	✗ 12
A 6	A 5



**135 REGISTRANTS**

for MCV's Lunch & Learn featuring

Will Hayward, League of Women Voters, and Chris Pearson, National Popular Vote



**314 EMAILS**

to legislators from constituents

### BEHIND THE ROLL CALL:

National Popular Vote (or NPV) was introduced in Maine at least five times, dating back to 2007, and finally passed this year. Its road was a rough one, leaving the Veterans and Legal Affairs Committee with a three-way committee vote – the majority of the committee (six) voted

*Ought Not to Pass*; five voted *Ought to Pass*; and the two Democratic Senators on the committee voted to send the issue to voters. In March the bill received a 74-67 first vote in the House and a 22-13 vote in the Senate. The enactment votes held in April are scored here. Democratic **Reps. Laura Supica, Art Bell, Jane Pringle, Morgan Reilly, Adam Lee, and Steve Moriarty** spoke on the House floor in favor of the bill. Rising to speak in the Senate were **Sen. Matt Pouliot**, the only Republican to support NPV, and **Sens. Mattie Daughtry and Nicole Grohoski**. Democratic leaders all worked to ensure NPV's passage. **Governor Janet Mills** let it become law without her signature on April 16.



Since then, a conservative activist and several Republican lawmakers filed a people's veto of the law with the Secretary of State, but failed to collect the 67,682 signatures required for the veto to appear on this November's ballot.



# Funding Maine Trails



## YES IS THE PRO ENVIRONMENT VOTE

House Roll Call	Senate Roll Call
NONE	#745 April 16, 2024
	✓ 29
	✗ 3
	A 3



134 EMAILS  
to legislators  
from constituents

## LD 1156: An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Promote the Design, Development and Maintenance of Trails for Outdoor Recreation and Active Transportation

*Sponsored by Rep. Jessica Fay*

Maine has the potential to be a national leader with trails that support activities that contribute to our economy, environment, and quality of life. The Legislature agreed. They overwhelmingly passed a \$30 million bond that will go to voters in November to provide grants to nonprofits, municipalities, and other divisions of government statewide to support non-motorized, motorized, and multi-use trails. If approved at the polls, the bond can be used to leverage other sources of public and private funding.

## BEHIND THE ROLL CALL:

LD 1156 was introduced by **Rep. Jessica Fay** and championed by Maine's Environmental Priorities Coalition (EPC) in 2023, but was not taken up by the Appropriations Committee until this year. By then, support had expanded far beyond the EPC. Extensive organizing by the **Natural Resources Council of Maine (NRCM)** led

520 organizations, towns, and businesses to support the Trails Bond – enough to garner a unanimous vote from the Appropriations Committee. This was one of only three bonds approved this year and had the strongest support. **Sens. Rick Bennett and Russell Black** and **Reps. Dan Ankeles, Mark Blier, Jack Ducharme, Rachel Henderson and Sawin Millett** were champions. A roll call was not recorded in the House so there is no official record, but because bonds need two-thirds support to pass, votes were counted and the House vote was 133-6. The Senate roll call is reported here. **Governor Janet Mills** signed the bill into law on April 22 and Maine voters will determine whether to approve the bond on Election Day, November 5.



# Restoring Criminal Jurisdiction of Tribal Courts



## YES IS THE PRO ENVIRONMENT VOTE

House Roll Call #454 April 2, 2024	Senate Roll Call #668 April 9, 2024
✓ 82	✓ 29
✗ 62	✗ 5
A 7	A 1



## LD 2007: An Act Regarding the Criminal Jurisdiction of Tribal Courts and to Extend the Time for the Penobscot Nation to Certify Its Agreement to Public Law 2023, Chapter 369

*Sponsored by Speaker Rachel Talbot Ross*

LD 2007 represents the latest effort to amend the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act, recognized as unjustly restricting powers of Wabanaki Nations to self-govern and impeding economic development both within Wabanaki communities and the surrounding areas. As originally introduced last year, LD 2007 was a much more comprehensive bill that would have included many provisions towards self determination for the tribes in Maine. The revised version of LD 2007 reflects the engagement of leaders of the Wabanaki Nations with the attorney general's office, the governor's office, the Judiciary Committee, bill sponsor **House Speaker Rachel Talbot Ross**, and its bipartisan co-sponsors to find common ground on the important issue of criminal jurisdiction — a foundational aspect of self-governance for tribal nations. The bill restores jurisdiction over certain criminal offenses to tribal jurisdiction and creates concurrent jurisdiction between tribal and state courts. It also recognizes the exclusive authority of the Penobscot Nation to regulate drinking water, similar to the authority gained by the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Sipayik in legislation passed in 2022.

## BEHIND THE ROLL CALL:

Three consecutive Maine legislatures have considered bills incorporating the largely consensus recommendations of the 2019 Bipartisan Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act. In the words of **Penobscot Nation Tribal Ambassador Maulian Bryant**, "While [LD 2007] handles one subject area of those recommendations, criminal jurisdiction is highly

significant to our nations and our people. Having this expanded jurisdiction helps our communities protect our people and enhance our peace, prosperity, and safety."

The Judiciary Committee heard hundreds of supportive testimonies during its public hearing and the majority of committee members voted the bill *Ought to Pass as Amended*. One committee member – **Rep. Jennifer Poirer** – spoke







Drumming in the Hall of Flags for the 2023 Wabanaki Alliance Lobby Day in support of tribal sovereignty. Drummers: Passamaquoddy Tribal Representative Aaron Dana (facing viewer), then clockwise Wambli Martinez, Amuwez Dana and Nicholas Paul.

*"The signing of this bill on Earth Day is a good reminder that robust and collaborative relationships between tribal and state governments is a proven and tested way to heal and serve our shared Mother, the Earth. We remain hopeful and we remain focused on this journey of restoration and change."*

—Penobscot Nation  
Tribal Ambassador and  
Wabanaki Alliance  
Board President  
Maulian Bryant

strongly against the bill in a floor speech that **Ambassador Bryant** and **Penobscot Nation Chief Kirk Francis** called incorrect and harmful in a *Bangor Daily News* op-ed: "Whether knowingly or not, the speech casts doubt on the integrity of our tribal court, social services department, tribal administration, tribal council and the tribal citizens who trust and make use of these services or are employed by them."

Unfortunately, Rep. Poirer swayed most of her Republican colleagues to vote against LD 2007. **Rep. Mark Babin** was the only Republican lawmaker to support the bill in the House on the initial vote, but did not vote for enactment of the bill. Republican **Reps. Amanda Collamore** and **Daniel Newman** did vote for the bill upon enactment. Most of the Senate Republicans voted for LD 2007. The exceptions were: **Sens. Russell Black, Stacey Guerin, Lisa Keim, Peter Lyford, and Jeff Timberlake**. All Democrats and Independents in both chambers voted for the bill and **Governor Janet Mills** signed it into law on April 22, Earth Day.

**To learn more about Wabanaki history and tribal sovereignty, and to sign up for the Wabanaki Alliance's email list, go to [WabanakiAlliance.com](https://WabanakiAlliance.com).**

**You can also follow the Wabanaki Alliance on social media at:**



**@Wabanaki Alliance**



**@wabanaki.alliance**



**@WabanakiinMaine**

# 2024 Senate Scorecard

- ✓ pro-environment vote
- ✗ anti-environment vote
- A absent
- \* not in office

DISTRICT		2023-2024 Score	Lifetime Score	2023								2024	
				Blocking Fossil Fuel Protection	Protecting Loons	Voting Rights	Blocking Censorship	Offshore Wind	Net Energy Billing	Fed. Benefits for Wabanaki Nations	Trails Bond	National Popular Vote	Tribal Criminal Justice Reform
				LD894	LD958	LD1365	LD1518	LD1895	LD1986	LD2004	LD1156	LD1578	LD2007
31	Donna <b>BAILEY</b> (D)	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Joseph <b>BALDACCI</b> (D)	90%	96%	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	Pinny <b>BEEBE-CENTER</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
18	Richard <b>BENNETT</b> (R)	50%	67%	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓
5	Russell <b>BLACK</b> (R)	14%	58%	✗	A	✗	A	A	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
20	Eric <b>BRAKEY</b> (R)	10%	23%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
30	Stacy <b>BRENNER</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
29	Anne <b>CARNEY</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓
28	Benjamin <b>CHIPMAN</b> (D)	100%	99%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	Glenn <b>CURRY</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
23	Matthea <b>DAUGHTRY</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27	Jill <b>DUSON</b> (D)	89%	89%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
3	Bradlee <b>FARRIN</b> (R)	0%	38%	A	A	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	A
7	Nicole <b>GROHOSKI</b> (D)	89%	96%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Stacey <b>GUERIN</b> (R)	13%	25%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✓	A	✗
33	Matthew <b>HARRINGTON</b> (R)	40%	36%	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓
14	Craig <b>HICKMAN</b> (D)	90%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
32	Henry <b>INGWERSEN</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1	Troy <b>JACKSON</b> (D)	90%	86%	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
19	Lisa <b>KEIM</b> (R)	14%	49%	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	A	A	✓	✗	✗
16	David <b>LAFOUNTAIN</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	A	A	✓
35	Mark <b>LAWRENCE</b> (D)	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
22	James <b>LIBBY</b> (R)	40%	40%	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓
10	Peter <b>LYFORD</b> (R)	0%	16%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	A	✗
6	Marianne <b>MOORE</b> (R)	30%	43%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓
26	Timothy <b>NANGLE</b> (D)	90%	90%	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
25	Teresa <b>PIERCE</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓
15	Matthew <b>POULIOT</b> (R)	50%	55%	✓	✓	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	A	✓	✓
34	Joseph <b>RAFFERTY</b> (D)	90%	95%	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
13	Cameron <b>RENY</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
21	Margaret <b>ROTUNDO</b> (D)	90%	98%	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Harold <b>STEWART</b> (R)	33%	42%	✗	✓	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓
17	Jeffrey <b>TIMBERLAKE</b> (R)	10%	18%	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
8	Michael <b>TIPPING</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
24	Eloise <b>VITELLI</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

# 2024 House Scorecard

- ✓ pro-environment vote
- ✗ anti-environment vote
- A absent
- \* not in office

DISTRICT

	2023-2024 Score	Lifetime Score	2023							2024	
			Blocking Fossil Fuel Protection LD894	Protecting Loons LD958	Voting Rights LD1365	Blocking Censorship LD1518	Offshore Wind LD1895	Net Energy Billing LD1986	Fed. Benefits for Wabanaki Nations LD2004	National Popular Vote LD1578	Tribal Criminal Justice Reform LD2007
95 Mana <b>ABDI</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
144 Jeffrey <b>ADAMS</b> (R)	0%	0%	A	✗	✗	✗	A	A	A	✗	✗
2 Roger <b>ALBERT</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	A	✗	✗	A	A	✗	✗	✗
79 John <b>ANDREWS</b> (R)	14%	17%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	A	✓	✗	✗
100 Daniel <b>ANKELES</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
104 Amy <b>ARATA</b> (R)	0%	29%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
6 Donald <b>ARDELL</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
101 Poppy <b>ARFORD</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3 Mark <b>BABIN</b> (R)	25%	25%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✓	✗	✓
106 Barbara <b>BAGSHAW</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	A	✗	✗	✗
122 Matthew <b>BECK</b> (D)	100%	100%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	✓	✓
103 Arthur <b>BELL</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
138 Mark <b>BLIER</b> (R)	0%	26%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
87 David <b>BOYER</b> (R)	11%	11%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
109 James <b>BOYLE</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	A	✓	A	A	✓	✓	A	A
61 Richard <b>BRADSTREET</b> (R)	0%	24%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗
115 Michael <b>BRENNAN</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
60 William <b>BRIDGEO</b> (D)	89%	89%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
19 Richard <b>CAMPBELL</b> (R)	0%	16%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
137 Nathan <b>CARLOW</b> (R)	0%	30%	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
18 Meldon <b>CARMICHAEL</b> (R)	0%	25%	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
94 Kristen <b>CLOUTIER</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
52 Sally <b>CLUCHEY</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
68 Amanda <b>COLLAMORE</b> (R)	25%	29%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✓	✗	✓
114 Benjamin <b>COLLINGS</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
130 Lynn <b>COPELAND</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
33 Danny <b>COSTAIN</b> (R)	0%	16%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗
46 Lydia <b>CRAFTS</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
93 Margaret <b>CRAVEN</b> (D)	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
69 Dean <b>CRAY</b> (R)	13%	33%	✗	✓	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗
112 Edward <b>CROCKETT</b> (D)	88%	93%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✗	✓	✓
63 Scott <b>CYRWAY</b> (R)	0%	40%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
10 Kenneth <b>DAVIS</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
120 Deqa <b>DHALAC</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	A	✓	A	A	A	✓	✓	✓
26 James <b>DILL</b> (D)	89%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
39 Janice <b>DODGE</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
41 Victoria <b>DOUDERA</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
27 Gary <b>DRINKWATER</b> (R)	0%	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗



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DISTRICT

		2023-2024 Score	Lifetime Score	2023							2024	
				Blocking Fossil Fuel Protection	Protecting Loons	Voting Rights	Blocking Censorship	Offshore Wind	Net Energy Billing	Fed. Benefits for Wabanaki Nations	National Popular Vote	Tribal Criminal Justice Reform
				LD894	LD958	LD1365	LD1518	LD1895	LD1986	LD2004	LD1578	LD2007
71	John <b>DUCHARME</b> (R)	0%	10%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
72	Larry <b>DUNPHY</b> (R)	0%	24%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
15	Holly <b>EATON</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	A	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	William <b>FAULKINGHAM</b> (R)	11%	18%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗
86	Jessica <b>FAY</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A
32	Steven <b>FOSTER</b> (R)	0%	7%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
143	Ann <b>FREDERICKS</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗
98	Joseph <b>GALLETTA</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	A	✗	✗	A	A	A	A	A
126	Andrew <b>GATTINE</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
42	Valli <b>GEIGER</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
134	Traci <b>GERE</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
28	Irene <b>GIFFORD</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗
99	Cheryl <b>GOLEK</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
105	Anne <b>GRAHAM</b> (D)	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
131	Lori <b>GRAMLICH</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
56	Randall <b>GREENWOOD</b> (R)	0%	16%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
34	Abigail <b>GRIFFIN</b> (R)	0%	12%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
4	Timothy <b>GUERRETTE</b> (R)	13%	13%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✓	✗	✗
36	David <b>HAGGAN</b> (R)	0%	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	A	✗	A	A
74	Randall <b>HALL</b> (R)	0%	23%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	A	✗	✗
57	Tavis <b>HASENFUS</b> (D)	88%	95%	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
78	Rachel <b>HENDERSON</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
49	Allison <b>HEPLER</b> (D)	100%	100%	A	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
145	Daniel <b>HOBBS</b> (D)	86%	93%	✗	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓
38	Benjamin <b>HYMES</b> (R)	13%	13%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✓	✗	✗
80	Caldwell <b>JACKSON</b> (R)	14%	14%	✗	✓	✗	A	A	✗	✗	✗	✗
51	Rebecca <b>JAUCH</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
29	Kathy <b>JAVNER</b> (R)	0%	8%	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
121	Christopher <b>KESSLER</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
111	Amy <b>KUHN</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
96	Michel <b>LAJOIE</b> (D)	100%	96%	A	A	A	A	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
75	Scott <b>LANDRY</b> (D)	100%	96%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A
141	Lucas <b>LANIGAN</b> (R)	40%	40%	✓	A	✗	✓	A	A	✗	✗	A
59	Raegan <b>LAROCHELLE</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
148	Thomas <b>LAVIGNE</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	A	✗	✗	A	A	✗	✗	✗
89	Adam <b>LEE</b> (D)	89%	89%	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
53	Michael <b>LEMELIN</b> (R)	0%	5%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗
90	Laurel <b>LIBBY</b> (R)	0%	5%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗

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DISTRICT

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				Blocking Fossil Fuel Protection LD894	Protecting Loons LD958	Voting Rights LD1365	Blocking Censorship LD1518	Offshore Wind LD1895	Net Energy Billing LD1986	Fed. Benefits for Wabanaki Nations LD2004	National Popular Vote LD1578	Tribal Criminal Justice Reform LD2007
113	Grayson <b>LOOKNER</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
76	Sheila <b>LYMAN</b> (R)	0%	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
64	Colleen <b>MADIGAN</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
133	Marc <b>MALON</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
97	Richard <b>MASON</b> (R)	0%	10%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
142	Anne-Marie <b>MASTRACCIO</b> (D)	67%	93%	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
151	Kristi <b>MATHIESON</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	A	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
43	Ann <b>MATLACK</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
150	Michele <b>MEYER</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
123	Rebecca <b>MILLETT</b> (D)	100%	98%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
81	Sawin <b>MILLETT</b> (R)	0%	35%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
16	Nina <b>MILLIKEN</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	A	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
54	Karen <b>MONTELL</b> (D)	89%	89%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
117	Matthew <b>MOONEN</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
110	Stephen <b>MORIARTY</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
91	Joshua <b>MORRIS</b> (R)	0%	14%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗
125	Kelly <b>MURPHY</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
82	Caleb <b>NESS</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
58	Daniel <b>NEWMAN</b> (R)	14%	35%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	A	✗	✓
66	Robert <b>NUTTING</b> (R)	0%	31%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
20	Kevin <b>O'CONNELL</b> (D)	100%	95%	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
129	Margaret <b>O'NEIL</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
25	Laurie <b>OSHER</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
140	Wayne <b>PARRY</b> (R)	0%	32%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
37	Reagan <b>PAUL</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗
50	Sean <b>PAULHUS</b> (D)	100%	94%	✓	✓	✓	✓	*	✓	A	*	*
31	Chad <b>PERKINS</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗
9	Anne <b>PERRY</b> (D)	100%	91%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
24	Joseph <b>PERRY</b> (D)	100%	86%	A	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
44	William <b>PLUECKER</b> (I)	89%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
70	Jennifer <b>POIRIER</b> (R)	0%	28%	✗	A	✗	✗	A	A	✗	✗	✗
47	Edward <b>POLEWARCZYK</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
85	Kimberly <b>POMERLEAU</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
107	Jane <b>PRINGLE</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓
8	Tracy <b>QUINT</b> (R)	0%	5%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
21	Ambureen <b>RANA</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
122	Lois Galgay <b>RECKITT</b> (D)	86%	97%	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	*	*
127	Morgan <b>RIELLY</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
83	Walter <b>RISEMAN</b> (I)	100%	100%	✓	A	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓

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149 Tiffany <b>ROBERTS</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	A	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓
23 Amy <b>ROEDER</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
67 Shelley <b>RUDNICKI</b> (R)	0%	8%	✗	A	✗	A	✗	A	A	✗	✗
146 Walter <b>RUNTE</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
17 Ronald <b>RUSSELL</b> (D)	89%	89%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
102 Melanie <b>SACHS</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
128 Suzanne <b>SALISBURY</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
136 Heidi <b>SAMPSON</b> (R)	0%	24%	✗	A	✗	✗	A	A	✗	✗	✗
147 Holly <b>SARGENT</b> (D)	89%	89%	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
135 Daniel <b>SAYRE</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
77 Tammy <b>SCHMERSAL-BURGESS</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
55 Daniel <b>SHAGOURY</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
88 Kathleen <b>SHAW</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	A	✓	✓
132 Erin <b>SHEEHAN</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
45 Abden <b>SIMMONS</b> (R)	0%	19%	✗	*	✗	*	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
50 David <b>SINCLAIR</b> (D)	100%	100%	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	✓	✓
119 Charles <b>SKOLD</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
62 Katrina <b>SMITH</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	A	A	✗	✗
73 Michael <b>SOBOLESKI</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗
48 Holly <b>STOVER</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11 Tiffany <b>STROUT</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗
22 Laura <b>SUPICA</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	A	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
7 Gregory <b>SWALLOW</b> (R)	11%	13%	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
118 Rachel <b>TALBOT ROSS</b> (D)	100%	97%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
108 Maureen <b>TERRY</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1 Austin <b>THERIAULT</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	A	A	✗	✗
35 James <b>THORNE</b> (R)	11%	18%	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
5 Joseph <b>UNDERWOOD</b> (R)	0%	16%	✗	A	✗	✗	A	✗	✗	✗	✗
84 Mark <b>WALKER</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
124 Sophia <b>WARREN</b> (D)	100%	95%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
65 Bruce <b>WHITE</b> (D)	88%	96%	✗	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓
30 James <b>WHITE</b> (R)	0%	0%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
14 Lynne <b>WILLIAMS</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	A
92 Stephen <b>WOOD</b> (R)	0%	27%	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
139 David <b>WOODSOME</b> (R)	11%	51%	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
13 James <b>WORTH</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓
116 Samuel <b>ZAGER</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
40 Stanley Paige <b>ZEIGLER</b> (D)	100%	100%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



## 2023-2024 Senate Honor Roll

100%	Donna <b>Bailey</b> (D)	89%	Nicole <b>Grohoski</b> (D)	100%	Teresa <b>Pierce</b> (D)
90%	Joseph <b>Baldacci</b> (D)	90%	Craig <b>Hickman</b> (D)	90%	Joseph <b>Rafferty</b> (R)
100%	Pinny <b>Beebe-Center</b> (D)	100%	Henry <b>Ingwersen</b> (D)	100%	Cameron <b>Reny</b> (D)
100%	Stacy <b>Brenner</b> (D)	90%	Troy <b>Jackson</b> (D)	90%	Margaret <b>Rotundo</b> (D)
100%	Anne <b>Carney</b> (D)	100%	David <b>LaFountain</b> (D)	100%	Michael <b>Tipping</b> (D)
100%	Benjamin <b>Chipman</b> (D)	100%	Matthea <b>Daughtry</b> (D)	100%	Eloise <b>Vitelli</b> (D)
100%	Glenn <b>Curry</b> (D)	100%	Mark <b>Lawrence</b> (D)		
89%	Jill <b>Duson</b> (D)	90%	Timothy <b>Nangle</b> (D)		

## 2023-2024 House Honor Roll

100%	Mana <b>Abdi</b> (D)	100%	Allison <b>Hepler</b> (D)	100%	Jane <b>Pringle</b> (D)
100%	Daniel <b>Ankeles</b> (D)	100%	Rebecca <b>Jauch</b> (D)	100%	Ambureen <b>Rana</b> (D)
100%	Poppy <b>Arford</b> (D)	100%	Christopher <b>Kessler</b> (D)	100%	Morgan <b>Rielly</b> (D)
100%	Matthew <b>Beck</b> (D)	100%	Amy <b>Kuhn</b> (D)	100%	Walter <b>Riseman</b> (D)
100%	Arthur <b>Bell</b> (D)	100%	Michel <b>Lajoie</b> (D)	100%	Tiffany <b>Roberts</b> (D)
100%	James <b>Boyle</b> (D)	100%	Scott <b>Landry</b> (D)	100%	Amy <b>Roeder</b> (D)
100%	Michael <b>Brennan</b> (D)	100%	Raegan <b>LaRochelle</b> (D)	100%	Walter <b>Runte</b> (D)
100%	Kristen <b>Cloutier</b> (D)	100%	Grayson <b>Lookner</b> (D)	100%	Melanie <b>Sachs</b> (D)
100%	Sally <b>Cluchey</b> (D)	100%	Colleen <b>Madigan</b> (D)	100%	Suzanne <b>Salisbury</b> (D)
100%	Benjamin <b>Collings</b> (D)	100%	Marc <b>Malon</b> (D)	100%	Daniel <b>Sayre</b> (D)
100%	Lynn <b>Copeland</b> (D)	100%	Kristi <b>Mathieson</b> (D)	100%	Daniel <b>Shagoury</b> (D)
100%	Lydia <b>Crafts</b> (D)	100%	Ann <b>Matlack</b> (D)	100%	Kathleen <b>Shaw</b> (D)
100%	Margaret <b>Craven</b> (D)	100%	Michele <b>Meyer</b> (D)	100%	Erin <b>Sheehan</b> (D)
100%	Deqa <b>Dhalac</b> (D)	100%	Rebecca <b>Millett</b> (D)	100%	David <b>Sinclair</b> (D)
100%	Janice <b>Dodge</b> (D)	100%	Nina <b>Milliken</b> (D)	100%	Charles <b>Skold</b> (D)
100%	Victoria <b>Doudera</b> (D)	100%	Matthew <b>Moonen</b> (D)	100%	Holly <b>Stover</b> (D)
100%	Holly <b>Eaton</b> (D)	100%	Stephen <b>Moriarty</b> (D)	100%	Laura <b>Supica</b> (D)
100%	Jessica <b>Fay</b> (D)	100%	Kelly <b>Murphy</b> (D)	100%	Rachel <b>Talbot Ross</b> (D)
100%	Andrew <b>Gattine</b> (D)	100%	Kevin <b>O'Connell</b> (D)	100%	Maureen <b>Terry</b> (D)
100%	Valli <b>Geiger</b> (D)	100%	Margaret <b>O'Neil</b> (D)	100%	Sophia <b>Warren</b> (D)
100%	Traci <b>Gere</b> (D)	100%	Laurie <b>Osher</b> (D)	100%	Lynne <b>Williams</b> (D)
100%	Cheryl <b>Golek</b> (D)	100%	Sean <b>Paulhus</b> (D)	100%	James <b>Worth</b> (D)
100%	Anne <b>Graham</b> (D)	100%	Anne <b>Perry</b> (D)	100%	Samuel <b>Zager</b> (D)
100%	Lori <b>Gramlich</b> (D)	100%	Joseph <b>Perry</b> (D)	100%	Stanley <b>Zeigler</b> (D)

# Story of the Session



**B**y the time the 131st Legislature adjourned, lawmakers had considered almost 2,300 bills and passed 930 laws. In contrast to the first session in 2023 – which stretched until the last days of July and saw record successes for the environment and our democracy – the second session was short and challenging, with efforts to finalize funding-dependent legislation particularly demanding. The story of the session wouldn't be complete without these bills.

## Advancing Equity



### **LD 2001: Resolve, to Establish the African American and Wabanaki Studies Advisory Council and Provide Funding to Support African American Studies and Wabanaki Studies**

*Sponsored by Speaker Rachel Talbot Ross*

The landmark Wabanaki Studies Law has required schools to teach K-12 students in Maine about Wabanaki Nations since 2001, but a 2022 report by the ACLU of Maine, the Wabanaki Alliance, and the Abbe Museum concluded school districts have not consistently and appropriately done so. Consistent with the report's recommendations, **Rep. Laurie Osher** introduced a Wabanaki Studies bill to establish a content specialist position within the Department of Education and an advisory council to provide schools with resources and training to deliver the curricula. At the same time, **House Speaker Rachel Talbot Ross** introduced LD 2001 to serve the same purpose to African American studies, which have been a curriculum requirement since 2021. These separate proposals were combined into one bill to get both distinct courses of studies into school curricula effectively.

LD 2001 received support from the majority of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee, including all of the Democrats and Republican **Sen. James Libby**, with a 9-4 vote. The sponsors of both original bills – **Speaker Talbot Ross** and **Rep. Osher** – offered testimony during the public hearing in January. The bill received a 77-54 vote in the House, along strict party lines, and a 24-9 vote in the Senate. All Democrats and Republican **Sens. Libby, Rick Bennett, Marianne Moore, and Matt Pouliot** voted for LD 2001. The bill was placed on the Appropriations table and amended to reduce the fiscal note, but the Appropriations Committee did not meet to decide which bills would be funded until May 7 – after the statutory adjournment date of April 17. Accordingly, the Governor refused to approve any of the bills funded by Appropriations on that date, and LD 2001 died when the Legislature adjourned on May 10.



## Protecting the Environment, Public Health, and our Climate Future

Maine's Environmental Priorities Coalition (EPC) is an inclusive statewide alliance of 34 conservation, climate action, and public health organizations. Each year, we collectively identify a slate of policy priorities to act on the climate crisis, further environmental justice, protect land, water, and wildlife, and cultivate healthy Maine communities. In addition to the EPC priorities detailed in the 2023 Environmental Scorecard (including scored bills ✓ LD 1895, ✓ LD 894, and ✓ LD 1986) and those scored in 2024 (✓ LD 2007 and ✓ LD 1156), the common agenda included:

### ✓ **LD 1537: An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to the Prevention of Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Pollution**

*Sponsored by Sen. Henry Ingwersen*

The Legislature took up important legislation this session that would protect public health and the environment from persistent and dangerous toxic chemicals. These chemicals, collectively known as PFAS, have been a major focus of policymakers for several years, with Maine leading the charge in regulating this toxic chemical in land, water, and consumer products. The Legislature continued the trend this session by passing LD 1537, which amends Maine's first-in-the-world PFAS products law by phasing out PFAS in numerous consumer products outright and streamlining the reporting process to make it easier for Maine's Department of Environmental Protection to manage. **Governor Mills** signed the bill into law on April 16.

### ✗ **LD 2077: Resolve, to Study the Role of Natural Gas in an Equitable Clean Energy Transition for Maine** *Submitted by the Public Advocate and presented by Rep. Stanley Paige Zeigler*

LD 2077 would have stopped the expansion of new natural gas mains and lines to residential and commercial consumers by February 2025. This legislation met serious headwinds from the start, with the Governor's Energy Office, **Senate President Troy Jackson**, and gas utilities opposing the bill. After much negotiation, the bill became an agreed upon *Resolve, to Study the Role of Natural Gas in an Equitable Clean Energy Transition for Maine* directing the Public Utilities Commission and the Governor's Energy Office to evaluate the role of natural gas in Maine. It also would have created a Commission to Study the Establishment of a Just and Equitable Transition for Maine's Workforce Impacted by State Energy Policies and Goals. The Resolve was approved by the Legislative Council (comprised of majority and minority leaders from both chambers) but died on the study table. Like the Appropriations table, decisions about the study table did not take place until May 7 – after the statutory adjournment date – and **Governor Mills** refused to approve any of the bills addressed on that date. Accordingly, LD 2077 died when the Legislature adjourned on May 10.





### **LD 2261: An Act Regarding New Motor Vehicle Emissions Rules**

*Sponsored by Rep. Mike Soboleski*

LD 2261 was introduced as a way to block the Board of Environmental Protection (BEP)'s potential adoption of the Advanced Clean Cars II (ACC II) program, which requires automakers to gradually increase their sales of new electric vehicles. Policymakers, clean transportation advocates, and Maine's Clean Transportation Roadmap all identified ACC II as the best tool Maine has for slashing pollution from the transportation sector, which accounts for 49% of the state's total greenhouse gas emissions. Unlike "major substantive rules," which must go to the Legislature for approval, authority over "routine technical rules" like ACC II rests with the BEP. After BEP Commissioners indicated in a straw vote last fall that they would likely approve the program when they met on March 20, 2024, **Rep. Mike Soboleski** introduced LD 2261 to reclassify rules about emissions standards, deeming them "major substantive." The bill originally included a retroactive clause, which is why the Environmental Priorities Coalition opposed it. Then, the Environment and Natural Resources Committee struck that provision; the bill passed unanimously out of committee and was enacted in both chambers. Ironically, also on March 20th, the BEP voted down the Clean Car Rules by a vote of 4-2.



### **LD 1215: An Act to End the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products**

*Sponsored by Sen. Jill Duson*

LD 1215 would have ended the sale and marketing of flavored tobacco products, which the tobacco industry disproportionately markets to children and to populations already experiencing health disparities, including African Americans, LGBTQ+ people, and low-income populations. In addition to well-documented health harms, tobacco use degrades the environment: cigarette butts, which contain microplastics, are among the most frequently littered items worldwide, and e-cigarette waste introduces toxic chemicals and flammable lithium-ion batteries into waterways, soil, and wildlife. The

bill passed the Senate 18-16 but did not receive a House vote. House leadership did not believe the bill was ripe enough for a vote, and the bill died when the Legislature adjourned.



### **LD 993: An Act to Facilitate Stakeholder Input Regarding Forest Policy in Maine**

*Sponsored by Rep. Margaret O'Neil*

Forests in Maine absorb 60% of the state's annual greenhouse gas emissions, support the \$8.5 billion forest products industry, and contribute to the \$3 billion recreational sector. LD 993 would have created a Forest Advisory Board to convene diverse perspectives and advise the Maine Forest Service on policies to keep forests healthy, intact, and productive. LD 993 passed in 2023, was carried over to this year, and died on the Appropriations table.



### **LD 1621: An Act Regarding Environmental Justice**

*Sponsored by Speaker Rachel Talbot Ross*

LD 1621 would have supported meaningful community engagement and equitable decision-making to ensure that environmental policies are developed, implemented, and enforced in close partnership with the communities impacted "first and worst" by environmental and climate threats – those who have been historically underrepresented in policymaking. LD 1621 passed in 2023, was carried over to this year, and died on the Appropriations table.



Beth Ahearn, MCV's then-Director of Government Affairs, spoke at the bill signing for LD 2266, alongside Gov. Janet Mills.

## Updating Environmental Protections

Maine's environmental community also advocated for legislation that balances competing priorities: advancing offshore wind while protecting sand dunes, allowing lithium mining while protecting clean water, protecting public health and the environment from dangerous toxic chemicals, and helping combat invasive species.



### **LD 2266: An Act Regarding Restoration and Protection of Coastal Sand Dune Systems and Permitting of an Offshore Wind Terminal on Sears Island**

*Governor's bill presented by Rep. Gerry Runte*

Maine is committed to responsibly realizing the transformational energy, environmental, and economic benefits of floating offshore wind. In the first year of the 131st Legislature, passage of LD 1895 authorized the state to procure 3 GW of offshore wind energy by 2040, create good working conditions for Mainers, protect prime lobstering areas, and set standards for offshore wind port construction. In February 2024, Governor Mills announced Sears Island as the state's preferred site for an offshore wind port. This followed a year-plus, mediated stakeholder process that included joint fact-finding and concluded that Sears Island was the only potential site large enough to accommodate commercial wind and situated to require no dredging and ensure safe marine navigation. Choosing a preference will begin the federal and state permitting processes, which will include a full alternatives analysis. The proposed port would entirely fit in the 330 acre portion of the island specifically purchased for port development. The other 600 acres are – and will forever be – protected with a permanent conservation easement.

A small (0.4 acre) sand dune was discovered on Sears Island that would have prevented Sears Island from being considered for a port under Maine's sand dune regulations. **Governor Janet Mills** introduced LD 2266 to allow building the port, if it meets all other criteria and receives all required state and federal permits, despite the existence of the sand dune. **Rep. Gerry Runte** was the legislative sponsor. The legislation also calls for the permanent protection of a 10-acre parcel of land in the northwest corner of the island that includes a different sand dune. Finally, LD 2266 creates a \$1 million Sand Dune Restoration and Protection Fund available to towns with coastal sand dunes.

The Environment & Natural Resources Committee (ENR) voted strongly in favor of the bill, 11-2, yet the legislation failed on the initial vote in the House, 65-80, before passing in the Senate. **Rep. Runte** had

many conversations with his colleagues about the merits of the bill, as did **ENR Chair Sen. Stacy Brenner**. On the final vote in the House, the bill passed, 77-65. The legislation was incorporated into the enacted budget and ceased to exist as a stand alone bill.



**LD 1471: An Act to Amend Provisions of the Maine Metallic Mineral Mining Act**

*Department of Environmental Protection bill presented by Sen. Richard Bennett*

Since 2017, Maine's Metallic Mineral Mining Act has rightly banned open-pit mining in sulfide ore bodies (often the source of metals like copper and zinc) because open-pit techniques generate much more acid-producing mine waste in these types of deposits than underground mining techniques. However, Maine allows open-pit mining of gravel and granite, for example, which have a low risk of causing pollution. It is possible that other deposits – such as such as spodumene containing lithium, a mineral critical for batteries that store energy from renewable sources like wind and solar power – would also have a low risk of pollution. In the first year of the 131st Legislature, LD 1363 was enacted with bipartisan support to create a path for mining spodumene after thorough analysis. This year, the Legislature approved major substantive rule changes to Chapter 200, which contains Maine's mining rules, to detail requirements for that analysis. The Legislature's changes to Chapter 200 potentially allow open-pit mining for minerals such as spodumene, but only after extensive sampling and analysis shows that there are no co-occurring minerals that might generate acid or release toxic contaminants. The rule changes also require significant groundwater monitoring, once mining starts, to ensure that sampling results showing low risk were correct. The legislation was enacted in both chambers and signed into law as an emergency measure, meaning it took effect immediately.



**LD 1660: An Act to Ensure Proper Regulation of Chemical Plastic Processing**

*Sponsored by Sen. Anne Carney*

LD 1660 requires that any so-called "chemical recycling" facility must be regulated as solid waste and will not be considered recycling. Chemical recycling isn't recycling, but rather a waste-to-energy process that burns plastic, releasing dangerous toxic chemicals into the environment. LD 1660 passed the Legislature and went into effect without the Governor's signature.



**LD 1960: An Act to Support Farming in Maine by Extending the Deadline for Manufacturers of Products Containing Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances to Report on Those Products**

*Sponsored by Senate President Troy Jackson*

This bill would have exempted all pesticides from Maine's PFAS products law, allowing ongoing use of pesticides that contain the persistent, toxic chemicals known as PFAS and the continued contamination of Maine's finite farmland. Happily, this bill was defeated.



**LD 1342: An Act to Increase Funding for the Prevention and Control of Invasive Aquatic Species**

*Sponsored by Rep. Walter Riseman*

This lake protection bill increased the cost of the "Preserve Maine Waters" sticker, raising additional revenue to help combat aquatic invasive species. The Inland Fisheries & Wildlife Committee passed the bill unanimously in committee; it went through both chambers without debate and became law without the Governor's signature.



**LD 2135: Resolve, Regarding the Operation and Future Capacity of State-owned Landfills**

*Sponsored by Rep. James Dill*

Unfortunately, a bill that would have required that the operator of the Juniper Ridge Landfill treat landfill leachate for PFAS before sending it to a wastewater treatment facility was vetoed by **Governor Mills**. LD 2135 would have helped protect the Penobscot River along with surrounding communities, including the Penobscot Nation, from further PFAS contamination.





## Climate Resilience Takes Center Stage

In 2020, Maine launched an ambitious four-year plan for climate action: *Maine Won't Wait*. Since then, lawmakers have introduced legislation to set the plan's goals and strategies in statute, and the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future, the Governor's Energy Office, and state agencies including the Department of Environmental Protection have worked to implement its many initiatives.

This year, work began to update the plan with the overarching goal of meeting the climate crisis at the scale that science and justice demand. At the kickoff meeting in September 2023, members of the Maine Climate Council – including scientists, industry leaders, bipartisan local and state officials, and engaged community members – pledged to make sure the updated plan is **bold, ambitious, equitable, and actionable**.

The Climate Council added another top priority for the plan in the wake of three unprecedented winter storms that caused more than \$90 million in damage to public infrastructure, with millions more to private homes, businesses, and property: **resilience**.



MCV's Kathleen Meil presented recommendations from the Buildings, Infrastructure, and Housing Working Group that she co-chairs.

As the Climate Council's six sector-specific working groups and two cross-cutting issue groups worked to emphasize resilience across the recommendations delivered to the full Climate Council in June, policymakers advanced community resilience through legislation, executive order, and strategic investment of historic levels of federal funding.



### **LD 2030: An Act to Amend the Natural Resources Protection Act to Enhance the State's Ability to Respond to and Prepare for Significant Flood Events and Storm Surge**

*Maine Department of Environmental Protection bill introduced by Rep. Peter Lyford*

Maine made it easier to build back better by giving impacted property owners the flexibility to adapt to changing climate conditions as they repair or replace wharfs, docks, and piers damaged in the January storms. LD 2030 allows rebuilt structures to be four feet higher than previously permitted and fast-tracks those permits by waiving review under the Natural Resources Protection Act. Property owners must still follow applicable regulations. The legislation was enacted in both chambers and signed into law as an emergency measure, meaning it took effect immediately.



### **LD 1934: Resolve, to Improve the Coordination and Delivery of Planning Grants and Technical Assistance to Communities in Maine**

*Sponsored by Rep. Melanie Sachs*

Signed into law in June 2023, LD 1934 directed the **Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future** (GOPIF) to review opportunities and propose structural changes to provide coordinated and efficient technical assistance and funding in partnership with communities across Maine. In a report delivered to the **State and Local Government Committee** in December, GOPIF recommended reorganizing existing state programs in three areas – land use planning, climate resilience, and housing planning – into a new standalone Office of Community Affairs. The 2024 supplemental budget passed the new office into law and created the director position; the next biennial budget is expected to further consolidate staff and programs that serve municipalities into the Office of Community Affairs.



### **Executive Order 5: An Order to Lead by Example in State Owned and Leased Buildings**

Maine's Lead by Example Initiative recognizes that energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainability measures, and green building materials can help meet the state's emissions reductions while saving taxpayer dollars, building healthier work environments, investing in Maine's economy, and inspiring others to take action. With Executive Order 5, **Governor Mills** accelerated the state's leadership and ambition, providing a pathway to statewide building decarbonization.



### **Executive Order 8: An Order Establishing the Maine Infrastructure Rebuilding and Resilience Commission**

**Governor Mills** created the Infrastructure Rebuilding and Resilience Commission to review and evaluate Maine's response to the severe storms of December 2023 and January 2024; identify crucial areas for near-term investment and policy needs; and develop the state's first long-term infrastructure plan to ensure that Maine is ready for the harsh storms ahead. The Commission will deliver its first report on near-term priorities by November 2024, followed by a long-term resilience plan for Maine in May 2025.



### **Storm Relief in the Supplemental Budget**

Governor Mills proposed and the Legislature approved \$60 million to support infrastructure and economic resilience from damage due to the storms.



### **Growing the Community Resilience Partnership**

Thanks to additional funding – including \$5 million in the supplemental budget – more than 225 communities in Maine are now participating in the Community Resilience Partnership, a program recommended by *Maine Won't Wait* to give towns, cities, and tribal governments support to evaluate and act on local climate priorities.





The Northern Lights were visible across much of Maine on May 10, 2024.

## Federal Climate Funding

Maine has access to more than a billion dollars of federal resources for climate action from the transformational Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act – together the largest investments the country has ever made to address climate change. This includes:

- **\$62 million** to expand clean energy to communities across Maine through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Solar for All program.
- **\$69 million** to protect communities, the environment, and working waterfronts in Maine from extreme storms, flooding, and rising sea levels through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) highly competitive Climate Resilience Grant Challenge.
- **Up to \$72 million** to advance heat pump deployment through the New England Heat Pump Accelerator, a multi-state proposal awarded \$450 million through EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program. The award will support the goal of installing another 175,000 heat pumps in Maine by 2027 – and another 405,000 heat pumps across the five New England states.
- **\$10 million** to support the installation of 675 high-efficiency heat pump systems in rural mobile and manufactured homes and expand workforce training for local installers to do the work. The award follows a pilot program that retrofitted whole-home heat pumps into the existing ductwork of mobile and manufactured homes. About 65,000 Maine households live in mobile or manufactured homes.
- **\$6.6 million** to increase electrical grid resistance to better withstand extreme storms while enhancing clean energy deployment and job opportunities. When combined with matching funds provided by recipients, the awards will support projects in six Maine communities, including creation of a microgrid on Indian Island to help the Penobscot Nation achieve energy sovereignty.



- **\$23.6 million** to expand Maine's electric vehicle charging infrastructure, including \$15 million from the USDOT Charging and Fueling Infrastructure grant program and \$5.7 million from the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program. Maine is the fifth state nationally to have NEVI-funded charging stations come online, and an additional 17 new high-speed charging stations will be installed in the coming year.
- **\$10.5 million** to support four critical climate resilience and wildlife protection projects, including resilient restoration of Scarborough Marsh, replacement of aging infrastructure culverts in Brunswick and Perry, and conservation of 18 acres of vulnerable coastal marshland in Wells.
- **\$7.7 million** to purchase 38 clean school buses in 15 school districts across Maine. Nationally, the Clean School Bus Program provides an unprecedented \$5 billion of funding to transform the nation's fleet of school buses from older, diesel-fueled school buses, which have been linked to asthma and other conditions that harm the health of students and surrounding communities, to electric buses, which produce zero tailpipe emissions, as well as propane and compressed natural gas (CNG) buses, which produce lower tailpipe emissions compared to their older diesel predecessors.
- **\$4.3 million** in Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) awards to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses purchase and install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements.



## Mainers' Guide to Climate Incentives

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) invests over \$350 billion to help fight the causes and impacts of climate change. Tax credits, rebates, and other incentives directly help individuals and businesses transition to cleaner technologies, from electric cars to heat pumps to rooftop solar panels. Maine people are also eligible for many cost-saving rebates from Efficiency Maine. Scan here for a summary of current incentives and tax credits available to Mainers through federal and state programs. (Programs may change, so please check for updated information before making any purchasing decisions.)





## *Thank you, Beth Ahearn! Welcome, Cathy Breen!*

**A**t the end of the 131<sup>st</sup> Legislature, we said goodbye to our retiring Director of Government Affairs Beth Ahearn.

In her 14 years at Maine Conservation Voters, Beth was a force for protecting the environment, acting on the climate crisis, and safeguarding our democracy. She oversaw many of the Environmental Priorities Coalition's biggest victories like restoring alewives on the St. Croix River, passing the innovative Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging law, funding the Land for Maine's Future program, and advancing a suite of climate change policies that established the Climate Council, ensures 80% renewable energy by 2030 with a goal of 100% by 2050, reduces carbon pollution by 80% by 2050, and jumpstarts responsible offshore wind development with a procurement schedule for 3 GW of installed offshore wind by 2040.

Her combination of passion, humor, conviction, hard work, integrity, loyalty, and generous nature has endeared her to so many with whom she has worked.



Beth's successor, **Cathy Breen, brings impressive experience in politics and policymaking to her role.** Cathy is a former state senator who chaired the Legislature's Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee and served on the Environment and Natural Resources Committee. We're so excited to have Cathy on board – you'll be hearing a lot from her in the next legislative session!



SENATE



**Ben  
Chipman**  
99%



**Troy  
Jackson**  
86%



**David  
LaFountain**  
100%



**Eloise  
Vitelli**  
100%

HOUSE



**Ben  
Collings**  
100%



**Jessica  
Fay**  
100%



**Dan  
Hobbs**  
93%



**Rebecca  
Jauch**  
100%



**Mike  
Lajoie**  
96%



**Raegan  
LaRochelle**  
100%



**Colleen  
Madigan**  
100%



**Rebecca  
Millett**  
100%



**Maggie  
O'Neil**  
100%



**Anne  
Perry**  
91%



**Joe  
Perry**  
86%



**Walter  
Riseman**  
100%



**Kathy  
Shaw**  
100%



**Erin  
Sheehan**  
100%



**Rachel  
Talbot-Ross**  
100%



**Maureen  
Terry**  
100%



**Bruce  
White**  
96%



**Lynne  
Williams**  
100%



**Paige  
Zeigler**  
100%

In Memoriam



**Lois  
Galgay Reckitt**  
97%  
(1944-2023)





*"MCV engages deeply and meaningfully in Augusta on issues that aren't far-off in the future or on the other side of the world but are impacting us right here, right now in Maine. Whether it's coastal flooding and storms, the warming Gulf of Maine, or record temperatures and ecological changes, MCV is fighting to protect our way of life and to advance climate justice. It's work that truly matters and has an impact now."*

—Marpheen Chann  
**MCV Board Member**  
Portland, ME



*"In our vastly changing world, we require reliable and up to date information we can trust as we create the vision of a healthy and resilient future for Maine and all who call it home. MCV provides research and data for current and developing issues so that we can speak through our votes and make our collective voice loud and strong. I choose to support systems that empower us so that all may prosper and thrive. Thank you, MCV!"*

—Satya Khalsa  
**MCV Member and Kennebec Friend**  
Franklin, ME

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