

Shaded LDs have been voted on by the Committee

12/11/15

**TAXATION COMMITTEE**

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**BILLS CARRIED OVER FROM THE 1<sup>ST</sup> REG SESSION**

LD	LR	PH	WS	SPONSOR	TITLE	SUMMARY (Summaries may not reflect content of most recent committee action)	COMM ACTION	FISCAL IMPACT <sup>1</sup>	
								FY16	FY17
49	186	2/11	4/8 4/22	Verow	An Act To Exempt from Excise Tax Certain Vehicles Used by Persons with a Disability	<p><b>Carried over from 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session:</b></p> <p>Provides a <u>motor vehicle excise tax</u> exemption for motor vehicles owned and designed for use by a person with a disability.</p> <p><u>Current law</u> provides exemptions from the <u>sales tax</u> and <u>motor vehicle excise tax</u> for adaptive <u>equipment</u> installed on a vehicle to make it operable by or accessible to a disabled person</p> <p>WS 2/25 ONTP motion was tabled for subcommittee to work on options (Libby, Tepler)</p> <p>4/22 Voted to carry over to 2<sup>nd</sup> Reg Subcommittee working with MMA to evaluate fiscal impact on municipalities</p>	CO	MVET No state fiscal impact  unknown municipal impact	MVET No state fiscal impact  unknown municipal impact
646	1562	4/15	4/27	Libby	An Act To Provide Incentives for Municipal Cooperation and Shared Services	<p><b>Carried over from 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session:</b></p> <p><u>Current law</u> allows municipalities, counties and school administrative units to enter into cooperative agreements to perform authorized governmental actions jointly, excluding legislative powers, taxing authority or eminent domain.</p> <p>The <u>original bill</u> provides an incentive for interlocal cooperative agreements by sheltering a portion of the cooperating municipalities' equalized valuation dedicated to the financial support of the joint services. Sheltering of value would be likely to increase the cooperating municipalities' share of General Purpose Aid to local schools and municipal revenue sharing and reduce the participating municipalities' share of county</p>	CO		

<sup>1</sup> . Numbers may represent preliminary estimates and are subject to change. For more detail, please see fiscal note documents in LD file.

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						<p>taxes.</p> <p>Sponsor provided proposed amendment 5/21/15 adds additional administrative detail to the process of establishing sheltered value attributable to a cooperative agreement and limits the effect of the sheltered value to the formulas for calculating revenue sharing and county taxes (not GPA)</p> <p>5/21 tabled at request of sponsor – more time needed..</p>			
973	217	none	5/11	McCabe	An Act To Ensure That Nicotine Products Are Taxed Equally	<p><b>Carried over from 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session:</b></p> <p>This bill includes an electronic cigarette in the definition of "cigarette" for the purpose of assessing the cigarette tax.</p> <p>At request of sponsor a public hearing was not held. Additional work on proposed changes anticipated.</p>	CO		
1254	309	5/11	5/11	Foley	An Act To Implement and Fund an Integrated Beach Management Program	<p><b>Carried over from 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session:</b></p> <p>This bill establishes and provides a funding mechanism for an integrated coastal beach management program.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Imposes a \$1 per day fee, effective October 1, 2015, on the rental, between May 1st and October 31st, of living quarters in any hotel, rooming house or tourist or trailer camp, to be administered in the same manner as the sales tax on lodging and deposited into the Beach Management Fund established by the bill.</li> <li>2. Creates an advisory group to recommend priority classifications of beaches; recommend economic evaluations of beaches; provide funding estimates and recommend funding sources for beach projects and beach tourism infrastructure; and provide other needed info</li> <li>3. Requires DEP to create and maintain a priority classification of beaches based on resources and needs</li> <li>4. Establishes the Beach Management Fund to fund</li> </ol>	CO		

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						<p>technical assistance to municipalities and provide funding assistance to municipalities in the development and implementation of beach projects and fund DEP administrative costs</p> <p>5. Requires various reports by state agencies to JSC on ENR by 1/15/16 regarding implementation of the program:</p>			
1421	1928	none	5/21	Pouliot	An Act To Establish a Tax-free Savings Program for Individuals with Disabilities	<p><b><u>Carried over from 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session:</u></b></p> <p>Under the federal Achieving a Better Life Experience Act of 2014, also known as the "ABLE Act," individuals with disabilities and the families of those individuals may establish federal tax exempt savings accounts and use the funds from those accounts to pay for the care of the individual with a disability, similar to so-called 529 accounts that allow tax-deferred savings for college expenses.</p> <p>This bill establishes the ABLE ME Savings Program, based on the federal Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act of 2014, to allow individuals with disabilities who are residents of Maine or their families to establish savings accounts to be used for qualified disability expenses. Contributions made to the accounts are tax-deferred; withdrawals for qualified disability expenses, as well as the earnings of the account, are tax exempt. The program would be administered by the Treasurer of State in compliance with the federal Act. The Treasurer of State is authorized to contract with financial organizations to serve as depositories or managers of the program.</p>	CO		

**NEW BILLS**

LD	LR	PH	WS	SPONSOR	TITLE	SUMMARY (Summaries may not reflect content of most recent committee action)	COMM ACTION	FISCAL IMPACT <sup>2</sup>	
								FY16	FY17
1457	2445			McCormick	Resolve, Authorizing the State Tax Assessor To Convey the Interest of the State in Certain Real Estate in the Unorganized Territory (Emergency)	Authorizes the State Tax Assessor to convey the interest of the State in several parcels of property in the unorganized territory that was acquired by the State because of unpaid property taxes.			

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