

Significant bill amendments achieved during the 124th Legislature

LD 73 - An Act To Protect the Right To Use Solar Energy

Protects public health and safety regarding the installation of solar devices/clotheslines, to not only include safe ingress and egress from buildings.

Protects buildings from damage.

LD 550 – An Act to Protect Maine Residents from Home Fires and Carbon Monoxide

It removes the requirement for smoke detectors in multifamily or newly constructed single-family buildings to be the photoelectric type and only requires smoke detectors to be powered by both electricity and battery.

It requires tenants to notify landlords in writing that a smoke detector or carbon monoxide detector is not working.

It clarifies that carbon monoxide detectors must be powered by electricity and battery and clarifies that electrical service means powered by a battery and either a device plugged into an electrical outlet or hardwired.

It removes the requirement that carbon monoxide detectors must be on or near the ceiling or floor in each area and requires them only near or in bedrooms.

It removes the section requiring carbon monoxide detectors to be in corridors or hallways of multiapartment buildings more than 3 stories in height because they are required in every apartment of a multiapartment building.

It requires the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal to spend \$100,000 to purchase carbon monoxide detectors to be distributed to organizations that promote the placement of carbon monoxide detectors in homes and have the ability to install them.

LD 943 – An Act to Reduce Lung Cancer Rates in Maine

Requires a landlord or other lessor of a residential building to test the residential building for radon by 2012 and every 10 years thereafter. The bill would have required testing every 5 years.

The amendment reduces the financial penalty for a violation from \$500 to \$250.

The department shall prepare a standard disclosure statement form for landlords and other lessors of real property to use to disclose to a tenant or potential tenant information concerning radon on its publicly accessible website in a format that is easily downloaded. The form must include an

acknowledgment that the tenant or potential tenant has received the disclosure statement required by this subsection. This changes the requirement of posting notice on the exterior door of the property.

LD 1236 - Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of the Proposed Plan Dated March 19, 2009 Submitted by the Maine State Housing Authority for the Use of Federal Energy Stimulus Funds

(EMERGENCY)

Approves the proposed plan for the use of federal energy stimulus funds that was developed by the Maine State Housing Authority and presented in the attachments.

Plan includes \$1.4M to be used in M/F housing – LL purchases materials, MaineHousing supplies trained workforce to do the installation.

LD 1485 - An Act Regarding Maine's Energy Future

(EMERGENCY)

Establishes the Efficiency Maine Trust to plan and implement energy efficiency and alternative energy programs and a Heating Fuels Efficiency and Weatherization Fund to reduce heating fuel consumption and program categories must include multifamily residential units.

Establishes, within the Maine State Housing Authority the Maine Energy, Housing and Economic Recovery Program and the Maine Energy, Housing and Economic Recovery Fund to support the construction and substantial rehabilitation of multifamily affordable rental housing units as well as the replacement of manufactured housing units.