

Maine  **Resource**
Recovery Association

Government Affairs Committee

MRRA Annual Conference
April 14, 2026

Committee members

Mark Draper, Aroostook Waste Solutions

Vanessa Berry, Natural Resources Council of Maine

Kathryn Oak, Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments

Bea Johnson, ecomaine

Trampas King, Town of Dexter, Mid-Maine Solid Waste District

Victor Horton, Maine Resource Recovery Association

Interested in participating? Let us know!

Be thinking...

What changes in policy or regulation would benefit your daily operations?

Be prepared for discussion!





What gov affairs does

01

Monitor the legislative process and identify bills of potential interest to MRRRA members.

02

Meet to discuss bills related to materials management and determine what, if any, position MRRRA should take on behalf of our members.

03

Determine the appropriate level of MRRRA's participation.

04

Keep MRRRA members informed of issues in Augusta, and occasionally facilitating engagement (ex. sign-on letters)

05

Review and comment (if appropriate) on state agency reports and proposals, and participate in stakeholder groups.

Why is this important?



Over 2,000 bills are typically introduced into each biennial legislative session



Some of these bills are related to materials management



The legislative process provides opportunity for input



Our voices, both individually and collectively, matter!

How the legislative process works

Biennial (two-year) legislative sessions
1st session Jan-Jun, 2nd session Jan-Apr

Bills are introduced by legislators and approved
by Legislative Council

Bills are assigned to a legislative committee
Solid waste related bills are typically referred to the Committee on
the Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)

The ENR Committee will hold a public hearing, debate the bill, and
will vote to make a recommendation to the full Legislature

The Maine Senate & House both vote on the bill.
If passed, it will be sent to the Governor to be signed into law!

How to get involved



**Submit
Written
Testimony**



**Testify
Virtually
via Zoom**



**Present
In-Person
Testimony**

Submitting Testimony Online

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `mainelegislature.org/testimony/`. The page features a dark blue header with navigation links: HOME, SENATE, HOUSE, LEGISLATIVE OFFICES, CALENDAR, COMMITTEES, PUBLICATIONS, and CONTACT US. A sidebar on the left contains the Maine State Legislature logo and a menu with links to Committees, Calendar, Bill Search, and Audio. The main content area is a white box with a dark blue border containing the following text:

Register to Testify Electronically (Zoom) and/or Submit Testimony

Use this form if you wish to testify using **Zoom** before a committee at a public hearing on a bill or confirmation or to submit written testimony.

PLEASE NOTE: You are **not required to register here** or upload written testimony if you intend to **testify in-person** in the committee room. If you have written testimony when you testify in-person, please bring 20 copies.

Please select the type of hearing:

- Confirmation Hearing
- Public Hearing

The footer of the page is divided into three sections: Maine Government (Executive, Judicial, Agency Rules), Visit the State House (Tour Guide, Accessibility, Security Screening, Directions & Parking), and Email (Senate, House, Webmaster).

Delivering In-Person Testimony



**Keep verbal
remarks brief!
3 minutes max**



**Address the committee,
introduce yourself, and
state your position
(support/oppose)**



**Try to add new
insights. Avoid
repeating ideas**

Lawmakers want to hear from YOU about your experience and how bills will impact your work. Don't be afraid to share feedback, even on bills you support!



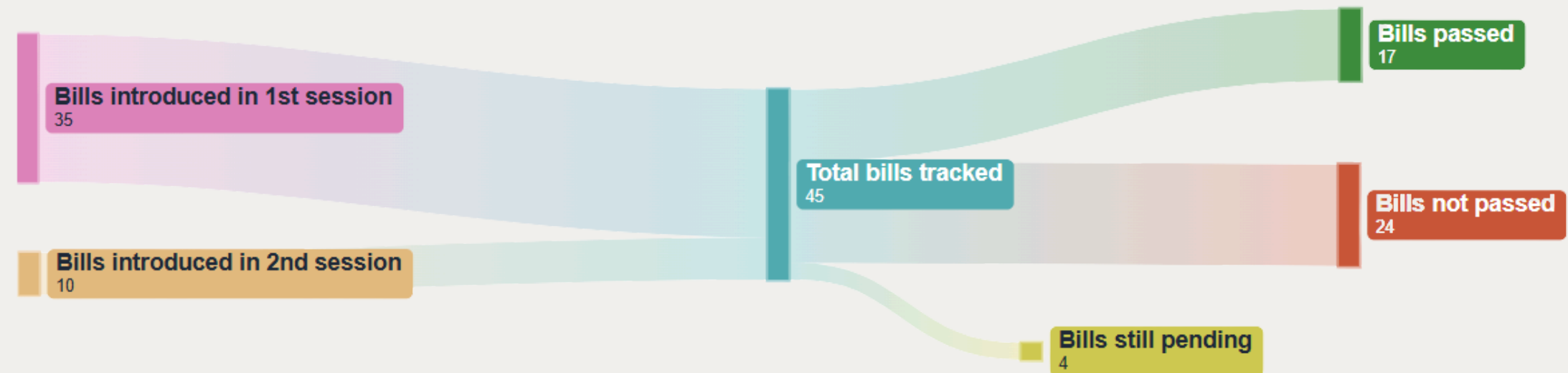
132nd Legislative Recap

2000+ bills introduced

~ 90 bills assigned to ENR committee

45 bills of interest

Testified on 12 bills



132nd Bill Tracking – 2nd Regular Session

Committee	LD #	Report	Bill Title	Bill Status	Sponsor	Topic
AFA	25	No Report	An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Fund Wastewater Treatment Facility Pla	Study/Approp Table	Brenner	PFAS, Sludge
ENR	605	No Report	An Act to Provide Solutions for Sustainable Management of Municipal Solid Waste	Dead	Campbell	Concept Draft
ENR	1177	OTP-AM	Resolve, to Study the Public Health and Environmental Risks from Synthetic Turf	Study/Approp Table	Gramlich	PFAS
HED	1908	OTP-AM	An Act to Require the Cooperation of Original Manufacturers of Electronic Devices to Fac	Dead	Tipping	Right to Repair
ENR	2036	ONTP	An Act to Clarify the Department of Environmental Protection's Approval Process for the	Dead	Campbell	Product Stewardship
ENR	2070	OTP-AM	An Act to Improve the Management of Landfill Leachate and Wastewater Treatment Plant	Passed	Dill	Facilities Management
ENR	2141	OTP-AM	An Act to Further Direct the Use of Unclaimed Beverage Container Deposits and to Make	Passed	Brenner	Product Stewardship
ENR	474	OTP-AM	An Act to Establish a Stewardship Program for Primary and Rechargeable Batteries	Passed	Tepler	Product Stewardship
ENR	1519	OTP-AM	An Act to Create a Stewardship Program for Electronic Smoking Devices and Related Proc	Study/Approp Table	Gramlich	Product Stewardship
ENR	754	ONTP	An Act to Ban the Sale, Use and Possession of Single-use Electronic Cigarettes	Dead	Bennett	Product Stewardship

132nd Bill Tracking – 1st Regular Session

Committee	LD #	Bill Title	Bill Status	Sponsor	Topic
ENR	222	An Act to Establish a Take-back and Disposal Program for Firefighting and Fire-suppressing Foam to Which Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfl	Passed	Ankeles	PFAS
ENR	400	Resolve, Directing the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal to Compile a Statewide Inventory of Aqueous F	Passed	Ankeles	PFAS
ENR	1065	An Act Regarding the Reduction and Recycling of Food Waste	Passed	Brenner	Organics Recovery
ENR	1423	An Act to Improve Recycling by Updating the Stewardship Program for Packaging	Passed	Baldacci	EPR Rollback
CJPS	121	An Act to Include Brush and Yard Debris in the Definition of "Litter"	Passed	Black	Litter
ACF	356	Resolve, Directing the Board of Pesticides Control to Prohibit the Use of Rodenticides in Outdoor Residential Settings	Passed	Bennett	Toxics
ENR	407	An Act to Prohibit the Use of Aqueous Film-forming Foam at the Former Brunswick Naval Air Station	Passed	Ankeles	PFAS
ENR	1306	An Act to Continue the Exemption for Polystyrene Disposable Food Service Containers Purchased at Wholesale	Passed	Bradstreet	Plastics
ENR	1564	An Act to Amend Maine's Beverage Container Redemption Law	Passed	Soboleski	Bottle Bill
ENR	987	An Act Clarifying Exemptions from the Law Regulating Products Containing PFAS	Passed	Farrin	PFAS
ENR	1604	An Act to Protect Ground and Surface Waters from Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances from Landfill Leachate	Passed	Tipping	PFAS
ENR	1782	An Act Regarding Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Planning and the Juniper Ridge Landfill in the City of Old Town	Passed	Dill	JRL
ENR	1793	An Act to Amend Eligibility Criteria Under the Maine Solid Waste Diversion Grant Program	Passed	Grohoski	Grants
ENR	1786	An Act to Require the Department of Environmental Protection to Provide Certain Information Regarding Perfluoroalkyl and Polyflu	Passed	Arford	PFAS
ENR	297	An Act Regarding the Management of Oversized Bulky Waste from Wastewater Treatment Plants	Passed	Bridgeo	PFAS
ENR	231	An Act to Update the Solid Waste Management Hierarchy	Dead	Campbell	Hierarchy
ENR	235	Resolve, Regarding the Operation and Future Capacity of State-Owned Landfills	Dead	Campbell	Landfills
ENR	56	An Act to Remove the 5 Cent Fee for Bags in Retail Stores	Dead	Lemelin	Plastics
ENR	69	An Act to Repeal the Law Restricting the Use of Certain Plastic, Paper and Single-use Bags	Dead	Bagshaw	Plastics

132nd Bill Tracking – 1st Regular Session

Committee	LD #	Bill Title	Bill Status	Sponsor	Topic
ENR	479	An Act to Facilitate Expansion of the State's Recycling Efforts Under the Beverage Container Redemption Program	Dead	Chapman	Product Stewardship
ENR	1035	Resolve, to Study the Safe Disposal of Propane Canisters	Dead	Rana	Product Stewardship
ENR	1928	An Act to Prohibit Lodging Establishments from Providing Single-use Plastic Containers	Dead	Gramlich	Plastics
ENR	92	An Act Regarding the Management of the Waste Components of a Solar Energy Development upon Decommissioning	Dead	Lemelin	Renewables
ENR	476	An Act to Ban the Sale of Polystyrene Packing Peanuts in the State	Dead	Tepler	Plastics
ENR	827	An Act to Allow the Sale of Polymer-coated Cookware That Is Authorized for Food Contact by the United States Food and Drug Administration	Dead	Timberlake	PFAS, Sludge
ENR	920	Resolve, to Review Efficiencies in the Licensing of Solid Waste Disposal Facilities by the Department of Environmental Protection	Dead	Campbell	Licensing
EUT	1063	An Act to Require Competitive Procurement of Electricity from Generators Fueled by Municipal Solid Waste in Conjunction with Recycling	Dead	Dill	WTE
ENR	1122	An Act to Amend the Law Banning Single-use Carry-out Bags	Dead	Warren	Plastics
ENR	1349	An Act to Require Legislative Approval for a Contract to Operate the Juniper Ridge Landfill	Dead	Tipping	JRL
ENR	1582	An Act to Clarify the Combining of Materials in Beverage Containers	Dead	Cloutier	Bottle Bill
ENR	1721	An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Commingling of Beverage Containers	Dead	Hepler	Bottle Bill
ENR	1349	An Act to Require Legislative Approval for a Contract to Operate the Juniper Ridge Landfill	Dead	Tipping	JRL
ENR	1633	An Act to Promote the Recycling and Reuse of Construction Materials	Dead	White	CDD
ENR	1903	An Act to Conform the State's Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Laws to Federal Standards	Dead	Timberlake	PFAS
ENR	1165	An Act to Create a Fund for Safe Disposal of Hazardous Fluids from Salvage Yards	Dead	Cluchey	HHW

Highlights

LD 474: An Act to Establish a Stewardship Program for Primary and Rechargeable Batteries

LD 1908: An Act to Require the Cooperation of Original Manufacturers of Electronic Devices to Facilitate the Repair of Those Devices by Device Owners and Independent Repair Providers

LD 1065: An Act Regarding the Reduction and Recycling of Food Waste

LD 1423: An Act to Improve Recycling by Updating the Stewardship Program for Packaging



Other ways to engage



**Sign-On
Letters**



**Contacting
Elected
Officials**



**Days of
Action**

Group brainstorm



01

Are there other partners we should be working with to advance policy for materials management?

02

What policy opportunities should MRRA be exploring to best support our members?

What's next?

Coordinating with other associations and organizations

- Maine Municipal Association (MMA)
- Maine Water Utilities Association
- Maine Water Environment Association
- Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA)
- Product stewardship organizations
- Other partners?

Hall of Flags Day at the Maine State House

Relationship-building with champion lawmakers

Proactively introducing legislation to support the industry



**Thank
You!**