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Dear Friends:

It is a great honor to have the opportunity to return to Augusta to serve the people of Senate District 17 in the 128th Legislature. If you have a question or comment about what is happening at the State House, I would like to hear from you. Please use the information provided to the left to contact me, or follow my [Senate Facebook page](#).

Here is an update on what is happening in Augusta.

Sincerely,

Tom Saviello

Senator Tom Saviello represents Senate District 17 which includes all Franklin County communities, as well as the Kennebec County communities of Belgrade, Fayette, Mount Vernon, and Vienna.

State News Updates

Legislative Bill List for the First Regular Session Now Available

Last week the Legislature's Office of the Revisor of Statutes released the complete list of bills to be considered during the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature. For a full list of bill titles, [click here](#).

The Revisor's Office will now begin the process of drafting language for the proposals, which total over 2,000. As drafts are completed, they will become available to the public at www.legislature.maine.gov and referenced to the appropriate committee for public comment.

Safety Tips for Ice Fishing

As temperatures continue to fluctuate, it's important to always be sure that ice is safe before venturing out onto it. According to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, 4" of ice is required to safely ice fish on foot. Five inches is often enough for snowmobile or ATV travel; 8"- 12" will support most cars and small pickups; 12" - 15" will likely hold a medium-sized truck.

A few other tips include:

- Choose small sheltered bodies of water
- Refrain from driving on ice
- Keep snowmobile speeds to a minimum
- Wear a life vest
- New ice is usually stronger than older ice
- Ice formed over flowing water/currents is often dangerous
- Snow insulates, but adds pressure to ice
- Booming and cracking sounds aren't always sounds of danger

Maine Government Summer Internship Program Applications Due March 1

The Maine Government Summer Internship Program, established by the legislature in 1967, offers students enrolled in a Maine college, or students from Maine enrolled elsewhere, the opportunity to spend 12 weeks in full-time, paid internships in Maine state, local and county government positions. The program is administered by the Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, located at the University of Maine, in collaboration with the Office of the Governor, the Maine Bureau of Human Resources, numerous state agencies and local governments. To learn more about previous positions, projects and placements, [click here](#). The 2017 program will run from May 30 to August 18. For more information, contact Peggy McKee,

Internship Program Administrator at [\(207\) 581-1644](tel:(207)581-1644) or margaret.mckee@maine.edu.

New Consumer Booklet "On the Money- A Young Person's Guide to Finance" Now Available

Maine's Bureau of Consumer Credit Protection has announced the release of "On the Money - A Young Person's Guide to Personal Finance." This publication is available online at www.Credit.Maine.Gov or printed copies are also available to Maine residents, free of charge, by calling [1-800-332-8529](tel:1-800-332-8529). The purpose of the guide is to make young people more situationally-aware when faced with major decisions regarding their financial future. Kyrie Johnson, a co-author of the guide, worked on the project while serving a Margaret Chase Smith internship with the Bureau. She said, "We learn many subjects in school, but from K-12 and in post-secondary education it's rare to find courses that cover financial literacy."

Unity Foundation and UniTel offer Free Digital Literacy Classes

If you're looking to polish up on your digital skills this year, Unity Foundation and UniTel have teamed up to offer free digital literacy courses throughout January and February in Belfast and Unity. Some available courses include WordPress (website design), QuickBooks I, Windows 10, Facebook for Business, Photoshop Elements I, Streaming - Watching TV via the internet and more. For a complete course listing including dates and locations, [click here](#).

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