



## REPRESENTATIVE VICKI DOUDERA



*Great to meet up with two constituents who attended the State of the Tribes today:  
Karin Leuthy and Ted Kanellakis.*

**March 16, 2023**

Dear Amy,

We're into the third month of the legislative session here in Augusta, and the 131st Legislature has begun working through the roughly 2,000 pieces of legislation that have been submitted.

While the bills that we consider will address hundreds of different topics, the bulk of my focus is on solving our state's most urgent challenges, including addressing the housing crisis, creating a fair and robust economy, protecting our natural resources and making life easier for families to make ends meet.

In recent weeks, I've been busy in the Environment and Natural Resources Committee and the Marine Resources Committee as public hearings and work sessions have begun. I've also been working on several bills that I've submitted, including:

- [\*\*LD 67\*\*](#) – An Act to Increase the Number of Educational Professionals by Accepting Out-of-state Certification

- [LD 692](#) – An Act Regarding Eligibility of County Jail Inmates for a Community Confinement Monitoring Program
- [LD 536](#) - An Act to Provide Natural Organic Reduction Facilities for Maine Citizens

Most of my bills, including those three, were originally suggested by community members. To see a current bill list that is continually updated, please [click this link](#).

One bill that has garnered much attention was requested by a constituent in Rockport who is concerned with protecting wild birds from free-roaming cats. Although [LD 644](#) did not advance, it started a very productive conversation around the issue and has already spurred positive action (and collaboration) between Maine Audubon and the Maine Humane Society. I've never had so many people from around the state and our communities reach out to share their perspective – pro and con. It was a true democratic process!

No doubt you'll see my Subaru, Clementine, buzzing back and forth to Augusta in the coming weeks. There is a lot of work ahead of us until we adjourn at the end of June, and I am looking forward to being an advocate for our community on these important issues.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions, concerns or ideas.



Sincerely,



**Representative Vicki Doudera**  
**Serving House District 41**  
**(207) 542-1990**  
[Victoria.Doudera@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:Victoria.Doudera@legislature.maine.gov)  
Connect with me on [Facebook](#)

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## BACK TO SCHOOL DAY FOR ME

Thank you to English teacher Patti Forster at Camden Hills Regional High School and all the wonderful students, teachers and administrators who met with me on March 6th. I spent the day touring classes, checking out the greenhouse and gym, lunching with the Women's Advocacy Club and more. Here I am with a group of young men answering their questions about how a bill moves through the legislative process.



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## IN THE COMMUNITY

I hope to see you on **Wednesday, March 22nd from 5-7pm** for a special [Midcoast Climate, Energy, and Green Building Gathering](#) at Camden Hills Regional High School (CHRS), hosted by Danny Salomon and [The Hatchery](#) students.

Students at The Hatchery have made a steadfast commitment to **Radical Reuse**: sourcing materials from our region's waste streams, as opposed to buying new materials, whenever possible. On March 22nd, students will deliver a presentation on **Radical Reuse and Deconstruction** that will hopefully encourage these practices in our community more broadly. [More information here.](#)

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## INVESTING IN MAINE INFRASTRUCTURE

The Maine Department of Transportation recently released its Three-Year Work Plan!

The plan outlines all work intended by DOT for calendar years 2023, 2024 and 2025. It includes capital projects and programs, maintenance and operations activities and other planning initiatives. This plan contains nearly 2,600 work items with a total value of \$3.94 billion, including work on Camden's Rawson Avenue pedestrian and bike bridge and Rockport's Goose River bridge.

You can learn more about the plan [here](#) and see a full list of projects scheduled for our community by using this [searchable database](#).

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## TAX FILING RESOURCES

It's that time of year again to start thinking about tax returns, and CA\$H Maine may be a helpful resource in your filing!

CA\$H Maine is a collaboration of organizations across the state that work together to provide free tax preparation and other financial services for Mainers who meet income requirements.

For more information and to find out about services in our area, visit [www.cashmaine.org](http://www.cashmaine.org).

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# HELP KNOCK OUT BROWN TAIL MOTHS

With the first day of spring around the corner, it's not too late to start looking at your trees to find and prune brown tail moth nests.

While the poisonous hairs produced by the moth's caterpillars are toxic to people, the moths also damage trees by stripping away leaves.

You can help reduce their impact by clipping winter webs. Learn more about how to knock out browntail moths by checking out [these resources](#) provided by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

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## 2023 MAINE MOOSE PERMIT LOTTERY

The 2023 Maine Moose Permit Lottery is now open!

To apply, visit the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife [website](#) and fill out the online application.

Applications must be completed by May 15. The drawing will be held in June. Having made a delicious moose chili for the Toboggan Festival, I welcome any extra moose meat next year!



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**ENJOY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY 2023!**



Maine House Democratic Office | 2 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333

[Unsubscribe amy.sylvester@legislature.maine.gov](mailto:amy.sylvester@legislature.maine.gov)

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Sent by victoria.doudera@legislature.maine.gov powered by



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