



Legislative Committee Meeting 04-22-2019
Meeting
April 22, 2019

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Approval of Meeting minutes**
 - a. Approval of April 8, 2019 meeting minutes
- III. Legislative Update**
 - a. Review of Portland Education Non-Funding LDs
 - b. Review of New LDs/Bill Tracker
 - c. Staff Update
- IV. Meeting Schedule**
 - a. Next Meeting - April 29, 2019 @ 8:00 AM
- V. Public Comment**
- VI. Adjournment**

**CITY OF PORTLAND
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
April 8, 2019 MEETING MINUTES**

The April 1, 2019 Meeting was called to order by Mayor Strimling at 8:09 a.m. in Room 24, Portland City Hall, Portland, Maine

A. Attendance/Introductions:

Councilor Jill Duson; Mayor Ethan Strimling; Portland Board of Education Member Emily Figdor; Kate Knox, Bernstein Shur team(by phone); Alysia Melnick, Bernstein Shur team; Chris Feeney, Bernstein Shur team; Xavier Botana, Superintendent of PPS; Jon Jennings, City Manager; Mike Murray(Staff);

B. Approval of minutes:

March 25, 2019 minutes – motion by Councilor Duson; second by Mayor Strimling; 2-0 approved.

April 1, 2019 minutes - motion by Councilor Duson; second by Mayor Strimling; 2-0 approved.

C. Review of non-funding education bills by Committee and Portland Board of Education and PPS Staff;

D. Review of legislative bills bills/bill tracker:

LD 1439 – outcome
LD 1440 – request for staff review/input
LD 1443 – place with similar bills for future review
LD 1444 – request for staff review/input
LD 1449 – outcome
LD 1451 – request for staff review/input
LD 1470 – Support/Testify
LD 1476 – request for staff review/input
LD 1480 – request for staff review/input
LD 1487 – remove
LD 1497 - Schools
LD 1508 – support/schools to testify
LD 1511 – outcome; request for staff review/input
LD 1517 – request for staff review/input
LD 1518 – request for staff review/input
LD 1522 – request for staff review/input

D. Next Meeting Date

April 22, 2019 @ 8:00 AM – Room 209 City Hall

E. Adjournment

Councilor Duson moved to adjourn; second by Mayor Strimling; vote 2-0 and the meeting adjourned at 9:34 AM.



**Bernstein, Shur,
Sawyer & Nelson, P.A.**
146 Capitol Street
PO Box 5057
Augusta, ME 04332-5057

T (207) 623 - 1596
F (207) 626 - 0200

Memorandum

To: Portland Education - Non Funding Report
From: Bernstein Shur
Date: April 12, 2019
Re: New Legislative Bills Report

Please find below the new legislative documents (LD) printed this week that we have flagged to be of possible interest to your organization. Please indicate to us which bills you would like included on your tracking report.

Thank you.

[LD 1549, SP0486](#)

An Act To Increase the Supplement for Certain National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certified Teachers in Maine



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Thank you.

[LD 1527, SP0477](#)

An Act To Require That Certain Motor Vehicles Be Clear of Snow and Ice When Operated on Public Ways

[LD 1528, SP0478](#)

An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Motor Vehicle Fees

[LD 1532, HP1115](#)

An Act To Eliminate Single-use Plastic Carry-out Bags

[LD 1536, HP1119](#)

An Act To Require Municipalities To Maintain Access on Public Rights-of-way

[LD 1542, HP1125](#)

An Act To Allow a Municipality To Choose Its Power Provider

[LD 1543, SP0480](#)

An Act To Amend the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code

[LD 1575, HP1137](#)

An Act To Improve the Freedom of Access Laws of Maine

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>53</u>	430	An Act To Clarify Local Referendum Ballots	Sanborn	SLG	This bill requires that municipal initiative and referendum questions be listed on election ballots using sequential capital letters of the alphabet rather than sequential numbers.	City Support	2/4/19 1:00 PM Rm 214 COB	2/11/19 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	OTP-AM Reported out 4/10/19	Elections	
<u>55</u>	364	An Act To Return the Normal Cost of Teacher Retirement to the State	Stearns	ECA	This bill changes the method for funding teacher retirement costs. It repeals those provisions of law enacted pursuant to Public Law 2013, chapter 368 that require school administrative units and private schools to pay for teacher retirement.	Support / Testify	1/30/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	2/28/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	DEAD	School Funding	
<u>65</u>	434	An Act To Allow Municipalities To Impose a Seasonal or Year-round Local Option Sales Tax	Beebe-Center	TAX	This bill allows a municipality to impose a local option sales tax, which may be seasonal, if approved by referendum of the voters in that municipality. The referendum question must identify the rate of the local option sales tax, specify the months during which it will be imposed if not year-round and identify the purposes for which the revenue will be used. The local option sales tax would be collected and administered by the State in the same manner as the sales and use tax. Revenue from the local option sales tax is distributed to the municipality imposing the local option sales tax. Revenue received by a municipality may not be used to reduce or eliminate funding otherwise due the municipality under other provisions of law.	Support / Testify	3/27/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	4/3/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	ONTP Reported out 4/10/19	Tax, Local Option	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>133</u>	542	An Act To Fully Restore State-Municipal Revenue Sharing for Fiscal Year 2018-19 (Emergency)	Evangelos	TAX	This bill restores state-municipal revenue sharing to 5% from 2% for the entire fiscal year 2018-19. The law currently requires revenue sharing to revert to 5% beginning July 1, 2019.		4/9/19 1:30 PM Rm 127 SH	4/17/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH		Revenue Sharing	
<u>136</u>	721	An Act To Establish a Special Education Circuit Breaker Reimbursement Program	Rudnicki	ECA	This bill establishes the special education circuit breaker reimbursement program, in which the Department of Education reimburses school administrative units, for a student whose eligible special education costs exceed 4 times the statewide EPS per-pupil rate, 75% of the amount of the special education costs that are above 4 times the statewide EPS per-pupil rate. The bill requires	MSSA-Monitor	3/6/19 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB	3/20/19 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 3/20/19	School	
<u>156</u>	281	An Act To Allow Regional Service Center Municipalities To Assess an Additional One Percent Sales Tax for Infrastructure Costs	Miramant	TAX	This bill allows a municipality that is a service center community to impose a local option sales tax of no more than 1% by local referendum for the purpose of funding local infrastructure costs.		3/27/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	4/3/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	ONTP Reported out 4/9/19	Tax, Local Option	
<u>186</u>	1724	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Specify the Qualifications of Electors	Faulkingham	VLA	This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to specify that only a person who is a citizen of the United States may vote in a state, county or municipal or other local election.		3/11/19 10:00 AM Rm 437 SH			Elections	
<u>193</u>	328	An Act To Fully Fund and Restore State-Municipal Revenue Sharing (Emergency)	Harnett	TAX	This bill restores state-municipal revenue sharing to 5% from 2% 6 months earlier than currently provided in law.		4/9/19 1:30 PM Rm 127 SH	4/17/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH		Revenue Sharing	

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<u>237</u>	1539	An Act To Appropriate Funds for Coaching Services for Existing and New Prekindergarten Programs	Farnsworth	ECA	This bill provides ongoing funds for coaching services to provide teaching support for new and existing prekindergarten programs throughout the State.	MM to gather more info MSSA-Monitor	4/23/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB			School Funding	
<u>240</u>	1783	An Act To Allow Public Employers of Teachers to Negotiate Regarding Educational Policies	Sylvester	LH	This bill allows, but does not require, public employers of teachers to negotiate with respect to educational policies.	MSSA-Oppose/ No COP position	2/20/19 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	2/27/19 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Tabled 2/27/19	School	
<u>259</u>	280	An Act To Require the State To Meet the Mandatory 55 Percent Contribution to Schools	Miramant	ECA	This bill increases the target for the state share percentage of the statewide adjusted total cost of the components of essential programs and services to 55%, as required by law, beginning in fiscal year 2019-20 and	M (support)	4/22/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB			School Funding	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>309</u>	99	An Act To Eliminate the Regional Adjustment for Public School Systems	Stewart	ECA	This bill removes the regional adjustment in the total operating allocation for school administrative units under the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act.	Track MSSA-NFNA				School Funding	
<u>329</u>	352	An Act To Exempt from Criminal Liability Persons Reporting a Drug-related Medical Emergency	Cardone	CJPS	This bill exempts from arrest or prosecution a person who in good faith seeks medical assistance for another person experiencing a drug-related overdose or who is experiencing a drug-related overdose and is in need of medical assistance. The person may not be arrested or prosecuted for a violation of laws prohibiting the possession of scheduled drugs, acquiring drugs by	Support/ PPD testified	2/20/19 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	2/27/19 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	Voted 2/27/19 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Drugs	
<u>333</u>	884	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Dangerous Dogs and Nuisance Dogs To Allow for Flexibility in Protection Dog Training	Skolfield	ACF	This bill repeals the law prohibiting a person from training or encouraging a dog that is not directly involved with a protection dog training program recognized by the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of State Police to be aggressive toward or attack another person or domesticated animal.	PPD Opposed. Sent letter	2/28/19 1:00 PM Rm 214 COB	4/9/19 1:30 PM Rm 214 COB	Voted 4/9/19 OTP Not rpt out	Dogs	
<u>335</u>	890	An Act To Require the State To Distribute 25 Percent of Adult Use Marijuana Retail Sales and Excise Tax Revenue to Generating Municipalities	Warren	TAX	This bill allocates 25% of the gross sales and excise tax revenue generated by adult use marijuana establishments in the State to the municipalities where the revenue was generated and makes a reduction to the amount deposited in the Adult Use Marijuana Public Health and Safety Fund.	Support/ TBD re: testify	4/11/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	4/18/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH		Marijuana	

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<u>345</u>	1178	An Act To Help New Teachers Succeed	McCrea	ECA	This bill requires a probationary teacher to be evaluated during each year of employment as a probationary teacher and provides that if a 3rd-year probationary teacher does not receive a summative effectiveness rating indicating ineffectiveness during the first or 2nd year of the probationary teacher's contract, the probationary teacher's contract must be extended automatically. This bill also requires special procedures for probationary teachers in a school administrative unit's performance evaluation and professional growth system.	Track MSSA- Oppose	3/21/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	3/28/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Voted 3/28/19 OTP-AM Not rpt out	School	
<u>353</u>	1662	An Act To Classify Recovery Residences as One-family Dwellings for the Purposes of the Fire Code	Fecteau	CJPS	This bill requires a recovery residence located in a house to be considered a one-family dwelling under rules concerning safety to life from fire if the recovery residence has no more than 6 occupants and contains a fire extinguisher and smoke detector in each room. This bill also defines "recovery residence" as an alcohol-free and illegal substance-free shared living residence for persons recovering from substance use disorder that provides peer support and connects residents to support services and community resources.	Oppose unless an amendmen t is made to "no more than 5 persons" to align with fire code				Housing	

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<u>358</u>	1542	An Act To Fully Fund Career and Technical Education for Fiscal Year 2018-19 (Emergency)	Woodsome	ECA	This bill provides \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2018-19 to the General Purpose Aid for Local Schools program within the Department of Education in order to fully fund the cost of career and technical education pursuant to current law. This bill also amends Public Law 2017, chapter 446 to reflect the additional funding.	Track MSSA-Support				School Funding	
<u>359</u>	658	An Act To Address Student Hunger with a "Breakfast after the Bell" Program	Moore	ECA	This bill requires a school administrative unit with a public school in which at least 50% of students qualified for a free or reduced-price lunch during the preceding school year to operate an alternative breakfast delivery service that provides breakfast after the start of the school day for students at that public school. It also provides a process for a school administrative unit to opt out of the alternative breakfast delivery service. This bill	Track MSSA-Support	3/25/19 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	4/3/19 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/3/19 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	School Funding	
<u>369</u>	<u>150</u>	An Act To Support Healthy Workplaces and Healthy Families by Providing Earned Paid Sick Leave to Certain Employees	Millett	LH	This bill creates a right to earned paid sick leave for employees who are employed by an employer that employs more than 5 employees. The bill also creates a right to earned unpaid sick leave for employees of an employer that employs 5 or fewer employees. This bill takes effect January 1, 2021.	M (support general policy) MSSA-Oppose	2/25/19 11:00 AM Rm 202 COB	4/17/19 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 3/27/19 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Sick Leave	
<u>385</u>	180	An Act To Base School Funding on the Number of Students Sent by a Town to a Regional School Unit	Ackley	ECA	This bill amends the method by which the share of the total cost of education from kindergarten to grade 12 is calculated for a municipality that is within a regional school unit. Current law establishes that share as the lesser of the municipality's total cost of education as determined under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688, subsection 1 and an amount equal to the product of the education mill rate for the municipality multiplied by the total valuation of property in the municipality. This bill instead determines the share of the total cost of education from kindergarten to grade 12 of a municipality within a regional school unit based upon the product of the statewide per-pupil rate	Track MSSA-Oppose				School Funding	
<u>390</u>	273	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Dangerous Buildings	Johansen	SLG	This bill allows a municipality or county seeking an order of demolition of a dangerous building to seek a writ of attachment of the property on which the building is located.	Track	2/20/19 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	2/27/19 1:00 PM Rm 214 COB	Voted 2/27/19 OTP-AM Not rpt out	Housing	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>392</u>	292	An Act To Fund Maine's School-based Health Centers	Handy	HHS	This bill provides ongoing funding for school-based health centers from the Fund for a Healthy Maine within the Department of Health and Human Services.	Support / Track MSSA-Support	2/25/19 12:00 PM Rm 209 COB	4/2/19 1:30 PM Rm 209 COB	Voted 4/2/19 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	School Funding	
<u>395</u>	439	An Act To Protect Access to Outside-of-school Enrichment Opportunities	Berry	ECA	This bill establishes that a school administrative unit may not prohibit a student from accessing outside-of-school enrichment opportunities unless the student is failing to meet academic standards and that a school	More Info MSSA-Oppose	2/20/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	2/27/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 2/27/19	School	
<u>402</u>	586	An Act To Restore Overtime Protections for Maine Workers	Tipping	LH	This bill annually raises the minimum salary that an employee who works in an executive, administrative or professional capacity must earn in order for that employee to be exempt from the laws governing the	Staff concerned increased salary level	3/11/19 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB	3/20/19 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Tabled 3/20/19	Minimum Salary	
<u>404</u>	1856	An Act To Fund the School Revolving Renovation Fund	Kornfield	ECA	This bill provides one-time funds to be deposited in the School Revolving Renovation Fund to be used for the purposes specified in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 6006-F, subsection 3.	T (defer to PPS) MSSA-Monitor to Support	2/21/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	2/28/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/11/19	School Funding	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>405</u>	706	An Act To Increase the Statewide Minimum Salary for Teachers	Kornfield	ECA	This bill increases the minimum salary for certified teachers, beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. This bill also requires the Commissioner of Education to increase the state share of the total allocation to a qualifying school administrative unit to achieve the minimum salary for certified teachers.	T (defer to PPS) MSSA-Support	3/4/19 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	3/13/19 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 03/13/19 ONTP Not rpt out	School	
<u>412</u>	962	An Act To Restore System Administration Allocations in Maine School Administrative Units to the Level Prescribed for Fiscal Year 2017-18	McCrea	ECA	Current law requires that, beginning in fiscal year 2018-19, a portion of the system administration allocation must be allocated to school administrative units that have established regionalized administrative services. This bill instead establishes the system administration allocation at \$135 per pupil, the same as it was for fiscal year 2017-18, and repeals provisions that increase for future fiscal years the per-pupil amount and restrict allocation of portions of the funds to school administrative units that have established regionalized administrative services.	M (defer to PPS) MSSA-Support				School Funding	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>415</u>	1186	An Act To Enhance the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program	Verow	LH	This bill makes changes to the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program. 1. It makes enrollment in the program mandatory for a county or municipal law enforcement officer or municipal firefighter with a date of hire on or after January 1, 2020 and offers one-time open enrollment until July 1, 2020 to those officers and firefighters with a date of hire after November 1, 2006 who elected not to enroll. 2. It increases the employee contribution for participation in the program from 1.5% of gross wages to 2.5% and makes corresponding changes to the contribution requirements for retirees with less than 5 years of contributions upon retirement. 3. It allows a retiree to be eligible if the retiree is less than 50 years of age as long as the retiree has at least 25 years of service in a position as a county or municipal law enforcement officer or a municipal firefighter and has participated in the special consolidation retirement plan from the Maine Public Employees Retirement System. 4. It increases the state subsidy for the retiree's share of the costs of health insurance coverage from 45% to 100%. 5. It requires that all retirees be provided health insurance coverage through the group health plan provided to state employees beginning January 1, 2020.	MM to send to law enforcement for review (2/4)	4/1/19 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB			Insurance	
<u>419</u>	569	An Act To Require a Minimum Salary of \$50,000 for Public School Teachers	Collings	ECA	This bill requires that the minimum salary of certified teachers in public schools be established at \$50,000 for the school year starting after June 30, 2020.	T (defer to PPS) MSSA-	3/4/19 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	3/13/19 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB	DEAD	School Funding	
<u>427</u>	338	An Act To Require the State To Fund Teacher Retirement	Brennan	ECA	This bill changes the method for funding teacher retirement costs. It repeals those provisions of law enacted pursuant to Public Law 2013, chapter 368 that require school administrative units and private schools to pay a portion of the costs for teacher retirement.	T (defer to PPS) MSSA-Support	2/21/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	2/28/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/15/19	School Funding	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>438</u>	1649	An Act To Allow the Creation of New Innovative School Models by Removing the Cap on the Number of Authorized Charter Schools	Pouliot	ECA	This bill removes the cap on the number of charter schools the Maine Charter School Commission may authorize.	T MSSA- Oppose	4/8/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/16/19 1:15 PM Rm 208 COB		Charter Schools	
<u>444</u>	165	An Act To Fully Restore Revenue Sharing (Emergency)	Bellows	TAX	This bill restores state-municipal revenue sharing to 5% from 2% 3 months earlier than currently provided in law.	M	4/9/19 1:30 PM Rm 127 SH	4/17/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH		Revenue Sharing	
<u>448</u>	1799	An Act Repealing Tax Lien Foreclosure Requirements	Gratwick	TAX	This bill removes the provisions enacted in Public Law 2017, chapter 478 that established a preforeclosure process that municipalities must use in order to foreclose on homestead property for nonpayment of property tax if the owner is 65 years of age or older and has income and liquid assets below specified limits.	M (MM to send to Danielle for further review)	2/26/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	3/7/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	DEAD	Tax, Homestead Property	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>451</u>	325	An Act To Repeal the Recently Enacted Changes to the Law Governing Tax Lien Foreclosure	Moore	TAX	This bill repeals or removes the changes to the foreclosure law that were made by Public Law 2017, chapter 478. Under that law, a municipality is restricted in how it may sell a foreclosed property that was owned by a person who is at least 65 years of age, occupied the property as a homestead and meets specified income and asset requirements. The law also places specific notice requirements regarding the foreclosure process on the State Tax Assessor and municipalities and provides for continuous eligibility under the Maine resident homestead property tax exemption for a person who loses ownership of a homestead to tax lien foreclosure and subsequently regains ownership of the homestead; these provisions are also removed by this bill.	M (MM to send to Danielle for further review)	2/26/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	3/7/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	Tabled 3/7/19	Tax, Homestead Property	
<u>459</u>	937	An Act To Include Homelessness in the Laws Governing Emergency General Assistance	Chipman	HHS	This bill defines "homelessness" for the purposes of the laws governing general assistance and specifies that a person experiencing or facing homelessness who meets the conditions for receiving emergency assistance in current law is eligible for emergency general assistance.	Support	4/12/19 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB			General Assistance	
<u>462</u>	802	An Act To Provide Paid Family Leave to Public School Employees	Pierce	LH	This bill provides that a full-time employee of a school administrative unit is entitled to up to 12 weeks of paid family medical leave and may not be required to use sick or other kinds of leave for the birth of the employee's child or the employee's domestic partner's child or for the placement of a child 16 years of age or less with the employee or the employee's domestic partner in connection with the adoption of the child by the employee or the employee's domestic partner. The bill also provides that the employer and employee may negotiate whether leave is taken intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule.	M (defer to PPS) MSSA- Oppose	4/19/19 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB	LTW 4/3/19	DEAD	School	

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<u>468</u>	989	An Act To Require That the State Fund on an Ongoing Basis a Minimum of 50 Percent of the Costs Associated with Public Preschool Programs	Farnsworth	ECA	This bill requires the State to fund a minimum of 50% of the costs of eligible public preschool programs for each year the school administrative unit operates the eligible public preschool program, other than the year in which the school administrative unit receives start-up funds.	M (defer to PPS) MSSA-Hold				School Funding	
<u>478</u>	63	An Act To Allow All-terrain Vehicles To Be Used on a Public Way	Jackson	TRAN	This bill, beginning in 2020, allows the operation of an all-terrain vehicle, or ATV, on a public way as long as the ATV is registered and meets specified safety equipment requirements and the operator is licensed and has insurance. This bill establishes an annual registration fee of \$33, the same as for ATVs under current law. The bill does not affect the operation of ATVs off of public ways.	MM to investigate effects on islands	3/21/19 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	3/28/19 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	DEAD	Transportation	
<u>512</u>	991	Resolve, To Create the Task Force To Study and Plan for the Implementation of Maine's Early Childhood Special Education Services (Emergency)	Farnsworth	ECA	This resolve establishes the Task Force To Study and Plan for the Implementation of Maine's Early Childhood Special Education Services to examine the national trends and relevant models of governing and delivering early childhood special education systems and the short-term and long-term costs and benefits to the Department of Education's proposed plan to restructure the Child Development Services System and to make recommendations for an early childhood special	MSSA-NFNA				School	
<u>550</u>	1051	An Act To Amend the Definition of "Subdivision" in the Laws Governing Planning and Land Use Regulation for Subdivisions and a Provision Excepting the Division of a New or Existing Structure from Those Laws Beginning July 1, 2018	Libby	ENR	This bill changes the date by which definitions of "subdivision" that are in municipal ordinances and that conflict with state law must comply with the definition of "subdivision" in state law. It also extends the time municipalities have to register an ordinance with a conflicting definition with the registry of deeds. The bill also removes cross-references to the site location of development laws in an exemption to municipal subdivision review and adds a cross-reference to the law governing municipal site plan review ordinances.	Staff indicates that the definition of "Site Plan Review" could be amended, but can live with as is	4/5/19 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB	4/11/19 2:00 PM Rm 216 COB	Voted 04/11/19 OTP-AM Not rpt out	Land use	Staff indicates that the definition of "Site Plan Review" could be amended, but can live with the LD as is; public hearing scheduled as of 4/5/19; Planning Director will testify
<u>557</u>	817	An Act To Create and Fund the School Revolving Maintenance Fund To Support the Usefulness and Longevity of Public School Buildings (Emergency)	Moore	ECA	This bill establishes the School Revolving Maintenance Fund as a nonlapsing fund administered by the Department of Education to make loans to school administrative units for minor school infrastructure maintenance and construction projects. The bill requires the Department of Education to adopt major substantive rules and transfers \$30,000,000 from the General Fund unappropriated surplus to the School Revolving Maintenance Fund.	MSSA-Support	2/21/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	2/28/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	DEAD	School Funding	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>560</u>	2224	An Act To Improve Access to Property Tax Exemptions for New Homeowners	Grohoski	TAX	This bill provides that a permanent resident of the State who owns a homestead in the State does not need to own the homestead for the preceding 12 months in order to qualify for the Maine resident homestead property tax exemption.	Assessor and FD Supportive	2/20/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	2/27/19 10:00 AM Rm 127 SH	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 4/9/19	Property tax	
<u>562</u>	509	An Act To Improve Shoreland Zoning Rules and Enforcement To Support Municipalities	Blume	ENR	This bill amends the laws relating to the State's regulation of the shoreland zone as follows. 1. It requires the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of Community Development to provide both basic and advanced training to code enforcement officers in the technical and legal aspects of code enforcement. Current law only requires that the office provide basic training to code enforcement officers. 2. It increases the maximum per day civil penalty for a specific violation of a municipal land use law or		3/1/19 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB	3/8/19 1:00 PM Rm 216 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/25/19	Shoreland	
<u>582</u>	508	An Act To Increase Vegetative Buffers in the Shoreland Zone	Fay	ENR	This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. To protect water bodies from nonpoint source pollution, this bill proposes to amend the laws governing shoreland zoning to increase the vegetative buffer requirement			2/12/19 LTW	DEAD	Shoreland	
<u>589</u>	1749	Resolve, Directing the State Board of Education To Adopt Rules Prohibiting Teachers in Public Schools from	Lockman	ECA	This resolve directs the State Board of Education to adopt major substantive rules prohibiting teachers in public schools from engaging in political, religious or	Oppose MSSA-	2/21/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	2/28/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	DEAD	School	
<u>591</u>	1784	An Act To Create Flexibility in Affordable Housing Calculations	Sylvester	LH	This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to allow exemptions in the calculation of the affordable housing cap for per unit expenditures.		3/27/19 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB	Work session held 3/27/19	Voted 3/27/19 ONTP	Housing	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>605</u>	2131	An Act To Improve Antihunger Programs in Maine Schools	Moore	ECA	This bill requires the Department of Education on an annual basis to provide information to public schools regarding Internet-based applications for free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program.	Support MSSA-Support	3/25/19 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	4/3/19 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/3/19 ONTP Not rpt out	School	
<u>632</u>	1050	An Act To Promote Free, Appropriate Public Education	Warren	ECA	This bill eliminates the provision that requires the Child Development Services System to provide free, appropriate public education to a preschool child with disabilities who reaches 5 years of age between July 1st and October 15th if the child's individualized education program team determines that it is in the best interest of the child to delay enrollment in kindergarten for one year.	MSSA-Monitor to Oppose				School	
<u>647</u>	568	An Act To Attract, Educate and Retain New State Residents To Strengthen the Workforce	Cloutier	ECA	This bill creates various programs to provide education, services and training for the State's workforce immigrant populations in the following ways: 1. It establishes the Welcome Center Initiative to operate welcome centers in	Support - submit ltr from Ed Dept				Workforce	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>651</u>	990	An Act To Facilitate School Access to Federal Title I Funds and Improve the Delivery of Special Education Services	Farnsworth	ECA	This bill makes the following changes to the laws governing special education. 1. It adds 4 provisions to the laws regarding nontraditional limited purpose schools that were part of Department of Education rule Chapter 250 which has been repealed. 2. It adds response to intervention systems to the minimum requirements for basic school approval to ensure an all-encompassing, tiered system of support for general and special education students. It also clarifies that rules regarding those requirements are major substantive rules. 3. It facilitates collaboration between general education and special education, including a clarification that the Department of Education is required to facilitate a	May oppose - talk to Dick MSSA-Monitor to Support	3/6/19 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB	4/4/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/4/19 OTP-AM Not rpt out	School Funding	
<u>712</u>	343	An Act To Fully Fund After-school and Preschool Programs in the School Funding Formula, Increase the Economically Disadvantaged Student Factor in the School Funding Formula and Increase the School Construction Debt Service Limit	Brennan	ECA	This bill amends the school funding formula to fund after-school programs based on the state share percentage and to fund public preschool programs at 50% of the cost of the programs, or if a school administrative unit's state share percentage is greater than 50%, to fund the unit's public preschool program at the state share percentage. The bill also increases the additional weight for economically disadvantaged students from 0.15 to 1.5. The bill also raises the maximum debt service limit for school construction projects from \$126,000,000 to \$150,000,000 beginning in 2020.	MSSA-NFNA				School Funding	
<u>718</u>	467	An Act To Increase Funding for Adult Basic Literacy, Workplace Education and College Preparedness	Talbot Ross	EDU	This bill provides an increase in funding for the adult education subsidy to local school units that operate adult education programs. It also provides targeted funds to improve the capacity of local adult education programs to meet students' academic and work readiness and training needs.	MSSA-Support				School Funding	
<u>729</u>	1006	An Act Regarding the Probationary Period for Teachers	Dodge	ECA	This bill provides that if a teacher completed a 3-year probationary period in a school administrative unit and later teaches in another school administrative unit, that teacher will only have a one-year probationary period in the new school administrative unit.	Likely not in support MSSA-Oppose	3/21/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	3/28/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	DEAD	School	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>791</u>	1586	An Act To Provide School Districts with Full State Funding for Students with High-cost Special Education Needs	Miramant	ECA	This bill requires the State, beginning July 1, 2020, to provide a school administrative unit 100% of the funding needed for high-cost special education students.	Strong support MSSA-NFNA	3/6/19 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB	3/20/19 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 3/20/19	School Funding	
<u>836</u>	293	An Act To Expand Maine's School-based Health Centers	Handy	HHS	This bill provides ongoing funding to the school-based health centers within the Fund for a Healthy Maine program within the Department of Health and Human Services to add an additional 15 school-based health center sites.	Support - Testify MSSA-Support	2/25/19 12:00 PM Rm 209 COB	4/2/19 1:30 PM Rm 209 COB	Voted 4/2/19 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	School	
<u>844</u>	934	An Act To Prohibit Driverless Commercial Vehicles	Hutchins	TRAN	This bill prohibits the operation of a commercial motor vehicle that does not have a driver in the vehicle.					Transportation	
<u>917</u>	1802	An Act Increasing Municipal Agent Fees for Motor Vehicle, All-terrain Vehicle, Snowmobile and Watercraft Registrations	Gratwick	TRAN	This bill allows municipal agents to charge higher service fees for registrations for motor vehicles, from \$3 to \$5 for renewals and from \$4 to \$6 for new registrations. It also allows municipal agents to charge higher service fees for registrations for all-terrain vehicles, snowmobiles and watercraft, from \$1 to \$3 for renewals and from \$2 to \$5 for new registrations.		3/21/19 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	3/28/19 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	Voted 3/28/19 OTP-AM Not rpt out	Registrations	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>949</u>	267	An Act To Prevent Overdose Deaths	Sylvester	HHS	This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to certify 2 facilities in the State to provide safe and secure locations for people to self-administer previously obtained drugs. The bill requires the facilities to have health care personnel and other trained staff, to provide information concerning drug overdoses and disposes associated with drug use to administer first aid		4/1/19 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB			Drugs	
<u>957</u>	621	An Act To Increase the Property Tax Fairness Credit	Ingwersen	TAX	This bill increases the maximum credit available under the property tax fairness credit from \$750 to \$1,000 for resident individuals under 65 years of age and from \$1,200 to \$1,500 for resident individuals 65 years of age and older and decreases the threshold from 6% to 5% of the resident individual's income for purposes of					Property tax	
<u>979</u>	1817	An Act To Provide Consistent Data Regarding Education Funding	Stearns	ECA	This bill directs the Commissioner of Education to annually post on the Department of Education's publicly accessible website statewide historical financial data on education funding for a period of no less than 10 years.	Support	3/21/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	3/28/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	DEAD	School Funding	
<u>985</u>	1633	An Act To Maintain High School Diploma Standards by Repealing Proficiency-based Diploma Standards	Fecteau	ECA	This bill repeals the provisions of law that allow diplomas indicating graduation from a secondary school to be based on a student's demonstration of proficiency.	Oppose	4/17/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB			School	
<u>1010</u>	1870	Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Develop a Model School Disciplinary Policy	Morales	ECA	This resolve requires the Department of Education to develop a model school disciplinary policy that focuses on positive and restorative interventions designed to strengthen relationships, improve the connection to school, promote a strong sense of accountability and the commission and local board to develop the	Support	3/25/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/1/19 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/1/19 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	School	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1024</u>	1754	An Act To Include Mental Health Education in Maine Schools	Carson	ECA	This bill requires health education instruction in elementary, middle, junior high and high school to include instruction in mental health and the relationship between physical and mental health.	Oppose	4/1/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/8/19 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/8/19 OTP-AM Not rpt out	School	
<u>1041</u>	739	An Act Regarding Collective Bargaining for Public Employees under the Municipal Public Employees Labor Relations Laws	Collings	LH	This bill amends provisions relating to collective bargaining by public employees covered by municipal public employees labor relations laws, including: 1. Repealing the provision that prohibits public employees from stopping or slowing work, striking or blacklisting public employers to prevent the employers from filling vacancies; and 2. Requiring both parties to collective	No position; Mike to check w/ city staff	3/25/19 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB	4/1/19 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/1/19 ONTP Not rpt out	Labor relations	
<u>1042</u>	1721	An Act To Exempt Disabled Veterans from Property Taxes in Accordance with Their Disability Ratings	Roberts-Lovell	TAX	This bill permits a veteran with a service-connected disability rated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs at 30% or greater to choose to receive a homestead exemption equal to 50% of the just value of the homestead multiplied by the veteran's percentage	Monitor / fund fully	4/23/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH			Property tax	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1043</u>	475	An Act To Establish Universal Public Preschool Programs	Kornfield	ECA	This bill specifies that it is the goal of the State to ensure that public preschool programs for children 4 years of age are offered by all school administrative units by the 2020-2021 school year. In order to achieve that goal, this bill requires the Department of Education to develop recommendations and report back to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by January 1, 2020. Recommendations must include: 1. Standards for public preschool programs; 2. A process for approval and certification of programs not operated by a school administrative unit, including, but not limited to, a Head Start program or other program affiliated with the school administrative unit; and 3. Funding for public preschool programs. The Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature to implement the recommendations in the report.	Support				School	
<u>1046</u>	1496	An Act To Authorize the Department of Education To Provide Flexibility in the Required Credentials for Teachers in Career and Technical Programs	Woodsome	ECA	This bill authorizes the Commissioner of Education to exempt a teacher from certain qualifications adopted by the State Board of Education to teach career and technical education. An exemption must be in accordance with rules adopted by the commissioner.	Support	4/19/19 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB			School	
<u>1050</u>	2072	An Act To Require Education about the Holocaust	Luchini	ECA	This bill requires instruction in the Holocaust developed by the Commissioner of Education to be provided in and required for graduation from all elementary and secondary schools, both public and private.	Oppose	4/22/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB			School	
<u>1063</u>	858	An Act To Support the Role of Municipalities in Expanding Broadband Infrastructure	McCreight	EUT	This bill recognizes broadband Internet as a public necessity. It designates a community broadband system or part of that system as a revenue-producing municipal facility. It allows a municipality to construct, maintain and operate a municipal or multimunicipal system composed of infrastructure capable of being utilized by communications service providers for the provision of communications services. The bill prohibits a municipality from providing retail communications services through community broadband systems to	Support	3/27/19 9:00 AM Rm 211 COB	4/4/19 1:00 PM Rm 211 COB	Voted 4/4/19 OTP-AM Not rpt out	Broadband	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1077</u>	1426	An Act To Ensure Fair Employment Opportunity for Maine Citizens and Legal Residents by Requiring the Use of the Federal Immigration Verification System	DeVeau	LH	This bill requires an employer to register with and use the federal immigration verification system, currently known as the E-Verify program, to determine the work eligibility status of new employees physically performing services within the State.	Monitor / Mike checking if City uses	3/27/19 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB	4/3/19 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/3/19 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Employment	
<u>1079</u>	1925	An Act To Require Public Schools To Periodically Test for Radon	Warren	HHS	This bill requires school administrative units to test schools and other buildings for radon every 5 years. The radon testing must comply with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's recommended testing standards for schools. A school administrative unit must notify parents, faculty and staff of the test results and must report test results to the Department of	We don't test _____. Checking if we do.	3/26/19 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB	4/4/19 3:30 PM Rm 209 COB	Voted 4/4/19 OTP-AM Not rpt out	School	
<u>1084</u>	1661	An Act Regarding the Operation of Pedal-powered Tour Vehicles	Sanborn	TRAN	This bill defines "pedal-powered tour vehicle" and permits such vehicles to be used on public ways. The bill provides that a municipality may restrict the operation of a pedal-powered tour vehicle on a public way within the municipality only by requiring evidence of liability insurance and compliance with equipment standards and traffic restrictions established by the municipality.	Mike to check City rules	3/21/19 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	3/28/19 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	Tabled 3/28/19	Bicycles	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1091</u>	2106	An Act Regarding the Personal Liability of Government Employees	Lawrence	JUD	Current law provides that the personal liability of an employee of a governmental entity for negligent acts or omissions within the course and scope of employment is subject to a limit of \$10,000. This bill provides an exception to this limit for an employee who is covered by liability insurance covering the negligent acts or omissions, in which case the limit is equal to the limits of the policy.	Monitor	4/10/19 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH	4/18/19 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH		Employment	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1110</u>	335	An Act To Establish a Local Option for Sales Tax	Gramlich	TAX	This bill allows a municipality to impose a local option sales tax if approved by referendum of the voters in that municipality. The referendum question must identify the rate of the local option sales tax, the categories of taxable items the local option sales tax will apply to and the purposes for which the revenue will be used. The local option sales tax would be collected and administered by the State in the same manner as the sales and use tax. Revenue from the local option sales tax is distributed to the municipality imposing the local option sales tax. Revenue received by a municipality may not be used to reduce or eliminate funding otherwise due the municipality under other provisions of law.	Support/ Testify	3/27/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	4/3/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	ONTP Reported out 4/9/18	Tax, Local Option	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1116</u>	1406	An Act To Strengthen the Lead Poisoning Control Act (Emergency)	Libby	HHS	This bill: 1. Changes the year for the State's goal to eradicate childhood lead poisoning from 2010 to 2030 and requires that a report on progress toward meeting that goal be submitted to the Legislature by January 1, 2025; 2. Requires that all Maine children be tested for unsafe exposure to lead at one year of age and 2 years of age; 3. Increases the lead poisoning prevention fee from 25¢ to 50¢ per gallon of paint and allows up to 50% of the fee to be used for mandated dwelling inspections and mandated orders to remove lead hazards; and 4. Makes permanent 5 Environmental Specialist III positions created in 2015 and necessary to the operation of the lead poisoning risk assessment and blood lead level testing program.	Support	3/26/19 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB	4/16/19 1:15 PM Rm 209 COB		Lead poisoning	
<u>1121</u>	1653	An Act To Acknowledge Potable Water as a Necessity	Chenette	ENR	This bill adds potable water to lists of necessities in the Maine Revised Statutes in laws governing profiteering in necessities, municipal general assistance and supplies for jails.	Mike to check w/ City staff	4/10/19 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB	4/19/19 11:00 AM Rm 216 COB		Water	GA has indicated a potential issue because bottled water has a deposit on the container, and as such is not allowed; no public hearing scheduled as of 3/22/19

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1122</u>	679	An Act To Expand Tax Increment Financing	Pouliot	TAX	This bill expands the types of projects eligible for tax increment financing for municipalities and plantations by including public safety facilities instead of just fire stations, as in the current law.	Support / Police Chief to testify	3/28/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	4/10/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	Voted 4/10/19 OTP-AM Not rpt out	TAX	
<u>1123</u>	1173	An Act Regarding Telecommunications Infrastructure Costs	Black	TAX	This bill amends the laws governing development districts designated by a municipality or plantation to provide that costs associated with broadband and fiber optics expansion projects, including preparation, planning, engineering and other related costs in addition to the construction costs of such projects, whether or not such expansion projects serve residential or business	Support	3/28/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	4/4/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	Voted 4/4/19 ONTP Not rpt out	Telecommunications	
<u>1129</u>	1611	An Act To Clarify Certain Provisions of the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act	Jorgensen	HHS	This bill clarifies the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act by: 1. Standardizing the term "caregiver retail store" by creating a definition of the term and replacing other variations of "retail store" in the Act with "caregiver retail store"; and 2. Defining "municipal approval" in the provisions regarding marijuana for medical use caregiver retail stores, dispensaries and facilities operating before	Monitor				Marijuana	
<u>1152</u>	1011	An Act To Make the Maine Educational Assessment Optional for Kindergarten to Grade 8	Handy	ECA	This bill makes the currently mandatory state assessment program for schools optional for kindergarten to grade 8.	Reviewing, not sure - generally would not	4/9/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Work session held 4/9/19	Voted 4/9/19 ONTP Not rpt out	School	
<u>1166</u>	1436	An Act To Require Public Transit To Be Accessible to Blind or Visually Impaired Riders	Chipman	TRAN	This bill requires that all state and municipal vehicles that operate on a fixed route system for the purpose of public transportation must be equipped with an automated announcement system that delivers audible messages to	Check w/ Casco Bay Lines				Transportation	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1167</u>	2012	An Act To Increase Consumption of Maine Foods in State Institutions	Hickman	ACF	Current law requires state and school purchasers to buy meat, fish, dairy products, excluding milk and eggs, and species of fruits and fresh vegetables directly from Maine food producers or food brokers. This bill establishes a minimum percentage of Maine foodstuffs, including milk or milk products, eggs, meat or meat products, poultry or poultry products, fish or fish products and fruits and vegetables that must be purchased requiring at least	Monitor / concern if adds to cost	3/26/19 1:00 PM Rm 214 COB	4/11/19 1:30 PM Rm 214 COB	Tabled 4/11/19	Food	
<u>1168</u>	1789	Resolve, To Improve Maine's Response to Childhood Trauma	Head	ECA	This resolve directs the Commissioner of Education to convene a task force, inviting the participation of experts and interested parties, to develop guidance for kindergarten to grade 12 administrators on appropriate training and responses to childhood trauma and to submit a report to the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs by December 4, 2019. The committee is authorized to submit legislation related to the report to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.	Support	4/9/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/18/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB		Healthcare	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1170</u>	1535	An Act To Raise the Floor of State Education Funding	Lawrence	ECA	This bill changes the formula for determining the minimum state allocation for a school administrative unit to be the unit's total cost of education, as adjusted, multiplied by 15% or the unit's special education costs, as adjusted, whichever is greater. This bill also guarantees a member municipality a minimum state contribution of 15% of the municipality's total cost of education, as adjusted, and requires the funds to be paid to the school administrative unit and deducted from the municipality's required contribution.	Stay away	4/22/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB			School Funding	
<u>1174</u>	1604	An Act To Facilitate Remote Learning during School Cancellations	Miramant	ECA	This bill allows a school to receive credit for a school day that is cancelled due to weather or another emergency reason if the students of the school receive adequate online instruction or alternative method for students without the technical capability to participate in online instruction.	Support	4/1/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/8/19 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/8/19 ONTP Not rpt out	School	
<u>1175</u>	1443	An Act To Ensure the Timely and Proper Completion of Residential Foreclosures	Foley	JUD	This bill makes changes to the laws governing the adjournment of a public sale of foreclosed premises and where such a sale must be conducted. It provides that for any period of adjournment for the sale of a mortgaged condominium unit, the mortgagee is required to pay the condominium association the regular monthly condominium assessment assessed against the unit for the period between the original sale date and the date of	Have Mike check	4/24/19 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH			Foreclosures	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1177</u>	1017	An Act To Improve Public Sector Labor Relations	Jackson	LH	This bill: 1. Amends the labor relations laws governing municipal public employees and University of Maine System employees to provide that determinations by arbitrators with respect to controversies over all subjects, including salaries, pensions and insurance, are final and binding on the parties; 2. Amends the labor relations laws governing state employees to provide that, with respect to controversies over salaries, an arbitrator's determinations are final and binding on the parties; and 3. Amends the labor relations laws governing judicial employees to provide that an arbitrator's determinations with respect to controversies over all subjects, including salaries, pensions and insurance, are final and binding on the parties and that,	Mike to check w/ City staff	3/25/19 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB	4/1/19 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/1/19 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Labor relations	Corp. Counsel and HR oppose because the creation of binding arbitration on wages and benefits can force a municipality, through an arbitrator, into a contract it cannot afford; public hearing scheduled for 3/25/19
<u>1182</u>	929	An Act To Improve School Safety by Requiring Law Enforcement Visits	Hutchins	ECA	This bill requires that a public school be visited at least 2 times per week by a law enforcement officer from the State Police, a county sheriff's office or a municipal law enforcement agency when that public school is in session. Visits by law enforcement officers must be	Defer to Chief / check w- Chief	4/19/19 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB			School	
<u>1183</u>	2402	Resolve, To Implement the Recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee Concerning Remote Participation by Members of Public Bodies (Emergency)	Bailey	JUD	This resolve establishes the Study Committee on Remote Participation to explore the use of remote participation by members of public bodies in this State and other jurisdictions and determine the best way to guarantee government transparency and accountability, goals of the Freedom of Access Act, when considering the use of remote participation. The study committee consists of 2					Righ to Know	
<u>1195</u>	1409	An Act To Encourage the Removal of Campaign Signs from the Public Right-of-way	Woodsome	TRAN	This bill requires that a temporary sign, which includes a campaign sign, placed within the public right-of-way that advertises or announces an event must be removed from the right-of-way within 4 weeks after the event and, if the sign is not removed within that 4-week period, the municipality in which the sign is located may remove the sign and assess the individual, entity or organization that placed the sign a fee of \$10.	Monitor				Campaigns	
<u>1201</u>	1290	An Act To Create a Low-barrier, Permanent Housing Rental Subsidy for Individuals in the State Experiencing Long-term Homelessness	Farnsworth	LH	This bill establishes a rental subsidy program within the Maine State Housing Authority for persons experiencing long-term homelessness. The rental subsidy program provides a rental subsidy and housing retention services to a person eligible for the program.	Monitor	3/27/19 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB	4/5/19 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/5/19 Referred to HHS Not rpt out	Housing	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1206</u>	1082	An Act To Improve Aboveground Utilities' Responsiveness to Public Interests	Beebe-Center	EUT	This bill provides specific authority to a municipality or other applicable licensing authority to manage public rights-of-way, to issue licenses or permits for the use of those rights-of-way by utilities such as wireless telecommunications service providers and cable television systems and to charge a fee for the license or permit. A municipality or applicable licensing authority may order a utility to alter, remove or relocate its facilities. A utility that fails to comply with a written order of a municipality to alter, remove or relocate the utility's facilities is subject to a fine of up to \$1,000 per day for each day the utility remains in violation of the order of the municipality.	Support	3/27/19 9:00 AM Rm 211 COB	4/11/19 1:00 PM Rm 211 COB	Voted 4/11/19 OTP-AM Not rpt out	Utilities	
<u>1222</u>	202	An Act Regarding Electric Bicycles	Rykerson	TRAN	This bill defines and regulates the use of electric bicycles, which are bicycles with a motor and which fall into one of 3 classes, depending on the top speed attainable and whether the operator needs to pedal while the motor is propelling the electric bicycle. The bill provides that an operator of an electric bicycle has generally the same rights and obligations as the operator of a bicycle, except that the use of an electric bicycle on bicycle paths and bikeways may be restricted by the entity having jurisdiction over the bicycle path or bikeway. An electric bicycle is considered a vehicle for purposes of the State's so-called open container law and, as with bicycles, any person under 16 years of age who is operating or riding as a passenger on an electric bicycle must wear a helmet.	Check w/ staff				Bicycles	
<u>1227</u>	1125	An Act To Allow Parents To Apply to the Commissioner of Education To Enroll Their Children in a Receiving School Administrative Unit and To Remove Limitations on Which Students May Be So Enrolled	Hanley	ECA	Current law allows the superintendent of a school administrative unit that neither maintains a school nor contracts for school privileges to request the Commissioner of Education to designate a school administrative unit as the receiving school administrative unit for a student who is unable to find a school administrative unit willing to enroll the student in one of its schools. This bill allows any student's parent or	Oppose				School	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1232</u>	694	An Act To Ensure the Right To Work without Payment of Dues or Fees to a Labor Union as a Condition of Employment	Lockman	LH	This bill prohibits a person, either in the public or private sector, from being required to join a labor organization or pay any labor organization dues or fees as a condition of employment or continuation of employment, notwithstanding any state law to the contrary. A violation is Class B crime and is subject to civil	Staff to check	4/3/19 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB	4/3/19 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/3/19 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Employment	Corporate Counsel states that due to Supreme Court ruling last year this will have little effect on employees; public hearing scheduled for 4/3/19.
<u>1234</u>	668	An Act To Expand the Value of the Homestead Exemption to \$25,000 and State Reimbursement to 100 Percent of Lost Property Tax Revenue	Austin	TAX	This bill increases for property tax years beginning April 1, 2020 the value of the homestead exemption benefit under the Maine resident homestead property tax exemption from \$20,000 to \$25,000 and increases the state reimbursement for the lost property tax revenue from 62.5% to 100%. The bill also provides that the		4/16/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH			Property tax	
<u>1237</u>	1012	An Act To Simplify Municipal Collective Bargaining by Removing the 120-Day Notice Required Prior to Certain Negotiations	Handy	LH	This bill repeals the requirement that a bargaining agent for municipal public employees submit a written request for collective bargaining to the public employer of those municipal public employees at least 120 days before the conclusion of the current fiscal operating budget.	Staff to check	4/17/19 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB			Labor relations	Corporate Counsel & HR do not feel this will have an impact on the city; no public hearing scheduled as of 4/4/19.
<u>1247</u>	840	Resolve, To Change the Work Requirement Rules under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program	Madigan	HHS	This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules to include a Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program participant's attendance at the medical and mental health appointments of the participant's children as a life management skill and job readiness activity.	Check w/ staff	4/12/19 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB			General Assistance	Staff are supportive, and feel that.....; no public hearing scheduled as of 3/25/19

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1254</u>	231	An Act To Authorize a Local Option Sales Tax on Meals and Lodging and Provide Funding To Treat Opioid Use Disorder	Sylvester	TAX	This bill allows a municipality to impose a local option sales tax, which may be seasonal, on prepared food, not including marijuana or marijuana products, and short-term lodging of no more than 1% if approved by referendum of the voters in that municipality. Revenue from the local option sales tax is distributed 85% to the municipality and 15% to all other municipalities. The 15% distributed to a municipality must be used by that municipality for the purposes of preventing and treating opioid use disorder in that municipality. Revenue received by a municipality may not be used to reduce or eliminate funding otherwise due the municipality under other provisions of law.		3/27/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	4/3/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	Tabled 4/3/19	Tax, Local Option	
<u>1257</u>	2177	An Act To Prepare Maine for a Low-carbon Transportation Future	Bryant	TRAN	This bill authorizes the Secretary of State to require the owner of an electric vehicle to pay an electric vehicle registration surcharge of \$25 per year when at least 3,000 electric vehicles are annually registered in the State. The amount of the surcharge increases to \$50 per year when at least 10,000 electric vehicles are annually registered in the State. The municipality that collects the annual electric vehicle registration surcharge is required to expend no less than 50% of the surcharge to construct or modify public infrastructure that facilitates the charging of electric vehicles for use by the general public or for other purposes that encourage or support the purchase and use by the general public of electric vehicles. The bill also directs the Governor's Energy Office to convene an electric vehicle task force, which is charged with reviewing a number of matters relating to electric vehicles and electric vehicle infrastructure. The director of the office is required to report by February 15, 2020 to the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology and the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation regarding any recommendations of the task force, including proposed legislation. After reviewing the report, the committees may report out legislation to the Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature. The bill also directs the Commissioner of Transportation to take a number of actions regarding short-term and long-term planning for road infrastructure and highway funding, including a review of potential new vehicle or road use fees. The commissioner is directed to report by February 15, 2021	Staff to check	4/18/19 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH			Transportation	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1262</u>	1648	An Act To Allow Funds from the Federal E-Rate Program To Be Applied to Maine Preschool Programs	Pouliot	ECA	This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to enact measures to ensure that preschools in Maine are eligible for federal E-rate program funding.	Does this allow private schools to draw?	4/23/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB			School Funding	Concept draft to allow preschool programs to be eligible for the Federal E-Rate program. One sponsor (Kennebec). Presumably would allow private pre-school providers to access federal E-Rate funds. Unsure how state law could direct this federal program. Could reduce the amount of funding accessible to public schools and if that's the case, we would oppose.
<u>1265</u>	2047	An Act To Establish a Maine Low-income Housing Tax Credit	Pouliot	TAX	This bill creates a tax credit for owners of low-income housing developments that qualify for tax credits under federal law and are financed with tax-exempt bonds, located in the State and determined by the Maine State Housing Authority to be eligible for a federal tax credit whether or not a federal tax credit is allocated to the development. A taxpayer that receives the credit must agree to enter a restrictive covenant to maintain and operate the development as low-income housing and follow various federal requirements for 15 years. The state tax credit is for 6 years and has a recapture					Tax, Homestead Property	
<u>1266</u>	940	An Act To Create Transportation Corridor Districts for the Purpose of Funding Transportation and Transit Services	Chipman	TRAN	This bill provides for the formation of transportation corridor districts within the current law relating to transit districts and regional transportation corporations. The bill provides that a municipality may, by itself or in cooperation with one or more other municipalities, form a transportation corridor district for the purposes of providing an environment to fund public transportation and serve accessibility needs, including passenger rail	Mike to get more info	4/18/19 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH			Transportation	
<u>1299</u>	1380	An Act To Incentivize Municipalities, State Agencies, Colleges and Universities To Use Electric Vehicles	Ingwersen	EUT	This bill requires the Efficiency Maine Trust to develop a program to provide grants to municipalities, state agencies, colleges and universities to support the purchase of charging stations for electric vehicles and the purchase of electric vehicles.	Support	4/10/19 8:00 AM Rm 211 COB	Work session held 4/10/19	Voted 4/10/19 ONTP Not rpt out	Charging Stations	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1317</u>	1666	An Act To Restore Services To Help Certain Noncitizens Meet Their Basic Needs	Gattine	HHS	This bill removes limitations on food supplement program benefits and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program benefits, provides MaineCare coverage and modifies language for state-funded supplemental security income to maintain consistency throughout the law for certain noncitizens who are lawfully present in the United States or pursuing a lawful process to apply for immigration relief	Support Staff review	4/12/19 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB			General Assistance	
<u>1318</u>	1916	Resolve, To Increase Access to Housing-related Support Services	Gattine	HHS	This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to apply for waivers to provide housing-related services, including housing transition and tenancy sustaining services, to individuals with disabilities, older adults needing long-term services and supports and persons experiencing chronic homelessness under the 1915(b) and 1915(c) Medicaid waiver provisions. It also directs the department to amend MaineCare rules to implement the waivers once approved. These allowable benefits are set forth in the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services Informational Bulletin dated June 26, 2015 on Coverage of Housing-Related Activities and Services for Individuals with Disabilities. The resolve also directs the department to review any waivers or state plan amendments available under Title XIX of the United States Social Security Act to stabilize access to safe and affordable housing for individuals with disabilities, older adults,	Staff review	4/17/19 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB			Housing	
<u>1321</u>	1834	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Funding Limitation on County Jails	Stanley	CJPS	This bill eliminates the 4% growth limitation cap on county assessments to municipalities to fund county correctional services.	Staff to check current %	4/8/19 9:00 AM Rm 436 SH	4/12/19 1:00 PM Rm 436 SH	Voted 4/12/19 ONTP Not rpt out	Jail Funding	City staff oppose, as this is a cost shift to municipalities from the state/county; public hearing scheduled for 4/8/19.

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1338</u>	1177	An Act To Protect Teachers from Unfair Evaluations	McCrea	ECA	This bill removes the requirement in current law that the criteria to establish the order of layoff and recall of teachers must include the teacher's effectiveness rating as a factor. It also amends the provisions in current law governing the use of teacher effectiveness ratings.	Support Think MSMA will oppose				School	
<u>1341</u>	708	An Act To Provide Flexibility for Efficient and Effective Management of School Management and Leadership Centers	Kornfield	ECA	This bill amends the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 123, regarding school management and leadership centers, and related laws to change the term "school management and leadership center" to the term "school management and leadership center"	Wait for MSMA	4/9/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/18/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB		School	
<u>1347</u>	1628	An Act To Promote High-quality After-school Programs in Public Schools	Beebe-Center	ECA	This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to amend the provisions in law regarding high-quality after-school programs under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 318. Currently, funds to provide high-quality after-school programs are provided by the After-school Program Fund, which receives a substantial amount of funding from the Federal Government that may be terminated or no longer available in the coming years. This bill proposes to seek new funding for the After-school Program Fund and to increase the quality of the after-school programs, including requiring matching funds from the schools that receive the funds and to make grants from the fund competitive. An after-school program that is a recipient of funding from the fund must have as measurable outcomes for the students academic improvement, social emotional learning and family engagement. Criteria for competitive grants would seek to improve or raise the	Monitor Concern about funding	4/17/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB			School	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
1369	1680	An Act To Create an Additional Pathway To Certify Industrial Arts Teachers To Foster Career and Technical Subjects in Maine Schools	Wadsworth	ECA	This bill directs the State Board of Education to adopt rules to amend the credentialing of education personnel to create a pathway for a teacher to obtain an endorsement on a teaching certificate for a component of industrial arts with an experiential lab that includes, but is not limited to: automotive body repair, diagnostics and mechanics; welding; electrical; carpentry; and computer-aided design. Rules must include at least the following qualifications for a teacher to be eligible for an endorsement: a completed apprenticeship registered with a statewide or national apprenticeship and training organization; a completed 2-year degree or certificate from a technical institution accredited by a national association of career and technical schools or similar organization; completion of a minimum number of hours of paid applied employment or teaching in the endorsement area being sought; and completion of a minimum number of hours of experience learning the	Support Ck w/ MSMA about testifying	4/19/19 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB			School	
1370	662	An Act To Address Violent Behavior in the Classroom	Millett	ECA	Current law requires the Commissioner of Education to provide technical assistance to school administrative units if they request assistance in the provision of violence prevention training. This bill requires a school administrative unit to immediately investigate allegations of violent behavior by a student against a public school employee and, if an allegation is substantiated, to institute an action plan to avoid future violent behavior. The action plan must be instituted prior to the student's return to school and must emphasize minimizing suspensions and expulsions of a student who demonstrated violent behavior, prioritizing counseling	Support	4/17/19 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB			School	
1382	1384	An Act To Establish Computer Science Courses and Content in Kindergarten to Grade 12 Schools	Pierce	ECA	This bill provides the necessary resources and support for kindergarten to grade 12 schools to adopt computer science into their courses and curriculums. The bill establishes a grant program for computer science professional development, including costs of transportation, mentoring and coaching. The bill also requires the Department of Education to develop a statewide plan as well as computer science standards for kindergarten to grade 12 schools. The bill creates a full-time Regional Education Representative position in the Department of Education to support the creation and implementation of the plan and the standards. The bill establishes a grant program for computer devices and instructional materials to provide the tools necessary for schools to implement computer science courses and content. The bill also establishes a computer science teacher certification program for students who are majoring in education in the University of Maine System. Finally, the bill authorizes the Department of Education to adopt rules as necessary to implement the provisions	Monitor				School	
1403	342	An Act To Amend the General Assistance Laws Governing Eligibility and Reimbursement	Brennan	HHS	This bill establishes presumptive eligibility for general assistance for persons who are provided shelter at emergency shelters for the homeless. It also	Support / Testify	4/12/19 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB			General Assistance	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1404</u>	330	Resolve, To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Request a Waiver Relating to Support Services and To Provide Funds To Prevent Homelessness	Brennan	HHS	This resolve requires the Department of Health and Human Services to apply to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for a waiver from the requirements of federal law and regulations to allow Maine to provide Medicaid-funded direct support services to individuals experiencing homelessness. In addition, the bill provides ongoing funds to the Housing First Assistance Program established within the Maine State Housing Authority to be distributed to community action agencies to assist individuals on the verge of	Support / Testify	4/12/19 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB			Housing	
<u>1417</u>	1970	An Act To Expand Access to Head Start To Assist Opioid-affected and Other At-risk Families	McCreight	HHS	This bill establishes eligibility standards for the Head Start program that allow participation for a child up to 5 years of age who is or whose family is affected by substance use disorder or whose family's income is at or below 185% of the federal poverty level. This bill also provides appropriations to be distributed to nontribal Head Start program service providers proportionately in an amount based upon the percentage of children up to 5 years of age who live at or below the federal poverty level in each provider's service area compared to the percentage of children up to 5 years of age who live at or below the federal poverty level statewide, with preference given to children who are at risk or whose families are at risk.	Monitor Concern about funding	4/17/19 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB			Drugs	This bill establishes eligibility standards for the Head Start program that allow participation for a child up to 5 years of age who is or whose family is affected by substance use disorder or whose family's income is at or below 185% of the federal poverty level. Talbott Ross is a co-sponsor. Appropriates 15 M over the biennium to the Department of Health and Human Services for this purpose. Does not affect PPS or education funding directly. Support in concept.

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
1419	2162	An Act To Improve Commercial Production of Shellfish by Allowing Municipalities To Establish Active Municipal Shellfish Management Areas	McCreight	MR	This bill allows a municipality in its municipal shellfish conservation ordinance to establish active municipal shellfish management areas where a person licensed under the ordinance may employ and develop methods that enhance commercial production of shellfish, which include but are not limited to protective netting, traps, cages and boxes. This bill requires that: 1. Active municipal shellfish management areas do not encompass more than 10% of the intertidal zone; 2. Only a person authorized by the municipality to engage in permitted activities in an active municipal shellfish management area may harvest any marine organisms; 3. Each person authorized to engage in permitted activities in an active municipal shellfish management area is limited to engage in those activities on no more than 2 acres of the intertidal zone; 4. An active municipal shellfish management area may not be established in areas closed by the Commissioner of Marine Resources; 5. Any shellfish harvested in an active municipal shellfish management area must comply with minimum size requirements; 6. An active municipal shellfish management area is clearly marked with signs that identify that it has been designated as an active municipal shellfish management area and that harvesting of marine organisms is restricted to only those persons that have been authorized by the municipality; 7. Any gear used in an active municipal shellfish management area is no more than 18 inches above the sediment; and 8. A person engaged in permitted activities in an active municipal shellfish management area report any findings	Check w/ staff	4/16/19 1:00 PM Rm 206 COB			Shellfish	
1425	1730	An Act To Maintain the Integrity of the Department of Education by Prohibiting Its Promotion of Policies and Practices That Are Not Based on Rigorous Peer Review and Analysis, Limiting Acceptance of Private Funding in Implementing and Influencing State Policy and Retaining the Home Rule Powers to School Administrative Units	Sampson	ECA	This bill prohibits the Commissioner of Education and Department of Education personnel from promoting policies, programs, procedures or experiments in schools that do not adhere to rigorous standards of peer review and established statistical procedures for determining the effectiveness in producing clearly identified outcomes and from contracting with and accepting funding from private entities to implement state policies. This bill also directs the commissioner to withdraw from the New England Secondary School Consortium and prohibits the commissioner from maintaining membership in regional or national groups that are funded by private entities. The bill also directs the Department of Education, in consultation with school administrative units and the Maine Municipal Association, to study how to return home rule powers to school administrative units.	Support				School	An Act To Maintain the Integrity of the Department of Education by Prohibiting Its Promotion of Policies and Practices That Are Not Based on Rigorous Peer Review and Analysis, Limiting Acceptance of Private Funding in Implementing and Influencing State Policy and Retaining the Home Rule Powers to School Administrative Units. Limits the DOE's ability to allow outside funders to influence policy direction. Support.
1428	140	An Act To Require the State To Fund 50 Percent of Public Preschool Programs	Millett	ECA	This bill requires the State to fund a minimum of 50% of the costs of an approved public preschool program for each year a school administrative unit operates the program, other than the year in which the school administrative unit receives start-up funds for the program. If funds for essential programs and services do not provide the funding necessary to fund a minimum of	NFNA Want to fund differently				School Funding	Requires funds be allocated to pay for 50% of the cost of preschool programming (based on half of the statewide cost of providing PK programming statewide). Would not support if this run through the formula or if it increases the cost of

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1431</u>	266	Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs (Emergency)	Devin	ENR	This resolve requires the Department of Environmental Protection to develop proposed legislation to establish a new product stewardship program requiring producers of packaging to assist Maine municipalities in managing and financing packaging waste disposal and recycling programs in the State. The proposed legislation is required also to incentivize producers of packaging to design packaging to be recycled or made of recycled content to strengthen the recycling markets. The resolve requires the department to submit the proposed legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources no later than December 16, 2019.	Monitor	4/18/19 1:00 PM Rm 216 COB			Recycling	
<u>1439</u>	1059	An Act To Ensure Quality, Safety and Accountability on Public Construction Projects	Sylvester	SLG	This bill encourages the State to use project labor agreements for large-scale state-funded construction projects of \$10,000,000 or more. A project labor agreement is a prehire collective bargaining agreement with one or more labor unions that establishes the terms and conditions of employment for a specific construction project.	Monitor Not going to weigh in					
<u>1440</u>	1456	An Act To Create Transparency in Tax Increment Financing and Credit Enhancement Agreement Proposals	Sylvester	IDEA	This bill requires that, for applicants to the Department of Economic and Community Development or municipalities for assistance for the improvement and development of housing, community and economic development opportunities, the name of the applicants and the amount of assistance being requested not be withheld as confidential but be subject to disclosure.	Staff review	4/16/19 1:30 PM Rm 202 COB				

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1444</u>	1243	An Act To Make the Distance to Schools for Marijuana Establishments Consistent with the Liquor Laws	Madigan	VLA	This bill changes the distance requirements under the adult use marijuana provisions from 1,000 feet to 300 feet for a marijuana establishment to a preexisting public or private school and the method by which the distance is measured to make the adult use marijuana distance requirements consistent with liquor law requirements.	Staff review					
<u>1451</u>	759	An Act Providing Labor Unions with Reasonable Access to Current and Newly Hired Public Sector Workers	Pluecker	LH	This bill makes changes to the laws governing collective bargaining for municipal employees, state employees, judicial employees and employees of the University of Maine System, the Maine Maritime Academy and the Maine Community College System to provide a collective bargaining agent with greater access to employees and employee information for those employees represented by that collective bargaining agent. It also provides a collective bargaining agent with the right to use any government building or facility to conduct meetings with its members, as long as that use does not interfere with governmental operations. The government entity may charge the collective bargaining agent for any additional costs that use may incur.	Monitor Staff review	4/17/19 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB				
<u>1470</u>	1088	An Act To Allow the Prohibition of Weapons at Public Proceedings and Voting Places	Breen	SLG	This bill allows a political subdivision to prohibit the carrying of dangerous weapons at public proceedings and at voting places. It provides an exception to allow the carrying of a handgun by an on-duty law enforcement officer. It defines "political subdivision" as any municipality, plantation, county, quasi-municipal corporation and special purpose district, including, but not limited to, any water district, sanitary district, hospital district, municipal transmission and distribution utility and school administrative unit.	Support/ Testify					
<u>1476</u>	1892	An Act To Clarify Recounts in Municipal Elections	Handy	SLG	This bill repeals the law governing a candidate's inspection of ballots and incoming voting lists and amends the law governing the referendum recount procedure to provide for establishing official representatives of both sides of a referendum issue, determining the date of the recount, the hand recount of votes, the availability of election materials for inspection, the resolution of disputed ballots, the resealing of recounted ballots and certification of the election results.	Staff review					

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
1480	1148	An Act To Modify Retirement Plans for Fire Investigators and Sergeants	Harrington	LH	This bill changes the eligibility requirements for the retirement of a state fire marshal investigator, state fire marshal senior investigator and state fire marshal sergeant under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System from 55 years of age and 25 years of creditable service to just 20 years of creditable service.	Staff review	4/22/19 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB				
1497	1704	An Act To Recognize High-performing, Efficient School Districts with Regard to the System Administration Allocation (Emergency)	Roberts-Lovell	ECA	Under current law, for the 2019-20 fiscal year, a system administration allocation of \$141 per pupil is established, with \$47 being allocated to each school administrative unit and an additional \$94 being allocated as a targeted amount to school administrative units that have established regionalized administrative services. This bill maintains the \$141 allocation for fiscal year 2019-20, but provides \$94 to each school administrative unit and an additional \$47 to school administrative units that have established regionalized administrative services and to those school administrative units that have been identified as high-performing, efficient school administrative units.	Support, but want certain provisions removed					Support reinstating the provision for system administration without any of these provisions (regionalization or others).
1508	1236	An Act To Respect the Will of Maine Voters by Funding Education at 55 Percent	Sylvester	TAX	This bill restores provisions of Initiated Bill 2015, chapter 4. It establishes the Fund to Advance Public Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education for the purpose of improving the ability of the State to reach the annual target of 55%, as specified in statute, for the state share of the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 and for increasing direct support for student learning, but not for administrative costs. Revenue for the fund is generated by a 3% surcharge on Maine income tax over \$200,000, beginning with tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2020.	Support/ Testify					
1517	1758	An Act To Facilitate the Deployment of Small Wireless Facilities in Maine	Pierce	SLG	This bill provides that a small wireless facility must be a permitted use within the public right-of-way, subject to any duly adopted, nondiscriminatory conditions otherwise applicable to permitted uses within the municipality and consistent with state and federal law, including, without limitation, any permitting requirements in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, chapter 25.	Staff review					

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Summary	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>1518</u>	2240	An Act To Establish a Fund for Portions of the Operations and Outreach Activities of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Diagnostic and Research Laboratory and To Increase Statewide Enforcement of Pesticide Use	Stanley	ACF	This bill establishes the Tick Laboratory and Pest Management Fund administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension to fund the tick laboratory and other pest management research and projects and directs the extension's pest management unit to study browntail moths as the first of a series of pest research projects to be determined every 3 years by a committee designated by the University of Maine. The fund is funded by a pesticide container fee of 20¢ per container administered by the State Tax Assessor. This bill also creates a duty of the Board of Pesticides Control to investigate complaints of violations of local, state and federal pesticide laws and requires the Board of Pesticides Control to review any request by a political subdivision to eliminate the use of a certain pesticide within that political subdivision.	Support/ Testify (Troy?) Staff review					
<u>1522</u>	1444	An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Orders of Abandonment for Residential Properties in Foreclosure	Foley	JUD	This bill allows a condominium association to act as a party in interest in a judicial foreclosure action to present evidence of abandonment of mortgaged premises and file a motion to determine that the premises are abandoned. This bill also requires a plaintiff prevailing in a foreclosure action against premises that include dwelling units occupied by tenants to pay any rent received from those tenants, after deducting reasonable costs for acting as the landlord, to a condominium association that is a party in interest.	Staff review	4/24/19 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH				

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	COP Position	Status
<u>89</u>	713	An Act To Impose Requirements on the Rental of Residential Property That Has Been Used in the Manufacture of Methamphetamine	Mastraccio	JUD		
<u>336</u>	1168	An Act To Require That Notice of Lead Abatement Orders Be Filed with the Registry of Deeds	Cloutier	HHS		
<u>458</u>	936	An Act To Require Motorists To Yield to Transit Buses	Chipman	TRAN		
<u>482</u>	754	An Act To Reduce the Participation Thresholds for Various Municipal Referenda and To Change the Measurement of Those Thresholds from Votes Cast for and against the Question to Votes in Favor of the Question	Pouliot	SLG		DEAD
<u>514</u>	903	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Political Party Representation of Election Clerks	Schneck	VLA		
<u>522</u>	1286	An Act To Prohibit the Imposition by Municipalities of General Restrictions on Rents and Rental Properties	Strom	LH		
<u>523</u>	1105	An Act To Permit the Indoor Production of Industrial Hemp (Emergency)	Johansen	ACF		
<u>571</u>	1620	Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Initiate a Service Development Plan for Commuter and Passenger Train Service between Portland and the Lewiston and Auburn Area	Sheats	TRAN		
<u>619</u>	239	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Regarding Early Voting	Schneck	VLA		
<u>627</u>	494	An Act Regarding Portable Electronic Device Content, Location Information and Tracking Devices				
<u>670</u>	570	An Act To Increase the Minimum Wage for Large Employers	Collings	LH		DEAD
<u>696</u>	1087	An Act To Protect Public Employees from Identity Theft	Bellows	SLG		
<u>753</u>	459	An Act To Allow Voters To Choose Ongoing Absentee Voter Status	Fecteau	VLA		
<u>778</u>	919	An Act To Create the Fund for Municipalities To Improve Pedestrian Safety	Libby	TRAN		
<u>780</u>	941	An Act To Change Municipal Campaign Contribution Limits	Chipman	VLA		
<u>1031</u>	1369	An Act To Base the Vehicle and Mobile Home Excise Tax on Actual Value	Ordway	TAX		DEAD
<u>1036</u>	1668	Resolve, Establishing a Task Force To Study the Creation of a Comprehensive Career and Technical Education System To Support Workforce Development (Emergency)	Higgins	ECA		
<u>1078</u>	2013	An Act Regarding the Number of Agency Liquor Store Licenses Permitted in a Municipality	Hickman	VLA		
<u>1092</u>	1086	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Critical Incident Stress Management Teams	Bellows	CJPS		
<u>1107</u>	1545	An Act To Promote Workforce Development and Community Integration	Brennan	LH		DEAD
<u>1192</u>	1131	An Act To Establish Municipal Access to Utility Poles Located in Municipal Rights-of-way	Vitelli	EUT	Support	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	COP Position	Status
<u>1320</u>	1979	An Act To Require the Department of Environmental Protection To Provide Natural Resources Protection Act Permits to Affected Municipalities	Fay	ENR		
<u>1386</u>	1897	An Act Regarding the Determination of the Prevailing Wage Rate for Public Works Projects	Sanborn	LH	Monitor	
<u>1416</u>	2399	An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee Concerning Freedom of Access Training for Public Officials	Bailey	JUD		
<u>1511</u>	2400	An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee Concerning Public Records Exceptions	Bailey	JUD		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status
<u>16</u>	333	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Infrastructure To Address Sea Level Rise (Bond)	Brennan	AFA		4/2/19 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH		
<u>47</u>	332	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Fire Stations (Bond)	Brennan	AFA	T – support	1/22/19 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH		
<u>48</u>	329	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Housing for Persons Who Are Homeless (Bond)	Brennan	AFA	T – support	1/22/19 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH		
<u>148</u>	387	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Recapitalize the School Revolving Renovation Fund and To Give Priority Status to Certain School Facility Upgrades (Bond)	Millett	AFA	MSSA- Support w/ \$\$	2/12/19 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH		
<u>172</u>	326	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Smart City Technology (Bond)	Brennan	AFA	Support / Tesify	2/19/19 1:45 PM Rm 228 SH		
<u>363</u>	1559	An Act To Protect Residents of Assisted Living Facilities	Miramant	HHS	MM to send to Barron Center for review (2/ 4)	2/20/19 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH	2/28/19 1:15 PM Rm 228 SH	DEAD
<u>469</u>	987	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Provide Funding for Upgrades of Learning Spaces and Other Projects Funded by the School Revolving Renovation Fund (Bond)	Farnsworth	AFA	M (defer to PPS) MSSA- Support	2/12/19 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH		
<u>535</u>	103	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Maine's Rail Infrastructure and Expand Passenger Rail Service (Bond)	Sheats	AFA				
<u>547</u>	1240	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Maine Aquaculture (Bond)	Chipman	AFA		4/2/19 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status
<u>794</u>	1915	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Recapitalize the Municipal Investment Trust Fund (Bond)	Deschambault	AFA				
<u>859</u>	245	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Equipment for Career and Technical Education Centers and Regions (Bond)	Fecteau	AFA				
<u>1093</u>	1481	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Maine's Railroad Infrastructure (Bond)	Claxton	AFA				
<u>1119</u>	1197	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Investments in Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in Municipalities and School Administrative Units (Bond)	Luchini	AFA	Support			
<u>1333</u>	1839	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Establish a Maine County Correctional Facilities Revolving Construction and Improvement Fund (Bond)	Stanley	AFA				

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status
<u>751</u>	882	An Act To Reinstate the State Property Tax Deferral Program for Maine's Senior Homeowners	Skolfield	TAX		4/10/19 10:00 AM Rm 127 SH	4/17/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	
<u>811</u>	770	An Act To Provide Additional Flexibility in the Municipal Property Tax Assistance Programs for Seniors	Hamper	TAX		4/16/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH		
<u>812</u>	1387	An Act To Stabilize Property Taxes on Homesteads of Individuals Who Are 66 Years of Age or Older	Chenette	TAX		4/10/19 10:00 AM Rm 127 SH	4/17/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	
<u>1145</u>	1883	An Act To Improve the Law Authorizing Municipalities To Allow Low-income Seniors To Defer Payment of Municipal Property Taxes	Cooper	TAX		4/10/19 10:00 AM Rm 127 SH		Voted 4/10/19 ONTP Not rpt out
<u>1158</u>	769	An Act To Provide Property Tax Relief	Talbot Ross	TAX				
<u>1172</u>	1485	An Act To Provide Direct Property Tax Relief to Homeowners by Increasing the Homestead Exemption	Libby	TAX		4/16/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH		
<u>1191</u>	2026	An Act To Exempt Solar Energy Equipment from Property Tax	Lawrence	TAX		4/24/19 10:00 AM Rm 127 SH		
<u>1326</u>	1009	An Act To Expand Eligibility for the Veterans' Property Tax Exemption	Keim	TAX		4/23/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH		
<u>1443</u>	2105	An Act To Enact the Senior Property Tax Reimbursement Act	Pickett	TAX		4/16/19 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH		



Memorandum

TO: Chair Ali and Members of the Legislative Committee
FROM: Michael Murray, Assistant to the City Manager
CC: Jon Jennings, City Manager
SUBJECT: Staff Updates on LD's
DATE: April 19, 2019

The following is a summary of staff comments on LD's that are under consideration by the Legislative Committee:

LD 353 – “Act to Classify Recovery Residences as One-family Dwellings for the Purposes of the Fire Code”. The Committee has requested staff input on this LD; Fire Department opposes unless an amendment is made to “no more than 5 persons” to align with the Fire Code; staff is preparing written testimony; no hearing scheduled as of 4-19-2019;

LD 402 – “An Act to Restore Overtime Protections for Maine Workers”. Committee has requested an impact analysis as to the effect City of Portland workforce; public hearing was held 3-11-2019; 3-20-2019 work session tabled;

LD 1121 – “An Act To Acknowledge Potable Water as a Necessity”. GA has indicated a potential issue because bottled water has a deposit on the container, and as such is not allowed; public hearing scheduled as of 4-10-2019; work session scheduled for 4-19-2019;

LD 1129 – “An Act To Clarify Certain Provisions of the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act”. Staff will prepare testimony in support; no public hearing scheduled as of 4-19-2019;

LD 1222 – “An Act Regarding Electric Bicycles”. Staff input has been requested; no public hearing scheduled as of 4-19-2019;

LD 1257 – “An Act To Prepare Maine for a Low-carbon Transportation Future”; forward to staff for input; staff has concerns that the EV surcharge is a disincentive for consumers to purchase EVs; the fee generated is so low it will not generate enough revenue to fund deployment of EV charging infrastructure; public hearing scheduled 4-18-2019;

LD 1431 – “Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs”; forward to staff & Ecomaine for input”; staff prepared testimony and submitted for public hearing scheduled as of 4-18-2019;



LD 1440 – “An Act To Create Transparency in Tax Increment Financing and Credit Enhancement Agreement Proposals”; staff is opposed to this LD as all programs for public assistance for the improvement of housing, community and economic development opportunities, including the PDC commercial loan and grant program; staff is comfortable with MMA version that provides contact info and amount of assistance after negotiations have been completed but not voted on, as amounts and terms of assistance change through negotiation process; public hearing scheduled for 4-16-2019;

LD 1444 – “An Act To Make the Distance to Schools for Marijuana Establishments Consistent with the Liquor Laws”; no public hearing scheduled as of 4-19-2019; request staff review; staff indicates local ordinance has been reduced to 500 feet from the 1,000. The 300' change itself would not make that big of a difference, but the change in how the measurement takes place could be. Essentially, this will allow marijuana stores to locate right next to school property (playing fields, courtyards, etc), so long as the door to the school was at least 300' off the property line.

LD 1451 - "An Act Providing Labor Unions with Reasonable Access to Current and Newly Hired Public Sector Workers "; staff recommend that Portland take no position on this LD;

LD 1470 – “An Act To Allow the Prohibition of Weapons at Public Proceedings and Voting Places” request staff testimony; public hearing scheduled for 4-22-2019;

LD 1476 – “An Act To Clarify Recounts in Municipal Elections”; request for staff review; City Clerk indicates that ME City & Town Clerks Assoc. supports and is testifying for bill as it aligns local recounts with state recount process; public hearing is scheduled for 4-22-2019;

LD 1480- "Act To Modify Retirement Plans for Fire Investigators and Sergeants"; City has no employees in these job titles; will not affect local contract;

LD 1511 - "An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee Concerning Public Records Exceptions"; request for staff input; Corp Counsel indicates that changes seem appropriate and do not change what is designated as confidential under the law; no public hearing scheduled as of 4-19-2019;

LD 1517 - "An Act To Facilitate the Deployment of Small Wireless Facilities in Maine"; request for staff input; no public hearing scheduled as of 4-19-2019;

LD 1518 – “An Act To Establish a Fund for Portions of the Operations and Outreach Activities of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Diagnostic



and Research Laboratory and To Increase Statewide Enforcement of Pesticide Use"; staff has concerns this LD may overturn local "home rule"; public hearing scheduled for 4-23-2019;

LD 1522 – "An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Orders of Abandonment for Residential Properties in Foreclosure"; staff knows of no issues relating to the city; public hearing scheduled for 4-24-2019;



**CITY OF PORTLAND
ETHAN K. STRIMLING
MAYOR**

**TESTIMONY FOR
LD 133; LD 193; LD 444; LD 1278**

Senator Chipman, Representative Tipping, members of the Committee on Taxation, my name is Ethan Strimling and I am the Mayor of Portland, Maine. I stand before you on behalf of the Portland City Council; thank you for the opportunity today to testify on behalf of fully restoring revenue sharing.

While cities and towns are encouraged by Governor Mills' efforts to raise revenue sharing to 2.5% in FY 20, and to 3% in FY 21, these efforts fall far short of current state law, which mandates that 5% of sales and income taxes revenues be shared with communities. According to the Revenue Forecasting Commission, in FY 20, 5% of sales and income tax revenues will equal \$174 million dollars, while the FY 20 budget calls for an allocation of \$87 million dollars (2.5%) – a shortfall of \$87 million dollars. In FY 21, a 5% allocation is estimated to be \$190 million dollars, yet the 3 % proposed budget allocation calls for \$115 million – a shortfall of \$75 million. Municipalities of all sizes are forced to raise the local property tax on residents to cover this two year \$162 million dollar shortfall.

In Portland, the tax rate would be approximately 80 cents lower if revenue sharing had been fully funded as statutorily required. For the average Portland homeowner, that equates to almost \$1000 in additional property taxes over the past five years due to the State's non-compliance with statute. Between FY 14 – FY 19, Portland has lost a total of approximately \$33 million dollars of revenue sharing.

Municipal leaders from across the state including myself urge you to return revenue sharing back to the 5% level. If that is not possible in FY 20, then we urge you commit to a time frame that raises revenue sharing to 3% in FY 20, 4% in FY 21, and 5% in FY 22. This measure would at least give municipalities a roadmap to follow in their budgeting processes until the 5% revenue sharing level has been attained.

If the State does not fully fund revenue sharing, it must allow the 491 municipalities and unorganized townships additional methods of keeping local property taxes under control. Otherwise, Maine communities risk the loss of residents and businesses. One such method is the local option sales tax which will be discussed with the Taxation Committee in the near future.

Thank you for your consideration to this matter.



City of Portland
Aaron Geyer
Acting Director Social Services

LD 763

An Act To Ensure the Availability of Community Integration Services

Senator Gratwick, Representative Hymanson, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Aaron Geyer and I serve as the Acting Social Services Director with the City of Portland, which is the operator of the two largest homeless shelters in the State of Maine. I am also an Acting Chair of the Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee, which is a collaborative of service providers, consumers, local and state governmental representatives, advocates, and other interested community members working to ensure the safety and well-being of people who are homeless in Portland.

I am testifying today on behalf of the City of Portland in support of LD 763, An Act To Ensure the Availability of Community Integration Services. This bill provides funding to increase reimbursement rates in the Department of Health and Human Services rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 17 for community integration services to \$24.25 per quarter-hour.

The proposed rate of \$24.25 per quarter-hour would come close to covering cost of living increases to staff since the rate was cut in 2008. The number of agencies who provide Section 17 services has been greatly reduced due to the low reimbursement rates as agencies struggle to fund staffing while serving more acute clients due to homelessness and untreated mental health conditions. The struggles are compounded by changes to Maine Care-eligible activities for Section 17 and the burden of ever changing Maine Care paperwork.

These services are critical in our quest to end chronic homelessness, and they provide a more efficient and cost effective alternative to utilizing emergency services as a triage.

Individuals experiencing homelessness with serious and persistent mental illness rely on Section 17 services to be there when they need them and this new rate makes that possible for providers to continue such services uninterrupted.

I encourage you to enact LD 763, so we can increase the availability of services, and end chronic homelessness in Maine.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



City of Portland
Aaron Geyer
Acting Director Social Services

LD 775

An Act To Expand Community Support Services for Certain Adult Members of the MaineCare Program.

Senator Gratwick, Representative Hymanson, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Aaron Geyer and I serve as the Acting Social Services Director with the City of Portland, which is the operator of the two largest homeless shelters in the State of Maine. I am also an Acting Chair of the Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee, which is a collaborative of service providers, consumers, local and state governmental representatives, advocates, and other interested community members working to ensure the safety and well-being of people who are homeless in Portland.

I am testifying today on behalf of the City of Portland in support of LD 775, An Act To Expand Community Support Services for Certain Adult Members of the MaineCare Program. This bill would allow for additional diagnoses, specifically bipolar disorder, major depressive disorder, panic disorder, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), to be given the same eligibility status for Section 17 services as has been granted to those carrying the diagnosis of Schizophrenia and Schizoaffective disorder. Providers of Section 17 services have found that the vast majority of the appeals concerning individuals with these diagnoses are granted. As such, increasing Section 17 eligibility to include these diagnoses would have no significant fiscal impact for the state but significantly reduce the amount of time and paperwork connected with the complex and lengthy application and subsequent appeals process. Ultimately saving the state administrative time while improving efficiencies.

People who experience psychotic symptoms often end up in chronic homelessness, some for decades, living in our shelters. In the past year, the Oxford Street Shelter served 498 individuals who met the chronically homeless definition and complied 24,328 bed nights. There are two key components to successfully housing individuals who have prolonged homeless episodes, those are rental subsidies, like BRAP, and supportive services, like Section 17. Eligibility for the BRAP subsidy is dependent on eligibility for Section 17.

If the eligible diagnoses are not expanded, access to case management services and BRAP rental subsidies will continue with the current costly roadblocks including the administrative burden of a lengthy appeals process.

This is an opportunity to remove unnecessary barriers for our most vulnerable population and streamline Section 17 services to prevent more costly interventions. Those interventions are often expensive emergency services including police, fire, rescue, and emergency medical response personnel, as well as hospitalizations, emergency room visits, jails, and lengthy emergency shelter stays.

Section 17 allows people who are chronically homeless to be housed with appropriate levels of supportive services with increased cost effectiveness to greatly reduce recidivism.

I encourage you to enact LD 775, so we can remove barriers to Section 17 services, and end long-term and chronic homelessness in Maine.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



City of Portland, Maine

L.D. 1299

"An Act To Incentivize Municipalities, State Agencies, Colleges and Universities To Use Electric Vehicles"

To: Senator Lawrence, Representative Berry, and members of the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee

From: Troy Moon, Sustainability Coordinator

Date: April 9, 2019

Senator Lawrence, Representative Berry, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the City of Portland in support of L.D. 1299 *"An Act To Incentivize Municipalities, State Agencies, Colleges and Universities To Use Electric Vehicles"*

Like all municipalities, the City of Portland operates a municipal fleet of vehicles to provide vital services and infrastructure maintenance. Our inventory includes a wide array of vehicles including plow trucks, fire equipment and ambulances, rubbish packers, street sweepers, pick-up trucks, police patrol units, and other light duty vehicles. In 2016, the City's gasoline powered vehicles consumed 174,294 gallons of gasoline, which generated 1,537 tons of CO₂. Our diesel-powered vehicles used 139,805 gallons of fuel that contributed another 1,436 tons of CO₂ to the atmosphere. In total, operating vehicles accounted for 17% of the City's total GHG emissions.

In 2017, our City Council made two significant commitments for climate action. First, they pledged that municipal operations would use 100% clean energy by 2040. They also committed to reduce the City's overall carbon emissions 80% by 2050. We have embarked on a comprehensive planning process with the City of South Portland called One Climate Future that will chart a course for both cities to achieve these goals.

With our plan in process, we have already begun taking action to reduce our City's climate footprint by introducing electric vehicles into our fleet. Currently the Inspections Division, Parking Control, and Parks and Recreation use electric vehicles to conduct some of their business. This year we are purchasing two hybrid patrol vehicles for the Police Department. We have installed publicly accessible EV charging stations at two of our municipal parking garages and have installed additional charging units for the municipally owned EVs. Like most

municipalities, however, we have limited funds available to purchase new vehicles so employees often drive older model gas or diesel powered vehicles that get poor mileage.

Transitioning our fleet vehicles to electric power will make a significant impact on greenhouse gas emissions and help us achieve our ambitious climate goals. This transition is especially impactful in New England because our electric grid is one of the cleanest in the nation.

According to the Union of Concerned Scientists, using an electric vehicle in New England is the equivalent of driving a gasoline-powered car that gets 102 mpg, (<http://digg.com/2018/electric-car-efficiency-map>) which is far better than the retired police cruisers some of our employees drive for work.

Consequently, the City of Portland supports passage of LD 1299 that would direct the Efficiency Maine Trust to provide grants to municipalities and other public agencies to support the purchase of electric vehicles. Efficiency Maine has a proven history of successfully and fairly administering energy efficiency programs for both public and private entities. If this bill becomes law, we would encourage Efficiency Maine to develop the plan for distribution of money in a collaborative manner as they have done so far with the Volkswagen settlement funds. We would look forward to participating in such a process.



City of Portland
Aaron Geyer
Acting Director Social Services

Senator Gratwick, Representative Hymanson, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Aaron Geyer and I serve as the Acting Social Services Director with the City of Portland, which is the operator of the two largest homeless shelters in the State of Maine. I am also an Acting Chair of the Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee, which is a collaborative of service providers, consumers, local and state governmental representatives, advocates, and other interested community members working to ensure the safety and well-being of people who are homeless in Portland.

I am testifying today on behalf of the City of Portland in support of LD 1317, An Act To Restore Services To Help Certain Noncitizens Meet Their Basic Needs. This bill restores access to critical anti-poverty programs that were unanimously supported by the Maine Legislature in 1996 and in place for 15 years before changes were made in 2011 eliminating access to many lawfully present Maine families.

The critical safety net programs in this bill play a key role in supporting individuals living in our state and allow for a greater collaboration with service providers across the state. This bill works in harmony with providers to reduce food insecurities, increase access to health care coverage, and modifies language to the state-funded supplemental security income program. LD 1317 ensures lawfully present Maine residents in need have equal access to services.

The bill increases access to health insurance coverage promoting access to health care providers thus reducing the use of costly alternative emergency services including hospitalizations and emergency room visits for routine care.

The State funded supplemental security income offers much needed support to those who have been determined to be disabled and therefore experience great barriers to employment.

I encourage you to support LD 1317, so we can remove barriers and provide much needed services in the most cost effective manor to lawfully present Maine residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



**CITY OF PORTLAND
JON P. JENNINGS
CITY MANAGER**

Senator Deschambault, Representative Warren, members of the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, my name is Jon P. Jennings, and I am the City Manager of Portland. I am submitting this testimony in opposition of LD 1321.

LD 1321 represents an additional cost shift from the state's responsibility to fund corrections to the local level. In 2015 the State froze its funding of corrections facilities and allowed county governments the ability to assess an additional 3% annually to help cover the cost of corrections. In 2017, the growth limitation factor was raised to 4%. Now, if passed, LD 1321 will eliminate the cap altogether, and squarely place the ever increasing cost of corrections on the backs of municipal property taxpayers.

In FY 19, the City of Portland paid the County of Cumberland assessment of approximately \$6.28 million. Approximately 41%, or over \$2.5 million of that assessment represents Portland's share of the cost of corrections in Cumberland County. The elimination of the 4% growth cap will leave all communities in precarious positions, as communities will face additional uncertainties with their annual county assessments.

Correction facilities are seeing significant increases in inmate medical costs and mental health care. Deferred maintenance of infrastructure is another area requiring additional resources. Without a growth cap in place, counties will have nothing to prevent them from passing these costs onto municipal taxpayers. Local municipalities have no outlet to appeal or contest the ever increasing annual county assessments.

We cannot sit idly by while the State attempts to propose a "fix" to the funding mechanism that places more burdens on the local tax base. Legislation that reforms the current jail system and adopts creative solutions to reduce inmate populations and recidivism rates would have a much greater positive impact on our local communities.

Thank you for your consideration.



City of Portland
Aaron Geyer
Acting Director Social Services

April 12, 2019

Re: LD 1404, Resolve, To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Request a Waiver Relating to Support Services and To Provide Funds To Prevent Homelessness

Senator Gratwick, Representative Hymanson, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services, my name is Aaron Geyer and I serve as the Acting Social Services Director with the City of Portland, which is the operator of the two largest homeless shelters in the State of Maine. I am also an Acting Chair of the Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee, which is a collaborative of service providers, consumers, local and state governmental representatives, advocates, and other interested community members working to ensure the safety and well-being of people who are homeless in Portland.

I am testifying today on behalf of the City of Portland, in support of LD 1404, Resolve, To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Request a Waiver Relating to Support Services and To Provide Funds To Prevent Homelessness. This resolve requires DHHS to apply to CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) for a waiver from the requirements of federal law and regulations to allow Maine to provide Medicaid-funded direct support services to individuals experiencing homelessness. Additionally, this bill would provide annually funding to the Housing First Assistance Program established within the Maine State Housing Authority to be distributed to community action agencies to assist individuals on the verge of becoming homeless.

In 2015 the City of Portland partnered with 8 local service agencies, with leadership from CHOM (Community Housing of Maine) to focus on the Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee's LTS (Long Term Stayer) initiative. This initiative focused on a 70 person by-name list of shelter guest who met the Long Term Stayer definition as defined by Maine's Statewide Homeless Council. A long term stayer is a guest who has stayed over 180 cumulative days in shelters or outdoors within any 365-day period. This by-name list greatly improves efficiency and provides a concrete standard by which to measure and deliver services.

Long Term Stayers represent a relatively small portion of the population but a very costly group to serve due in large part to the regular use of very expensive emergency services including police, fire, rescue, and emergency medical response personnel, as well as hospitalizations, and emergency room visits. Providing more streamlined support services greatly reduces the cost and demand on emergency services.

Since the initiative's inception, Portland has targeted 434 people. Shelter staff have housed 234 people using a housing first strategy, housing a group that collectively had more than 150,000 total shelter bed nights, per HMIS data. LTS placed in housing have had remarkable retention rates – 94.35% of LTS have remained in their housing due to effective support services, the same services this bill targets to improve.

By establishing a Medicaid Waiver for people who experience long-term homelessness, we can serve this group with greater efficiency and solve long-term homelessness in a more cost effective way.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



City of Portland, Maine

To: Senator Carson, Representative Tucker, and members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee

From: Troy Moon, Sustainability Coordinator

Date: April 5, 2019

Regarding: City of Portland, Maine testimony to the State of Maine 129th Legislature's JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES in support of L.D. 1431, *"Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs."*

Senator Carson, Representative Tucker, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the City of Portland in support of L.D. 1431 *"Resolve, To Support Municipal Recycling Programs."*

In Maine, responsibility for managing solid waste and recycling largely falls on local government. Towns and cities throughout the state spend significant portions of municipal budgets on collecting, transporting, process, and disposing of the material discarded by their residents. This includes everything from regular household trash, construction debris, and difficult to handle materials such as electronic waste. For many communities the solid waste budget is the largest line item in the budget after school expenditures.

While municipalities must pay the cost of disposing and recycling unwanted materials, they have little control over how manufacturers and distributors design and package the materials that eventually become part of the municipal waste stream. Consequently, the products people buy and eventually get rid of may not be easily recyclable, may be over packaged, and may contain materials that increase disposal costs. The State of Maine has recognized this problem and has enacted producer several responsibility laws that require the manufacturers of things like cell phones, mercury thermostats, electronic waste, fluorescent tubes, and paint to participate in the cost of recycling and disposing of these items. This incentivizes them to make the products easier to handle, to minimize the amount of hazardous material they contain, and to make them easily recyclable.

Countries around the world including Canada and the European Union have extended producer responsibility laws to include packaging material such as boxes, wrapping, and other containers for consumer goods. LD 1431 would direct the DEP to bring forward a bill that would incorporate these materials into Maine's product stewardship framework.

Packaging materials make up the largest portion of the recyclable materials collected by municipalities around the state. As noted in the text of LD1431, the bill instructs the DEP to

create language that will require producers to pay 80% of the costs of recycling the packaging material sold in the state and to reimburse municipalities on a per capita basis for handling non-recyclable packaging. This would greatly benefit Maine communities already burdened by rising waste disposal and recycling costs. Most recycling processors now charge municipalities to accept their material where, in the past, recycling provided a revenue stream. On July 1, Portland and the other ecomaine owner communities will begin paying a \$35 per ton tipping fee for recyclable materials. Many communities around the state already pay much more than this. This fee, on top of costs to collect that material from residents, represents a large burden for local government that consumer goods producers should share.

Maine's existing product stewardship laws have demonstrated the merits of the concept of producer responsibility and it makes sense to extend it to packaging.