

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Agenda 2.7.23 Agenda
February 7, 2023**



MEMBERS

Mayor Kate Snyder, Chair
Councilor April Fournier
Councilor Pious Ali
Councilor Regina Phillips

REMOTE ACCESS INFORMATION:

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I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Meeting minutes

- a. Approving of minutes from the meeting of January 31, 2023

III. Legislative Update

- a. Review of new LDs (Bernstein Shur)
- b. fyi: Bill Tracker

IV. Other Business

- a. Approval of 2023 Committee Work Plan

V. Adjournment

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Meeting 1.31.23
Minutes
January 31, 2023**



MEMBERS
Mayor Kate Snyder, Chair
Councilor April Fournier
Councilor Pious Ali
Councilor Regina Phillips

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Meeting minutes

Chair Kate Snyder called the meeting to order at 8:02 AM.

Mayor Kate Snyder (Chair), Councilor April Fournier, Councilor Regina Phillips, Councilor Pious Ali, Dena Libner (Chief of Staff), Danielle West (Interim City Manager), Kate Knox (Bernstein Shur), Chris Feeney (Bernstein Shur), and Alysia Melnick (Bernstein Shur) were present.

- a. Minutes from the meeting of January 24, 2023

Councilor Fournier made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of January 24, 2023, seconded by Councilor Phillips, vote (4-0).

III. Legislative Update

- a. Review of new LDs (Bernstein Shur)

The Committee reviewed new LDs provided by Bernstein Shur and received staff feedback. Councilor Fournier recommended that testimony in opposition to LDs 268, 182, and 183 be prepared for submission when the bills are scheduled for public hearings.

- b. Discussion: Section C-4, Part R of LD 206 (reallocation of dredge project funding)

IV. Other Business

- a. Review: Committee Work Plan (Chair Snyder)

Committee members discussed their interest in increasing the number of applications they receive for seats on boards and commissions, particularly from diverse candidates.

- b. Review: Delegation/Committee Meeting Schedule (Chair Snyder)

The Committee confirmed that the fourth meeting of each month would be held on Friday at 8:00 AM, instead of Tuesday. Dena Libner recommended that staff solicit feedback on new LDs from individual Committee members by email, in preparation of that meeting.

- c. FYI: "Commentary: Maine's housing crisis requires urgent action, and we're ready to get to work" (Portland Press Herald, January 28, 2023)

V. Adjournment

Councilor Phillips made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Fournier, vote (4-0) at 8:53 AM.

Memorandum

To: Portland, City of
From: Bernstein Shur
Date: February 1, 2023
Re: New Legislative Bills Report

LD 145

An Act to Increase the Penalties for Operation of a Motor Vehicle While Using a Handheld Electronic Device or Mobile Telephone

Staff strongly support

LD 314 (SP135)

An Act to Establish the Permanent Commission on the Status of Housing in
Maine

Concept draft

LD 330 (SP151)

An Act to Ensure Legal Representation for Residents Facing Eviction

Concept draft

LD 336 (HP210)

An Act Regarding State Recognition of Native American Tribes

Concept draft

LD 337 (HP211)

An Act to Amend the Regulations of Manufactured Housing to Increase
Affordable Housing

Concept draft

LD 338 (HP212)

An Act to Allow Education Funding to Follow the Student

Concept draft

LD 341 (HP215)

An Act to Amend the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law to Encourage Housing Construction

LD 354 (SP161)

An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding the Use of Engineers on Public

Works Projects over \$100,000

Concept draft

LD 364 (SP171)

An Act to Prohibit the Use of General Assistance as a Replacement for Available Resources

LD 387 (HP238)

An Act to Promote Affordable Housing by Providing a Tax Exemption for Housing Choice Vouchers

LD 388 (HP239)

An Act to Require the State and Municipalities to Reimburse Landlords for Unpaid Rent During Eviction Moratoriums

Given minimal detail re: eligibility and other parameters, this bill is too broad to determine the financial impact or to prevent abuse of such a program.

LD 406 (SP187)

An Act to Expand Passenger Rail Service

Concept draft (Chipman)

LD 407 (SP188)

An Act to Support Recreational Trails

Concept draft (Chipman)

LD 408 (SP189)

An Act to Expand Bus Service

Concept draft (Chipman)

LD 409 (SP190)

An Act to Improve Pedestrian Safety

Concept draft (Chipman)

LD 422 (HP255)

An Act to Eliminate the Requirement That Municipalities Provide Public Notice in Newspapers

LD 425 (HP258)

An Act to Lower the Environmental Impact of Consumers, Increase Food Safety and Strengthen Consumer Choice by Ending the Ban on Single-use Plastic Shopping Bags

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
235	Dredging	An Act to Promote Economic Development in the Fishing Industry by	Brennan	Tran	Bill Text	Support				864		Y
236	Dredging	An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Support the Economic Development of the Fishing Industry and the Portland Harbor Dredging Project (Bond)	Brennan	AFA	Bill Text	Support				865		Y
81	GA	An Act to Address Recovery Residence Participation in the Municipal General Assistance Program	Meyer	HHS	Bill Text	Staff to review				160		
182	GA	An Act to Create a 9-month Time Limit on General Assistance Benefits for Able-bodied Adults Without Dependents	Brakey	HHS	Bill Text	Oppose and testify				1564	Staff concerned would great barriers to individuals that rely on GA	
183	GA	An Act to Incorporate Time Limits on the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program into Municipal General Assistance Programs	Brakey	HHS	Bill Text	Oppose and testify				1562	Staff concerned would great barriers to individuals that rely on GA	
268	GA	An Act to Establish a 45-day Municipal Residency Requirement for General Assistance Programs	Brakey	HHS	Bill Text	Oppose and testify				628	Staff believe this would restrict use and push people onto the streets.	
199	Healthcare	An Act to Improve the Health of Maine Residents by Removing Exclusions to the MaineCare Program	Talbot Ross	HHS	Bill Text	Support				509		
2	Housing	An Act to Address Maine's Housing Crisis	Talbot Ross	LH	Bill Text	Monitor				345		
3	Housing	An Act to Establish the Winter Energy Relief Payment Program to Aid Residents with High Heating Costs and	Talbot Ross	AFA	Bill Text	Support/ Submitted testimony	12/21/22 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH	Work session held 12/21/22	1/4/23 Public Law Ch. 1	601		

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
45	Housing	An Act to Prevent Retaliatory Evictions	Carney	JUD	Bill Text	Monitor	2/9/23 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH			47		
107	Housing	An Act Regarding Municipal Efforts to Avert Evictions and Heating Shut-offs During Winter (Emergency)	Ankeles	SLG	Bill Text	Monitor				491		
226	Housing	An Act to Address Maine's Affordable Housing Crisis	Millet	Housing	Bill Text	Monitor				791		
250	Housing	An Act to Improve Housing by Increasing Housing Options	Pouliot	Housing	Bill Text	Monitor				1223		
25	Other	An Act to Provide Indigenous Peoples Free Access to State Parks	Hickman	ACF	Bill Text	Monitor	1/25/23 9:00 AM Rm 214 COB	2/1/23 11:00 AM Rm 214 COB	Voted 2/1/23 OTP-AM Not rpt out	82		
34	Other	An Act to Require a Person to Show Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting	Pouliot	VLA	Bill Text	Monitor	2/6/23 10:00 AM Rm 437 SH			214	Staff will assess/Councilor Fournier requested tracking	
52	Other	An Act to Allow Certain School Employees to Carry Firearms on School Property	Foster	ECA	Bill Text	Monitor				7	Staff will assess/Councilor Fournier requested tracking	
96	Other	An Act to Ensure Release of Relevant Background Investigation Material to Current Employers of Law Enforcement and Corrections Officers	Cyrway	CJPS	Bill Text	More info needed from staff	1/30/23 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	2/8/23 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH		115		
109	Other	An Act to Improve Safety for Individuals Living in Recovery Residences	Landry	CJPS	Bill Text	Monitor/ Staff to review	1/30/23 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	2/8/23 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH		348	Staff will assess/Councilor Fournier requested tracking	
116	Other	An Act to Establish a Minimum Wage for All Health Care Workers Including All Support Staff	Baldacci	LH	Bill Text	Monitor	2/14/23 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB			597	Staff will assess/Councilor Fournier requested tracking	

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
127	Other	An Act to Eliminate Television Recycling Fees for Charitable Entities	Stewart	ENR	Bill Text		1/30/23 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB	2/8/23 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB		386	Tracking requested by April	
276	Other	An Act to Assist Municipalities in Preventing Damage from Storm Water	Ankeles	ENR	Bill Text	Monitor	2/15/23 11:00 AM Rm 216 COB			492	Staff indicated it could be helpful.	
288	Other	An Act Concerning Housing and Support Services for At-risk Youth and Youth Who Have Committed Juvenile Crimes	Lookner	CJPS	Bill Text	Monitor				1142		
37	Revenue	An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Property Tax Stabilization for Senior Citizens to Eliminate the Requirement for an Annual Application	Pouliot	TAX	Bill Text	Monitor/ Staff support				211		
88	Revenue	An Act to Provide Qualifying Municipalities a Percentage of Adult Use Cannabis Sales and Excise Tax Revenues	Paulhus	TAX	Bill Text	Testify				488	Strong support from staff	
89	Revenue	An Act to Clarify Eligibility for Property Tax Stabilization for Individuals 65 Years of Age or Older	Moriarty	TAX	Bill Text	Need Clarification				218		
130	Revenue	An Act to Eliminate Senior Citizen Property Tax Stabilization and Expand the Homestead Property Tax Exemption	Bennett	TAX	Bill Text	Monitor				29		
166	Revenue	An Act to Provide Revenue for Property Tax Relief and Capital Infrastructure Projects	Williams	SLG	Bill Text	Support	1/31/23 1:00 PM Rm 214 COB	2/9/23 1:00 PM Rm 214 COB		302	Senator Duson testifying	

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
286	Revenue	An Act to Authorize the Use of Tax Increment Financing Funds for Constructing or Renovating Municipal Offices and Other Municipal Buildings	Carlow	TAX	Bill Text	Monitor	2/14/23 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH			1192		
112	Schools	An Act to Increase the State's Share of Retired Teacher Health Insurance (Emergency)	Dodge	LH	Bill Text		2/9/23 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB			207	Tracking requested by April	
293	Schools	An Act to Revise the School Funding Formula	Ducharme	EDU	Bill Text	Monitor				2059		

City of Portland, City Council Legislative & Nominating Committee

2023 Work Plan_Draft

Context:

2023 City Council Goals:

Always using a lens that prioritizes racial, social and justice equity, the City Council's annual goals focus their work on:

- Housing • Homelessness • Climate & Sustainability

In addition, Council work will focus on:

- Implementation of voter-approved Charter Amendments and Ordinance Amendments •
- FY24: CDBG Budget, CIP Budget, Annual Operating Budget • City Manager Search and Hire
- Opening of Homeless Services Center • Engagement with 131st Legislative Session

Legislative Goals (reviewed September 26, 2022 and January 24, 2023):

Primary:

- General Assistance
 - Amending General Assistance Statute to Clarify Municipality of Responsibility
 - Establish Department of Refugee/Asylum-Seeker/Resettlement Services
 - Establish Centralized GA Application Intake Process
 - Increasing the General Assistance Reimbursement Rate

Secondary:

- Funding for the Portland Harbor Dredge Project
- Local Option Sales Tax

Legislative Committee:

1. Committee meetings every Tuesday morning at 8:00am during Legislative Session;
2. Prepare and Deliver Testimony from City of Portland;
3. Joint Meetings with Legislative Delegation every fourth Friday of the month at 8:00am;
4. Review Staff-generated Federal Priorities Memo;
5. Committee meetings as needed outside of Legislative Session;
6. Coordinate In-Person Meeting with Legislators and Councilors post-Session.

Nominating Committee:

1. Work with City Clerk to establish interview dates and processes throughout the year, as needed, for candidates seeking nominations to Boards & Commissions;
2. Forward Committee recommendations for nominations to full City Council for consideration and appointment.