

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Agenda
February 28, 2023**



MEMBERS

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

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I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Meeting minutes

- a. Draft Minutes from the February 14, 2023 Meeting

III. Legislative Update

- a. Review: New LDs
- b. Discussion: LD 211 (Rep. Skold)
- c. Review: Legislative Tracker

IV. Other Business

V. Adjournment

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Minutes**
February 14, 2023



MEMBERS

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

I. Call to Order

Mayor Snyder, Chair called the meeting to order at 8:04am. In attendance were Councilor Pious Ali, Councilor Regina Phillips, Dena Libner (Chief of Staff), Danielle West (Interim City Manager), Kate Knox (Bernstein Shur), Alysia Melnick (Bernstein Shur) and Chris Feeney (Bernstein Shur).

II. Approval of Meeting minutes

- a. Draft Minutes from the Meeting of February 7, 2023

Councilor Phillips made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of February 7, 2023, seconded by Councilor Fournier, vote (3-0).

III. Legislative Update

- a. For Review: New LDs

The Committee discussed opposition to LD 454, as well as the need to track the progress of LDs 462 and 492.

- b. FYI: Bill Tracker

The Committee discussed testimony re: LD 145 (An Act to Increase the Penalties for Operation of a Motor Vehicle While Using a Handheld Electronic Device or Mobile Telephone). Mayor Snyder made a motion to offer testimony in support of the bill, as well as to express concerns about the specific penalties as proposed in the bill, seconded by Councilor Fournier, vote (3-0).

IV. Other Business

V. Adjournment

Councilor Ali made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:47am, seconded by Councilor Fournier, vote (3-0).

Memorandum

To: Portland, City of
From: Bernstein Shur
Re: New Legislative Bills Report

Please find below the new legislative documents (LD) 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.

LD 518 (HP323)

An Act to Allow Armed Security in Schools

LD 527 (HP 332) (*Public hearing scheduled for 3/2*)

An Act to Allow Municipalities to Create Bicycle and Pedestrian Zones with Reduced Speed Limits

This bill will not significantly impact Portland.

LD 529 (HP334)

An Act to Remove the Annual Filing Requirement in the Property Tax Stabilization Laws

Staff supports

LD 578 (SP246)

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Concerning the Publication of Maine Indian Treaty Obligations

LD 599 (HP376) (*Sponsored by Rep. Brennan*)

An Act to Provide Support Services for a Transitional Housing Program for Homeless Persons

LD 600 (HP377)

An Act to Expand Availability of Naloxone Hydrochloride

Staff supports

LD 601 (HP378)

An Act to Reduce the Shortage of Municipal Emergency Medical Services Personnel by Removing Certain Vaccination Requirements

LD 605 (HP382)

An Act to Enhance Commuter-oriented Rail Service

Concept Draft (Rep. Skold)

LD 620 (HP397)

An Act to Promote Free Trade by Preventing Municipalities from Prohibiting the Sale of Legal Goods

May nullify the local flavored tobacco ban

LD 662 (HP431)

An Act to Prohibit Municipal Flavored Tobacco Product Bans on State licensed Tobacco Retailers

Would override the local flavored tobacco ban

LD 690 (HP459)

An Act to Streamline Rental Application Screenings by Allowing Potential Tenants to Use Screening Services

LD 691 (HP460)

An Act to Reduce Barriers to Housing by Prohibiting Tenant Application Fees

LD 701 (HP470)

An Act to Increase the Notice Period for Rent Increases

Mirrors local ordinance

LD 748 (SP306)

An Act to Strengthen the Due Process Rights of Persons in Law Enforcement Custody

Corporation Counsel feedback: this proposed legislation would expose police officers to civil suit for actions that are allowed by the US Supreme Court and would also likely have a very detrimental effect on criminal investigations.

LD 801 (HP490)

An Act to Require Municipalities to Obtain Housing Units for Residents Experiencing Homelessness

LD 804 (HP493)

An Act to Increase the Time Period for Notice to Terminate a Tenancy at Will

Similar to the Portland ordinance, which also allows an option to reimburse tenants for a short notification period. This statute would preempt the local reimbursement component.

LD 812 (HP501)

An Act to Assist Clerks in Facilitating Elections and to Improve Access to In-person Absentee Voting for Working People by Increasing Time for Absentee Ballot Processing and In-person Voting

LD 847 (HP536)

An Act to Support Law Enforcement in Interactions with Individuals with Histories of Trauma



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 211

H.P. 132

House of Representatives, January 20, 2023

An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Water Supply Protection Funds

Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rlt B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FAY of Raymond.
Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and
Representatives: BOYLE of Gorham, CARLOW of Buxton, KUHN of Falmouth, MILLETT of Waterford, PRINGLE of Windham, SKOLD of Portland, TERRY of Gorham, Senator: NANGLE of Cumberland.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §6113, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 30, §1 and amended by PL 2003, c. 689, Pt. B, §6, is further amended to read:

3. Use of water supply protection fund. Except as provided in subsection 4, a water supply protection fund may be used by a consumer-owned water utility only for the acquisition, by itself or by the holder of a conservation easement, of interests in real property reasonably necessary for the protection of a public water supply, including, but not limited to, the acquisition of conservation easements, access easements, other permanent interests in land or long-term leases of at least 99 years and 3rd-party rights of enforcement of a conservation easement. For purposes of this subsection, "protection of public water supply" includes watershed protection, groundwater protection or wellhead protection reasonably necessary to minimize the potential for contamination of the consumer-owned water utility's water supply. If the consumer-owned water utility has adopted a watershed control program pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 141.71 and that program has been approved by the Department of Health and Human Services, any expenditures from the water supply protection fund pursuant to this section for the purposes of watershed protection must be in conformity with that watershed control program. For purposes of this subsection, "conservation easement" has the same meaning as in Title 33, section 476, subsection 1; "holder" has the same meaning as in Title 33, section 476, subsection 2; and "3rd-party right of enforcement" has the same meaning as in Title 33, section 476, subsection 4.

SUMMARY

This bill allows a water supply protection fund established by a consumer-owned water utility to be used by the holder of a conservation easement. It also allows a water supply protection fund to be used for the acquisition of 3rd-party rights of enforcement of a conservation easement.

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.	
454	GA	An Act to Establish a 180-day State Residency Requirement for Municipal General Assistance	Brakey	HHS	Bill Text	Opposed				627		
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		

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
2	Housing	An Act to Address Maine's Housing Crisis	Talbot Ross	Housing	Bill Text	Monitor				345		
3	Housing	An Act to Establish the Winter Energy Relief Payment Program to Aid Residents with High Heating Costs and to Finalize the COVID Pandemic Relief Payment Program (Emergency)	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		
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	Housing	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		
314	Housing	An Act to Establish the Permanent Commission on the Status of Housing in Maine	Hickman	Housing	Bill Text	Monitor				2107		
330	Housing	An Act to Ensure Legal Representation for Residents Facing Eviction	Tipping	JUD	Bill Text	Monitor	2/16/23 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH			2017		
337	Housing	An Act to Amend the Regulations of Manufactured Housing to Increase Affordable Housing	Golek	Housing	Bill Text	Monitor				1984		

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
388	Housing	An Act to Require the State and Municipalities to Reimburse Landlords for Unpaid Rent During Eviction Moratoriums	Blier	Housing	Bill Text	Monitor				876	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	
462	Housing	An Act to Assist Persons Experiencing Homelessness in Areas of High Rent by Seeking a Waiver from the Federal Government	Madigan	Housing	Bill Text	Monitor				956		
492	Housing	An Act to Repurpose Vacant Shopping Mall and Retail Space to Mixed-use Housing and Retail	Campbell	Housing	Bill Text	Monitor				2040		
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	3/3/23 9:00 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	EDU	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	Voted 2/8/23 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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	Tabled 2/8/23	348	Staff will assess/Councilor Fournier requested tracking	

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
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	
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	DEAD	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	3/1/23 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		
422	Other	An Act to Eliminate the Requirement That Municipalities Provide Public Notice in Newspapers	Newman	SLG	Bill Text	Monitor	3/2/23 1:00 PM Rm 214 COB			1511		
145	Public safety	An Act to Increase the Penalties for Operation of a Motor Vehicle While Using a Handheld Electronic Device or Mobile Telephone	Zeigler	TRAN	Bill Text	Testify	2/28/23 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	2/28/23 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH		138	2/15/23 Support concept, but concerns with penalty 2/8/23 Staff strongly support	
354	Public works	An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding the Use of Engineers on Public Works Projects over \$100,000	Farrin	SLG	Bill Text	Monitor	2/14/23 1:00 PM Rm 214 COB			1484		
407	Public works	An Act to Support Recreational Trails	Chipman	TRAN	Bill Text	Monitor				2161		
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		

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
88	Revenue	An Act to Provide Qualifying Municipalities a Percentage of Adult Use Cannabis Sales and Excise Tax Revenues	Paulhus	TAX	Bill Text	Testify	3/9/23 2:00 PM Rm 127 SH			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	MAJ: OTP MIN: ONTP Reported out 2/21/23	302	Senator Duson testifying	
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	3/2/23 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	3/9/23 2:00 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		
338	Schools	An Act to Allow Education Funding to Follow the Student	Campbell	EDU	Bill Text	Monitor				228		
406	Transportation	An Act to Expand Passenger Rail Service	Chipman	TRAN	Bill Text	Monitor				2041		
408	Transportation	An Act to Expand Bus Service	Chipman	TRAN	Bill Text	Monitor				2196		
409	Transportation	An Act to Improve Pedestrian Safety	Chipman	TRAN	Bill Text	Monitor				2303		

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
336	Tribes	An Act Regarding State Recognition of Native American Tribes	Poirier	JUD	Bill Text	Monitor				749		