

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Agenda
March 14, 2023**



MEMBERS

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

REMOTE ACCESS INFORMATION:

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Webinar ID: 868 9178 0909

International numbers available: <https://portlandmaine-gov.zoom.us/j/kc7eK26r2T>

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Meeting minutes

- a. Minutes from the March 3, 2023 Legislative/Nominating Committee meeting
- b. Minutes from the March 7, 2023 Legislative/Nominating Committee meeting

III. LDs from March 7, 2023

- a. Discussion/Vote: LD 894 (*An Act to Preserve Heating and Energy Choice by Prohibiting a Municipality from Prohibiting a Particular Energy System or Energy Distributor*)
- b. Discussion: LD 787 (*An Act to Create the New Maine Resident Service Coordination Program in the Department of Economic and Community Development*)
- c. Discussion: LD 37 (*An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Property Tax Stabilization for Senior Citizens to Eliminate the Requirement for an Annual Application*), LD 89 (*An Act to*

Clarify Eligibility for Property Tax Stabilization for Individuals 65 Years of Age or Older), and LD 130 (An Act to Eliminate Senior Citizen Property Tax Stabilization and Expand the Homestead Property Tax Exemption).

IV. Legislative Update

- a. Discussion: New LDs (Dena Libner, Chief of Staff)
- b. Review: Legislative Tracker (Bernstein Shur)

V. Testimony

- a. Submitted: Testimony in Support of LD 88 (*An Act to Provide Qualifying Municipalities a Percentage of Adult Use Cannabis Sales and Excise Tax Revenues*)
- b. Submitted: Testimony Neither For or Against LD 812 (*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*)

VI. Other Business

VII. Adjournment

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Meeting Minutes**
March 3, 2023



MEMBERS

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

I. Call to Order

Mayor Kate Snyder, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:03am. In attendance were Chief Heath Gorham (PD), Associate Corporation Counsel TBD, Mayor Kate Snyder, Rep. Ed Crockett, Sen. Jill Dusen, Councilor Regina Phillips, Rep. Matt Moonen, Rep. Michael Brennan, Councilor April Fournier, Speaker Rachel Talbot Ross, School Board Chair Sarah Lentz, Rep. Grayson Lookner, Interim City Manager Danielle West, Chief of Staff Dena Libner, Kate Knox (Bernstein Shur), Alysia Melnick (Bernstein Shur), and Chris Feeney (Bernstein Shur).

II. Approval of Meeting minutes

- a. Minutes from the Meeting of February 28, 2023

Approval of meeting minutes was postponed to the end of the meeting.

III. Legislative Update

- a. Discussion of existing or anticipated LDs

Meeting attendees discussed existing and upcoming LDs, including policy priorities shared by the Delegation and Committee.

IV. Other Business

- a. Discussion: Emergency Shelter / Transitional Housing Needs

- b. Minutes from the Meeting of February 28, 2023

Councilor Fournier made a motion to approve the minutes from February 28, 2023, seconded by Councilor Phillips, vote (4-0).

V. Adjournment

Councilor Phillips made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:08am. Motion was seconded by Chair Snyder, vote (4-0).

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Minutes**
March 7, 2023



MEMBERS

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

I. Call to Order

Chair Snyder called the meeting to order at 8:03AM. A quorum was not present. In attendance were Councilor Regina Phillips, Dena Libner (Chief of Staff), Danielle West (Interim City Manager), Sarah Lentz (School Board Chair), Alysia Melnick (Bernstein Shur), Chris Feeney (Bernstein Shur), Interim Police Chief Heath Gorham, and Associate Corporation Counsel Nicole Albert.

II. Approval of Meeting minutes

- a. Minutes from the March 3, 2023 Legislative/Nominating Committee meeting
Approval of meeting minutes was postponed to a later date due to the absence of a quorum.

III. Legislative Update

- a. Review: New LDs
Attendees requested additional staff analysis re: LD 951 and LD 793 for the next LNC meeting.
Bernstein Shur agreed to express staff concerns re: the language of LD 772 to bill sponsors.
Attendees agreed to monitor LDs 860 and 880, re: railways.
Attendees agreed to discuss LD 787 at the next meeting, and for staff to offer feedback if available.
- b. Review: Legislative Tracker
Chris Feeney confirmed that testimony re: LD 88 would be available to review on March 8, 2023.
Staff confirmed that City staff believed the extra processing time for ballots, as included in LD 812, would be appreciated. Staff also flagged that the weekend operations included in the bill would cost the City of Portland an estimated \$2,000-\$3,000 per day.
Chris Feeney confirmed a draft of testimony re: LD 812 would be provided before Monday, March 13.
Attendees agreed to discuss LDs 37, 89 and 130 on March 14.
- c. Discussion: LD 748 (An Act to Strengthen the Due Process Rights of Persons in Law Enforcement Custody)
After discussion, attendees agreed that Bernstein Shur would express staff concerns and

recommend amendments to the bill sponsor.

- d. Discussion: LD 404 (Resolve, to Direct the Department of Transportation to Implement the Recommendations of the Mountain Division Rail Use Advisory Council)
Discussion of this item was postponed to a later date.

IV. Other Business

- a. Confirming upcoming meeting schedule
Chair Snyder recommended that the Committee meet with the delegation on March 24, as well as during its regularly scheduled meetings on March 21 and March 28.
- b. Discussion: Federal policy priorities for Hill Day (March 28, 2023)
Discussion of this item was postponed to March 14.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07am.



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 894

S.P. 386

In Senate, February 28, 2023

**An Act to Preserve Heating and Energy Choice by Prohibiting a
Municipality from Prohibiting a Particular Energy System or
Energy Distributor**

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant", is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary of the Senate.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator HARRINGTON of York.
Cosponsored by Senators: BRAKEY of Androscoggin, President JACKSON of Aroostook,
STEWART of Aroostook, Representative: FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor.

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

Sec. 1. 30-A M RSA §3015 is enacted to read:

§3015. Heating or energy system

Unless otherwise authorized by statute, a municipality may not adopt any ordinance or regulation that prohibits or has the effect of prohibiting an individual or entity from installing, connecting or resupplying a safe and commercially available heating or energy system of the individual's or entity's choice to serve the individual's or entity's heating or energy needs or engaging the services of a person or energy distributor to install, connect or resupply such a system. As used in this section, "energy distributor" means an individual or entity allowed to distribute or supply oil, propane, natural gas or wood or renewable resources or other related energy services to consumers in the State and "renewable resources" has the same meaning as in Title 35-A, section 3210, subsection 2, paragraph C.

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits municipalities from prohibiting an individual or entity from installing a heating or energy system for that individual's or entity's own heating or energy needs or engaging the services of an energy distributor of that individual's or entity's choice unless the prohibition is otherwise authorized by statute.



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 787

S.P. 346

In Senate, February 21, 2023

**An Act to Create the New Maine Resident Service Coordination
Program in the Department of Economic and Community
Development**

Reference to the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and
Business suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant", is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary of the Senate.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Representative DHALAC of South Portland and
Senator: BRENNER of Cumberland, Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston, RIELLY of
Westbrook.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §13056-K** is enacted to read:

3 **§13056-K. New Maine Resident Service Coordination Program**

4 The New Maine Resident Service Coordination Program is established within the
5 department as a centralized resource to coordinate municipal efforts to connect persons
6 who have recently moved to the State with housing and job opportunities.

7 The department may adopt rules necessary to implement this section. Rules adopted
8 pursuant to this section are routine technical rules as defined in chapter 375, subchapter
9 2-A.

10 **SUMMARY**

11 This bill establishes within the Department of Economic and Community Development
12 the New Maine Resident Service Coordination Program, to serve as a centralized resource
13 to coordinate municipal efforts to connect persons who have recently moved to the State
14 with housing and job opportunities.



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

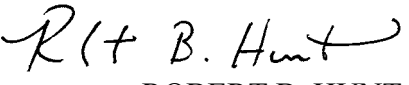
No. 89

H.P. 57

House of Representatives, January 9, 2023

An Act to Clarify Eligibility for Property Tax Stabilization for Individuals 65 Years of Age or Older

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MORIARTY of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senator STEWART of Aroostook.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §6281, sub-§1, ¶A**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 751, §1, is
3 amended to read:

4 A. "Eligible homestead" means a homestead occupied by an eligible individual or
5 surviving spouse who is eligible for a homestead exemption under chapter 105,
6 subchapter 4-B for the property tax year during which an application for stabilization
7 is made.

8 **Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §6281, sub-§1, ¶D**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 751, §1, is
9 amended to read:

10 D. "Stabilize" means to maintain the property tax billed to an eligible individual or
11 surviving spouse for the individual's or surviving spouse's eligible homestead at the
12 amount billed for that homestead for the property tax year preceding the date of
13 application for stabilization.

14 **Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §6281, sub-§1, ¶E** is enacted to read:

15 E. "Surviving spouse" means the spouse of an eligible individual who has died as long
16 as the spouse was married to the eligible individual for at least 10 years prior to the
17 eligible individual's death.

18 **Sec. 4. 36 MRSA §6281, sub-§3**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 751, §1, is amended to
19 read:

20 **3. Stabilization for eligible individual or surviving spouse.** If a municipality
21 determines that an applicant for stabilization under subsection 2 is an eligible individual or
22 surviving spouse and that the individual's or surviving spouse's homestead is an eligible
23 homestead, the municipality shall stabilize the property tax on the individual's or surviving
24 spouse's homestead billed for the property tax year for which stabilization was requested.

25 **Sec. 5. 36 MRSA §6281, sub-§4**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 751, §1, is amended to
26 read:

27 **4. Transfer of eligibility.** If an eligible individual or surviving spouse has been
28 eligible for stabilization under this section and establishes a new homestead in the State,
29 the individual or surviving spouse continues to be eligible for stabilization. If an eligible
30 individual or surviving spouse establishes a new homestead in a different municipality, at
31 the request of the eligible individual or surviving spouse, the municipality where eligibility
32 was first established shall notify the new municipality of the eligible individual's or
33 surviving spouse's previous eligibility and the amount at which the property taxes were
34 stabilized. The new municipality shall bill the eligible individual or surviving spouse at
35 the stabilized amount and is eligible for state compensation under subsection 5.

36 **Sec. 6. 36 MRSA §6281, sub-§5**, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 751, §1, is amended to
37 read:

38 **5. State compensation.** A municipality that has stabilized property tax for an eligible
39 individual or surviving spouse under this chapter may recover from the State 100% of the
40 amount by which the property tax assessed on the homestead of an eligible individual or
41 surviving spouse in the usual manner exceeds the stabilized amount of property tax billed
42 under subsection 3. A municipality claiming compensation under this subsection shall

1 submit a claim to the bureau by November 1st of the year in which the property tax was
2 stabilized. The bureau shall review claims and determine the total amount to be paid to
3 each municipality. The bureau shall certify and the Treasurer of State shall pay the amount
4 due to each municipality by January 15th of the year following the year in which the claim
5 for compensation was submitted.

6 **Sec. 7. Application.** This Act applies to applications filed for stabilization of
7 property taxes pursuant to Title 36, chapter 908-B for property tax years beginning on or
8 after April 1, 2024.

9 SUMMARY

10 This bill, for property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2024, expands eligibility
11 for the property tax stabilization program for individuals 65 years of age or older to
12 surviving spouses of eligible individuals as long as they were married for at least 10 years
13 before the eligible individual's death.



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 130

S.P. 69

In Senate, January 10, 2023

An Act to Eliminate Senior Citizen Property Tax Stabilization and Expand the Homestead Property Tax Exemption

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant", is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary of the Senate.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford.

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §683, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2017, c. 478, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Exemption amount. Except as provided in subsection 1-C and except for assessments for special benefits, the just value of \$10,000 of the homestead of a permanent resident of this State who has owned a homestead in this State for the preceding 12 months is exempt from taxation. Notwithstanding this subsection, a permanent resident of this State who loses ownership of a homestead in this State due to a tax lien foreclosure and subsequently regains ownership of the homestead from the municipality that foreclosed on the tax lien is deemed to have continuously owned the homestead and may not be determined ineligible for the exemption provided in this section due to the ownership of the homestead by the municipality. In determining the local assessed value of the exemption, the assessor shall multiply the amount of the exemption by the ratio of current just value upon which the assessment is based as furnished in the assessor's annual return pursuant to section 383. If the title to the homestead is held by the applicant jointly or in common with others, the exemption may not exceed \$10,000 of the just value of the homestead, but may be apportioned among the owners who reside on the property to the extent of their respective interests. A municipality responsible for administering the homestead exemption has no obligation to create separate accounts for each partial interest in a homestead owned jointly or in common.

Sec. 2. 36 MRSA §683, sub-§1-C is enacted to read:

1-C. Exemption amount for persons over 65 years of age. Notwithstanding subsections 1 and 1-B, for property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2024, the exemption amount for a homestead of a permanent resident of this State who is 65 years of age or older and who has resided in the homestead for at least the preceding 10 years is the just value of \$75,000.

Sec. 3. 36 MRSA §6281, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 751, §1, is amended by enacting at the end a new paragraph to read:

This chapter applies only to the property tax year beginning April 1, 2023.

SUMMARY

This bill provides that the law enacted in 2022 providing a process for stabilization of property taxes for permanent residents of this State who are 65 years of age or older and have owned a homestead in the State for at least 10 years applies only to the property tax year beginning April 1, 2023. For property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2024, the bill replaces the stabilization program with an increased homestead property tax exemption of \$75,000 just value.



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2022

Legislative Document

No. 37

S.P. 29

In Senate, December 30, 2022

**An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Property Tax Stabilization
for Senior Citizens to Eliminate the Requirement for an Annual
Application**

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D M Grant", is positioned above the printed name of the Secretary of the Senate.

DAREK M. GRANT
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec.

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

Sec. 1. 36 MRSA §6281, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2021, c. 751, §1, is amended to read:

2. Application for stabilization. An individual may apply by December 1st to the municipality in which the individual's homestead is located requesting that the municipality stabilize the property tax assessed on that individual's homestead for the property tax year beginning on April 1st following the submission of the application and each property tax year thereafter. A new application is required ~~for each year for which stabilization is requested~~ when an individual establishes a new homestead in the State.

SUMMARY

This bill amends the laws governing property tax stabilization for senior citizens to eliminate the requirement for an annual application. It provides that a new application is required when an individual establishes a new homestead in the State.

Memorandum

To: Portland, City of
From: Bernstein Shur
Date: March 8, 2023
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.

LD 974 (HP621)

An Act to Establish Minimum Pay for Educational Technicians and Other School Support Staff

LD 984 (SP403)

An Act to Expand Access to the Homestead Property Tax Exemption
If enacted during this tax year, staff estimate the cost to the City would be \$186,116 in tax revenue.

LD 996 (HP631)

An Act to Allow a Municipality to Establish a Local Option Sales Tax

LD 1027 (HP663)

An Act to Prohibit Local Sales Taxes

LD 1036 (HP672)

An Act to Require All Police Officers to Carry Naloxone Hydrochloride When on Duty
Portland police already carry Narcan.

LD 1046 (SP415)

An Act to Decriminalize Public Drinking

LD 1050 (SP419)

Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor to Request a Federal Waiver to Allow Presumptive Work Eligibility for Asylum Seekers

LD 1052 (SP421)

An Act to Expand Good Samaritan Protections for Naloxone Hydrochloride Administration
Corporation Counsel did not express any concerns

LD 1055 (SP424)

An Act to Prohibit the Use of Ballot Drop Boxes

Staff believe this would significantly impact voter accessibility and election administration.

LD 1056 (SP425)

An Act Restricting State Assistance in Federal Collection of Personal Electronic Data and Metadata

According to the Office of the Corporation Counsel, the law currently requires anyone seeking this information to obtain a warrant. To the extent that the purpose of this may be to prevent state or municipal agencies from sharing legally obtained information with Federal partners, this may detrimentally affect cooperative relationships that are important to the administration of justice.

LD 1060 (SP429)

An Act to Support Municipal Public Safety by Increasing State Municipal Revenue Sharing to 7 Percent

Staff support

LD 1064 (SP433)

An Act to Increase the Minimum Teacher Salary

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
812	Elections	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	Skold	VLA	Bill Text		3/13/23 10:00 AM Rm 437 SH			2039	Leaning in direction of supporting components – requesting info from clerk	
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	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		

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
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	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		
599	Housing	An Act to Provide Support Services for a Transitional Housing Program for Homeless Persons	Brennan	HHS	Bill Text					1507	Bernstein to get more information from sponsor	
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 9:30 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		

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
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	
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	3/8/23 11:00 AM Rm 216 COB	Voted 3/8/23 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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	3/9/23 1:30 PM Rm 214 COB	Voted 3/9/23 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	1511		
772	Permitting	An Act to Establish a Process to Vest Rights for Land Use Permit Applicants	Pouliot	Housing	Bill Text	Monitor				1486		
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	3/1/23 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH		138	2/15/23 Support concept, but concerns with penalty 2/8/23 Staff strongly support	
847	Public safety	An Act to Support Law Enforcement in Interactions with Individuals with Histories of Trauma	Gramlich	CJPS	Bill Text	Support				2341	PD to testify, already happens in Portland	

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
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	3/9/23 1:30 PM Rm 214 COB	Tabled 3/9/23	1484		
407	Public works	An Act to Support Recreational Trails	Chipman	TRAN	Bill Text	Monitor				2161		
860	Rail	An Act to Identify the Railroad Lines from Portland to Bangor as a Major Corridor and to Fund a Feasibility Study	Baldacci	TRAN	Bill Text	Monitor				645		
880	Rail	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	Rotundo	TRAN	Bill Text	Monitor				645		
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	3/16/23 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH			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	3/9/23 2:00 PM Rm 127 SH	3/21/23 1:00 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	3/16/23 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH			218		
130	Revenue	An Act to Eliminate Senior Citizen Property Tax Stabilization and Expand the Homestead Property Tax Exemption	Bennett	TAX	Bill Text	Monitor	3/16/23 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH			29		

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
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	Tabled 3/2/23	1192		
793	Revenue	An Act to Support Municipal Services with Revenue Sharing	Brakey	TAX	Bill Text	Monitor				1463	More information needed, will discuss at next meeting	
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	Voted 3/9/23 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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		
518	Schools	An Act to Allow Armed Security in Schools	Andrews	EDU	Bill Text	Monitor				2211		
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		
336	Tribes	An Act Regarding State Recognition of Native American Tribes	Poirier	JUD	Bill Text	Monitor	3/15/23 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH			749		

City of Portland | City Council Kate Snyder, *Mayor*



To: Joint Standing Committee on Taxation
From: Mayor Kate Snyder, City of Portland
Date: 03/09/2023
Re: LD 88

Testimony in Support of An Act to Provide Qualifying Municipalities a Percentage of Adult Use Cannabis Sales and Excise Tax Revenues

Senator Grohoski, Representative Perry, and members of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation:

I join you today to testify on behalf of the City of Portland's Legislative/Nominating Committee in support of LD 88, An Act to Provide Qualifying Municipalities a Percentage of Adult Use Cannabis Sales and Excise Tax Revenues.

LD 88 would provide additional revenue to municipalities that are allowing and managing cannabis businesses in their communities. In the "Adult Use Program" 2021 Annual Report provided to the Maine State Legislature, there was \$12,362,620 in excise and sales tax revenue to the State of Maine. This revenue would not have been obtained without the support of municipalities, like the City of Portland, that allow cannabis businesses in their community.

According to the Maine Office of Cannabis Policy, there are currently 203 adult use cannabis retail stores in operation. Thirty (30) of those stores are located in Portland.

Portland is currently struggling to manage numerous challenges, including overwhelming homelessness, staffing shortages and an increased demand for public services and investment in infrastructure. We know many other Maine municipalities are similarly challenged. As cannabis sales and excise tax revenues would not be possible without the local ordinances permitting those retail sales, we urge the Committee to allow those municipalities to benefit from local sales.

Thank you for your consideration.

City of Portland | City Council Kate Snyder, *Mayor*



To: Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs

From: Mayor Kate Snyder, City of Portland

Date: 3/13/2023

Re: LD 812

Testimony Neither for Nor Against LD 812, 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

Senator Hickman, Representative Supica, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs:

On behalf of the City of Portland, I write to you today to testify neither for nor against LD 812, 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. While we believe elements of this bill could benefit municipalities' election administration processes, we are also concerned about its financial impact.

The provision in LD 812 that allows 14 days for the processing of absentee ballots (instead of 7 as in current law) would be a welcome change to the Portland City Clerk's office. The extra processing time would be especially helpful during Presidential elections, when voter turnout is particularly high.

While it's important to provide voters with flexibility in terms of when and where they can vote, and although it may offer voters additional convenience, we do not believe that requiring an expansion of voting hours through the weekend would be the best use of funding, given the many existing opportunities voters have to cast their ballot. We estimate the cost of this mandate would be up to \$3,000 per day for the City of Portland.

Thank you for your consideration.