

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Minutes**
March 14, 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 8:05AM. In attendance were Councilor Regina Phillips, Councilor Pious Ali, Councilor April Fournier, Dena Libner (Chief of Staff), Danielle West (Interim City Manager), Sarah Lentz (School Board Chair), Alysia Melnick (Bernstein Shur), and Chris Feeney (Bernstein Shur).

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

Councilor Ali made a motion to approve the minutes from March 3 and March 7, 2023, seconded by Councilor Fournier, vote (4-0).

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*)

The Committee supported the delivery of testimony by Troy Moon, Sustainability Director, at an upcoming public hearing.

- b. Discussion: LD 787 (*An Act to Create the New Maine Resident Service Coordination Program in the Department of Economic and Community Development*)

The Committee supported the submission of testimony in support of LD 787 at the public hearing scheduled for March 21, 2023.

- 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*).

Staff were asked to collect additional information from the Finance Director regarding the potential cost of LD 130 and prepare testimony for submission in time for the upcoming public hearings on March 16, 2023.

IV. Legislative Update

- a. Discussion: New LDs (Dena Libner, Chief of Staff)

LD 1046 (Decriminalize Public Drinking): Committee members asked for PD insight to be shared at the following Committee meeting.

Committee members asked that LD 1046, LD 984 (An Act to Expand Access to the Homestead Property Tax Exemption), LD 1055 (An Act to Prohibit the Use of Ballot Drop Boxes), LD 1060 (Increase State Municipal Revenue Sharing), LD 1050 (Resolve, Federal Waiver to Allow Work Eligibility for Asylum Seekers) and LD 996 (Local Option Sales Tax) be tracked for future testimony.

Committee members asked for additional insight regarding LD 1056 (Restricting State Assistance in Federal Collection of Personal Electronic Data and Metadata) to be provided at the next meeting.

The Committee agreed to discuss potential testimony in support of LD 199 (Removing Exclusions to the MaineCare Program) at their next meeting.

- 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

Councilor Phillips made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:03am. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fournier, vote (4-0).