

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Agenda
April 9, 2024**



MEMBERS
Mayor Mark Dion, Chair
Councilor Pious Ali
Councilor Kate Sykes

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I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Meeting minutes

- a. Legislative/Nominating Committee Meeting - March 26, 2024

III. Legislative Update

- a. Review: Legislative Tracker (Bernstein Shur)

IV. Other Business

V. Adjournment

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Minutes**
March 26, 2024



MEMBERS

Mayor Mark Dion, Chair
Councilor Pious Ali
Councilor Kate Sykes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:19 am. In attendance were Mayor Mark Dion (Chair), Councilor Pious Ali, City Manager Danielle West, Max Wilder (Special Assistant to the City Manager), Kate Knox (Bernstein Shur), Alysia Melnick (Bernstein Shur), and Chris Feeney (Bernstein Shur).

II. Approval of Meeting minutes

Mayor Dion made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of March 12, 2024 seconded by Councilor Ali, vote (2-0).

III. Legislative Update

- a. Review: LD List and Legislative Tracker (Bernstein Shur)

V. Adjournment

Mayor Dion made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Ali, vote (2-0). The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 am.

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
787	Asylum seekers	An Act to Create the New Maine Resident Service Coordination Program in the Department of Economic and Community Development	Bennett	IDEA	Bill Text	Support	3/21/23 1:00 PM Rm 206 COB	5/9/23 2:00 PM Rm 206 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 6/12/23	904	Carried over - Appropriations Table 7/26/23 Testimony submitted	
236	Dredging	An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Support the Economic Development of the Fishing Industry	Brennan	AFA	Bill Text	Support	4/27/23 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH	3/29/24 2:30 PM Rm 228 SH	ONTP Reported out 4/2/24	865	Carried over 7/26/23	Y
1426	GA	An Act to Secure Housing for the Most Vulnerable Maine Residents by Amending the Laws Governing Municipal General Assistance	Mathieson	HHS	Bill Text	Monitor	5/5/23 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	1/30/24 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB	DEAD	656	Carried over 7/26/23	
1732	GA	An Act Regarding the General Assistance Program (Title change)	Meyer	HHS	Bill Text	Support	5/5/23 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	1/30/24 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB	3/27/24 Public Law Ch. 575	674	High priority bill Carried over 7/26/23	Y
1480	Harbor	An Act to Protect Union Wharf and Sustain Maine's Maritime Industries (Bond)	Brenner	AFA	Bill Text	Support	4/24/23 10:00 AM Rm 228 SH			974	Carried over 7/26/23 Testimony submitted	
226	Housing	An Act to Address Maine's Affordable Housing Crisis (Emergency)	Millet	Housing	Bill Text	Monitor	4/14/23 9:01 AM Rm 216 COB	5/5/23 9:00 AM Rm 216 COB	OTP-AM Reported out 6/21/23	791	Carried over - Appropriations Table 7/26/23	
314	Housing	An Act to Establish the Permanent Commission on the Status of Housing in Maine	Hickman	Housing	Bill Text	Monitor		LTW Reported out 1/9/24	DEAD	2107	Carried over 7/26/23	

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
337	Housing	An Act to Amend the Law Governing the Regulation of Manufactured Housing to Increase Affordable Housing (Title change)	Golek	Housing	Bill Text	Monitor	1/23/24 1:00 PM Rm 216 COB	1/30/24 1:15 PM Rm 216 COB	3/19/24 Public Law Ch. 552	1984	Carried over 7/26/23	
599	Housing	An Act to Provide Support Services for a Transitional Housing Program for Homeless Persons	Brennan	HHS	Bill Text		4/14/23 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	5/9/23 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 6/2/23	1507	Carried over - Appropriations Table 7/26/23	
1074	Housing	An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Fund New Affordable Housing for Low-income Households (Bond)	Daughtry	AFA	Bill Text	Monitor	4/25/23 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH			358	Carried over 7/26/23	
1298	Housing	An Act to Allow a Local Option Sales Tax on Short-term Lodging to Fund Affordable Housing	Skold	TAX	Bill Text	Support	2/13/24 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	2/27/24 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	DEAD	2113	Carried over 7/26/23 Testimony requested	
1538	Housing	An Act to Provide Tax Benefits to Persons Constructing Accessory Dwelling Units	Brenner	TAX	Bill Text	Monitor	5/10/23 10:00 AM Rm 127 SH	1/11/24 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	DEAD	142	Carried over 7/26/23 Need staff input	
1721	Housing	Resolve, to Establish a Plan to Provide Transitional Housing and to Support the Growth of Maine's Workforce (Title change)	Duson	Housing	Bill Text	Support	5/12/23 9:00 AM Rm 216 COB	1/30/24 1:30 PM Rm 216 COB	3/6/24 Resolve Ch. 136	1022	Carried over 7/26/23 Strong support - Mayor testified	
1867	Housing	An Act to Establish the Community Housing Production Program (Title change)	Lookner	Housing	Bill Text		5/19/23 9:00 AM Rm 216 COB	1/26/24 9:00 AM Rm 216 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 2/15/24 2/28/24 PLACED ON THE SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE pending PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED	1054	Carried over 7/26/23	

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
1893	Housing	An Act to Allow a Municipality to Impose a Fee on Short-term Rentals for the Benefit of That Municipality	Strout	TAX	Bill Text		1/23/24 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	1/31/24 10:00 AM Rm 127 SH	DEAD	224	Carried over 7/26/23	
1904	Housing	An Act to Enact the Maine Fair Chance Housing Act	Talbot Ross	JUD	Bill Text		5/15/23 10:00 AM Rm 438 SH	2/6/24 1:30 PM Rm 438 SH	DEAD	574	Carried over 7/26/23	
2136	Housing	An Act to Provide Financial Support for Shelters for Unhoused Individuals and Establish a Stakeholder Group to Develop a 10-year Plan to Address the Root Causes of Homelessness (Title change)	Mastraccio	Housing	Bill Text	Support	1/23/24 1:00 PM Rm 216 COB	2/20/24 1:15 PM Rm 216 COB	OTP-AM Reported out 3/25/24 4/1/24 PLACED ON THE SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE pending PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED, in concurrence.	2714	Draft written testimony of support	
2138	Housing	Resolve, to Improve Funding for Homeless Shelters	Madigan	Housing	Bill Text	Support	1/23/24 1:00 PM Rm 216 COB	1/30/24 1:15 PM Rm 216 COB	DEAD	2767	Monitor and get update to City	
2146	Housing	An Act to Prohibit Certain Municipalities from Adopting Moratoria on Emergency Shelters	Lookner	SLG	Bill Text	Support	1/30/24 1:00 PM Rm 214 COB	2/6/24 2:00 PM Rm 214 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 2/20/24 Unfinished Business 4/3/24	2932	Support with letter Bernstein to get more information	
2158	Housing	Resolve, to Improve the Housing Voucher System and Reduce the Number of Voucher Expirations (Title change)	Golek	Housing	Bill Text		1/30/24 1:00 PM Rm 216 COB	2/20/24 1:15 PM Rm 216 COB	4/2/24 Resolve Ch. 159	2938		

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
2169	Housing	Resolve, Directing the Office of Policy Innovation and the Future to Recommend Proposals to Support the Development of Attainable Housing (Title change)	Daughtry	Housing	Bill Text		2/6/24 1:00 PM Rm 216 COB	3/5/24 1:00 PM Rm 216 COB	OTP-AM Reported out 3/22/24	2752		
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	1/8/24 10:30 AM Rm 214 COB	OTP-AM Reported out 1/18/24 2/6/24 Placed on the Special Appropriations Table pending Passage to be Enacted, in concurrence	82	Carried over 7/26/23	
288	Other	An Act Concerning Housing and Support Services for At-risk Youth and Youth Involved in the Juvenile Justice System (Title change)	Lookner	CJPS	Bill Text	Monitor	5/9/23 1:00 PM Rm 436 SH	2/14/24 1:30 PM Rm 436 SH	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/5/24 3/14/24 Placed on the Special Appropriations Table pending Passage to be Enacted, in concurrence	1142	Carried over 7/26/23	

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
646	Other	An Act to Fully Reimburse Municipalities for Lost Revenue Under the Property Tax Stabilization for Senior Citizens Program (Emergency)(Title change)	Sachs	AFA	Bill Text		2/13/24 2:00 PM Rm 228 SH	Work session held 2/13/24	3/6/24 Public Law Ch. 520	1194	Carried over 7/26/23	
1107	Other	Resolve, to Establish a Pilot Project to Improve Access to Credit for Low-income Individuals	Zager	LH	Bill Text	Monitor	3/28/23 1:30 PM Rm 202 COB	4/27/23 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 5/12/23	1084	Carried over - Appropriations Table 7/26/23	
1584	Other	An Act to Provide Funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to Restore Benefits Reduced by the Federal Government (Title change)	Stover	HHS	Bill Text	Support	5/1/23 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB	5/9/23 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 6/20/23	2484	Carried over - Appropriations Table 7/26/23 Mayor to testify via Zoom. Testify in support - significant usage of SNAP in Portland, Councilor Fournier to testify - no written record of testimony provided	
1896	Other	Resolve, Directing the Workers' Compensation Board to Analyze Data on the Adequacy of Certain Maine Workers' Compensation Benefits (Title change)	Nangle	LH	Bill Text	Monitor	5/11/23 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB	1/25/24 3:00 PM Rm 202 COB	3/12/24 Resolve Ch. 139	2397	Carried over 7/26/23	
2079	Other	An Act to Strengthen Firefighters' Collective Bargaining Rights (Emergency)	Roeder	LH	Bill Text			LTW Reported out 1/11/24	DEAD	2869		
2088	Other	An Act to Change the Number of Agency Liquor Stores Allowed in Certain Municipalities and to Convene a Stakeholder Group Regarding Licensing and Operations (Emergency)(Title change)	Daughtry	VLA	Bill Text		1/22/24 10:00 AM Rm 437 SH	2/1/24 12:10 PM Rm 437 SH	3/19/24 Public Law Ch. 550	2638		

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
2094	Other	Resolve, to Require the Establishment of a Stakeholder Group to Examine and Improve the Recruitment, Retention and Wellness of Law Enforcement Officers	Jackson	CJPS	Bill Text		1/29/24 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	2/28/24 1:30 PM Rm 436 SH	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: OTP-AM Reported out 3/29/24	2906		
2101	Other	An Act to Strengthen Shoreland Zoning Enforcement	Nangle	SLG	Bill Text		2/6/24 1:00 PM Rm 214 COB	2/22/24 1:15 PM Rm 214 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/25/24	2899		
2111	Other	An Act Regarding the Timeline for Property Tax Abatement Based on Hardship or Poverty	Timberlake	TAX	Bill Text		2/7/24 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	Work session held 2/7/24	DEAD	2694		
2135	Other	Resolve, Regarding the Operation and Future Capacity of State-owned Landfills (Emergency)(Title change)	Dill	ENR	Bill Text		1/24/24 9:00 AM Rm 216 COB	2/8/24 1:30 PM Rm 216 COB	OTP-AM Reported out 3/15/24 3/28/24 Unfinished Business	2798		
2162	Other	An Act Regarding the Current Use Valuation of Working Waterfront Property (Title change)	Ankeles	TAX	Bill Text		2/7/24 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	2/21/24 2:00 PM Rm 127 SH	OTP-AM Reported out 3/29/24	2718		
772	Permitting	An Act to Limit Retroactive Application of Land Use Ordinances to Pending Permit Applications That Propose Housing (Title change)	Pouliot	Housing	Bill Text	Monitor	11/14/23 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB	3/5/24 1:00 PM Rm 216 COB	OTP-AM Reported out 3/22/24	1486	Carried over 7/26/23	
1975	Public health	An Act to Implement a Statewide Public Health Response to Substance Use and Amend the Laws Governing Scheduled Drugs	Crafts	HHS	Bill Text	Monitor	1/17/24 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	3/28/24 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB	Voted 3/28/24 OTP-AM Not rpt out	1689	Carried over 7/26/23	

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
1409	Public safety	Resolve, to Establish a Task Force to Study Sharing the Costs of Training First Responders Among Governmental Entities (Emergency)(Title change)	Fay	SLG	Bill Text	Monitor	4/25/23 1:00 PM Rm 214 COB	1/25/24 1:15 PM Rm 214 COB	OTP-AM Reported out 3/11/24 3/20/24 PLACED ON THE SPECIAL STUDY TABLE pending FINAL PASSAGE - Emergency - 2/3 Elected Required, in concurrence	2096	Carried over 7/26/23 Staff opposed	
1751	Public safety	Resolve, to Direct the Department of Health and Human Services to Explore the Feasibility of an Ambulance Service Assessment Fee (Title change)	Curry	HHS	Bill Text	Support	5/1/23 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	2/7/24 2:00 PM Rm 209 COB	OTP-AM Reported out 3/12/24 3/20/24 PLACED ON THE SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE pending FINAL PASSAGE, in concurrence	494	Carried over 7/26/23 Testimony submitted	
2129	Public safety	An Act to Establish a Statewide Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Kit Tracking System and Conduct an Inventory of Existing Forensic Examination Kits in the Possession of Law Enforcement (Emergency)	Geiger	CJPS	Bill Text	Monitor	1/29/24 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	Work session reconsidered 3/6/24	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: OTP-AM Reported out 4/1/24	2786	Bernstein to gather more information	

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
402	Rail	An Act to Change Maine's Transportation Laws	Chipman	TRAN	Bill Text	Support	1/23/24 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	3/5/24 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	Voted 3/5/24 OTP-AM Not rpt out	1719	Similar language to LD 406. Committee supported 406 last session, mayor provided testimony. Carried over 7/26/23	
406	Rail	An Act to Expand Passenger Rail Service	Chipman	TRAN	Bill Text	Support	4/12/23 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	Work session held 6/1/23	DEAD	2041	Mayor testified in support	
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	4/12/23 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	1/30/24 1:30 PM Rm 126 SH	DEAD	645	Carried over 7/26/23	
1957	Rail	An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Invest in Maine's Railroad Infrastructure (Bond)	Collings	AFA	Bill Text	Monitor	5/25/23 2:00 PM Rm 228 SH			2390	Carried over 7/26/23	
1156	Recreation	An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Promote the Design, Development and Maintenance of Trails for Outdoor Recreation and Active Transportation (Bond)	Fay	AFA	Bill Text	Support	4/27/23 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH	3/29/24 2:30 PM Rm 228 SH	Voted 3/29/24 OTP-AM Not rpt out	682	Carried over 7/26/23	
1710	Rental assistance	Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Improve Tenant-Landlord Relationships and Maximize the Use of Housing Vouchers (Title change)	Golek	Housing	Bill Text	Monitor	5/12/23 9:00 AM Rm 216 COB	2/13/24 1:00 PM Rm 216 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/12/24 3/20/24 PLACED ON THE SPECIAL STUDY TABLE pending FINAL PASSAGE, in concurrence	833	Carried over 7/26/23	

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
996	Revenue	An Act to Allow a Municipality to Establish a Local Option Sales Tax	Gramlich	TAX	Bill Text	Support		LTW 3/20/24	DEAD	2326	Carried over 7/26/23 Testimony requested. No public hearing scheduled.	
1402	Schools	An Act Regarding Unobligated Balances from Amounts Appropriated for General Purpose Aid for Local Schools and to Require Annual Reports on School Demographics (Title change)	Brennan	EDU	Bill Text	Support	4/12/23 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Work session reconsidered 2/6/24	OTP-AM Reported out 3/22/24 4/1/24 PLACED ON THE SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE pending PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED, in concurrence.	724	Carried over 7/26/23 Testimony?	
1422	Schools	An Act to End Homelessness and Assist Students Who Are Homeless by Establishing a Rental Subsidy Program (Emergency)(Title change)	Brennan	Housing	Bill Text		4/14/23 9:00 AM Rm 216 COB	4/18/23 1:00 PM Rm 216 COB	OTP-AM Reported out 5/25/23	723	Carried over - Appropriations Table 7/26/23	
1465	Sustainability	An Act to Amend the Calculation of Tariff Rates and Billing Credits Under Net Energy Billing	Harrington	EUT	Bill Text	Opposed	1/9/24 1:00 PM Rm 211 COB	1/16/24 1:00 PM Rm 211 COB	DEAD	1597	Testimony submitted Carried over 7/26/23	
2077	Sustainability	Resolve, to Study the Role of Natural Gas in an Equitable Clean Energy Transition for Maine (Title change)	Zeigler	EUT	Bill Text	Support	1/23/24 1:00 PM Rm 211 COB	3/6/24 2:00 PM Rm 211 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/29/24	2893		
1737	Tax	An Act to Expand Property Tax Relief for Veterans and Their Survivors (Title change)	Hymes	TAX	Bill Text		5/17/23 10:00 AM Rm 127 SH	1/23/24 2:45 PM Rm 127 SH	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/29/24	2103	Carried over 7/26/23	

LD #	Category	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	LR #	Notes	Priority
2102	Tax	An Act to Support Municipalities by Repealing the Law Limiting the Municipal Property Tax Levy	Pierce	SLG	Bill Text		2/20/24 1:00 PM Rm 214 COB	2/27/24 1:30 PM Rm 214 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/6/24	2929		
2144	Tax	An Act to Provide Property Tax Relief by Increasing the Availability of the Property Tax Fairness Credit for Resident Individuals Who Are 65 Years of Age or Older with Annual Income at or Below \$36,000 (Title change)	Russell	TAX	Bill Text		2/7/24 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	2/21/24 2:00 PM Rm 127 SH	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/19/24 3/26/24 PLACED ON THE SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE pending PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED, in concurrence	2842		
2258	Tax	An Act to Create an Income Tax Credit for Investments in a Team's Qualified Minor League Baseball Facility to Keep the Team in the State	Jackson	TAX	Bill Text		3/14/24 2:00 PM Rm 127 SH	3/19/24 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	Voted 3/19/24 MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Not rpt out	2856		
235	Waterfront	An Act to Promote Economic Development in the Fishing Industry by Funding a Dredging Project in Portland Harbor	Brennan	TRAN	Bill Text	Monitor	1/16/24 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	Work session held 1/16/24	DEAD	864	City staff to provide council members with additional information. Carried over 7/26/23	Y
1935	Workforce	An Act to Promote Workforce Development by Establishing a Workforce Development Program	Brennan	LH	Bill Text	Strong Support	5/18/23 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB	5/24/23 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 6/6/23	721	Carried over - Appropriations Table 7/26/23 Testimony submitted	