

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Meeting - February
25, 2025 Agenda
February 25, 2025**



MEMBERS
Mayor Mark Dion, Chair
Councilor Benjamin Grant
Councilor Kate Sykes

REMOTE ACCESS INFORMATION:

This meeting will be conducted remotely via Zoom pursuant to the Remote Meeting Policy adopted by the Portland City Council. Allow your computer to install the free Zoom app to get the best meeting experience. If you are not able to attend live either in person or via Zoom, a recording will be available in the [Agenda Center](#) following the meeting.

For public comment via Zoom, you will need to use the "raise your hand" feature. To raise your hand via the telephone, please hit *9. You will be unmuted by the host when it is time for public comment.

<https://portlandmaine-gov.zoom.us/j/82211467474?pwd=15uL8x9TqvhCkBal6V0223cs1QQefp.1>

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Approval of Meeting minutes**
 - a. Minutes from February 11, 2025
- III. Legislative Update**
 - a. Review LD List and Tracker (Bernstein Shur)
- IV. Other Business**
- V. Adjournment**

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Meeting**
February 11, 2025



MEMBERS

Mayor Mark Dion, Chair
Councilor Ben Grant
Councilor Kate Sykes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 am. In attendance were Mayor Mark Dion, Councilor Ben Grant, Councilor Kate Sykes, Councilor Anna Bullett, City Manager Danielle P. West, Special Assistant to the City Manager Max Wilder, Kate Knox (Bernstein Shur), Alysia Melnick (Bernstein Shur), and Lisa Prosienski (Bernstein Shur).

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. Legislative/Nominating Committee Meeting - January 31, 2025

Mayor Dion made a motion to approve the minutes of January 31, 2025. Councilor Kate Sykes noted an error on the document header which has since been updated. Motion to approve the minutes moved by Councilor Grant, seconded by Councilor Sykes, vote (3-0).

III. Legislative Update

a. LD List and Tracker (Bernstein Shur)

i. New Bills Report – January 10, 2025

Mayor Dion made a motion to track the indicated items in the New Bills Report dated January 10, 2025 moved by Councilor Grant, seconded by Councilor Sykes, vote (3-0).

ii. New Bills Report – January 17, 2025

Mayor Dion made a motion to track the indicated items in the New Bills Report dated January 17, 2025, moved by Councilor Sykes, seconded by Councilor Grant, vote (3-0).

iii. New Bills Report – January 24, 2025

Mayor Dion made a motion to track the indicated items in the New Bills Report dated January 24, 2025, moved by Councilor Grant, seconded by Councilor Sykes, vote (3-0).

iv. New Bills Report – January 31, 2025

Mayor Dion made a motion to track the indicated items in the New Bills Report dated January 31, 2025, moved by Councilor Grant seconded by Councilor Sykes, vote (3-0).

v. New Bills Report – February 5, 2025

Mayor Dion made a motion to approve tracking the indicated items in the New Bills Report of February 5, 2025, moved by Councilor Grant, seconded by Councilor Sykes, vote (3-0).

vi. LD 219 An Act to Limit Hypodermic Apparatus Exchange Programs to a One-for-one Exchange

Councilor Kate Sykes made a motion to oppose LD 219, no second to the motion at this time.

- vii. LD 347 An Act to Provide Qualifying Municipalities a Percentage of Adult Use Cannabis Sales Tax and Excise Tax Revenue
Councilor Grant made a motion to support, moved by Mayor Dion, seconded by Councilor Sykes vote (3-0).
- viii. LD 215 An Act to Establish a Program to Assist Residents of Large Recovery Residences
Mayor Dion made a motion to support moved by Councilor Grant seconded by Councilor Sykes (3-0).
- ix. LD 111 An Act to Increase the State's Share of Retired Teacher Health Insurance
Mayor Dion made a motion to support, moved by Councilor Grant, seconded Councilor Sykes.

IV. Adjournment

Mayor Dion made a motion to adjourn the meeting, moved by Councilor Grant, seconded by Councilor Sykes, (3-0). The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 am.

LD #	Category	Bill Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Notes	Priority	LR #
25	Bond	An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Fund Wastewater Treatment Facility Planning and Construction of Infrastructure Projects (Bond)	Sen Brenner	AFA	Bill Text							160
242	Bond	An Act to Extend the Maximum Time Period for Certain School Construction Bonds	Sen Pierce	EDU	Bill Text							480
209	Budget	An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law	Rep Gattine	AFA	Bill Text		1/23/25 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH	Work session held 2/5/25	Reported out OTP-AM 2/7/25			2408
347	Cannabis	An Act to Provide Qualifying Municipalities a Percentage of Adult Use Cannabis Sales Tax and Excise Tax Revenue	Rep Lee	VLA	Bill Text	Support	2/12/25 11:00 AM Rm 437 SH	2/24/25 11:30 AM Rm 437 SH				375
32	Energy	An Act to Repeal the Laws Regarding Net Energy Billing	Sen Guerin	EUT	Bill Text	Oppose	2/27/25 9:00 AM Rm 211 COB			Troy Moon reports possible \$1M loss to City		75
257	Energy	An Act to Eliminate the Practice of Net Energy Billing	Sen Stewart	EUT	Bill Text	Oppose	2/27/25 9:00 AM Rm 211 COB			Troy Moon reports possible \$1M loss to City		705
152	FOAA	An Act to Amend the Freedom of Access Act to Require a Specific Time Frame for Agencies to Comply with Requests for Public Records	Rep Libby	JUD	Bill Text		2/5/25 9:30 AM Rm 438 SH					338
453	GA	An Act to Require the State to Pay 90 Percent of All General Assistance Expenses of Municipalities and Indian Tribes	Sen Baldacci	HHS	Bill Text							681
238	Healthcare	An Act to Protect Emergency Medical Services Persons' Right to Work in Multiple Health Care Settings	Sen Farrin	HCIFS	Bill Text		2/4/25 1:00 PM Rm 220 COB	2/27/25 10:00 AM Rm 220 COB	Tabled 2/12/25			373
7	Homestead Tax	An Act to Increase the Homestead Property Tax Exemption for Residents 65 Years of Age or Older	Sen Bennett	TAX	Bill Text							64
140	Homestead Tax	An Act to Incrementally Increase the Homestead Property Tax Exemption	Sen Baldacci	TAX	Bill Text							354
264	Homestead Tax	An Act to Remove the 12-month Waiting Period for the Maine Resident Homestead Property Tax Exemption	Rep Hepler	TAX	Bill Text							612
365	Housing	An Act to Respond to the Housing Affordability and Accessibility Crisis in Maine	Sen Curry	HED	Bill Text							1611
399	Housing	An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding the Retention of Proceeds from Municipal Foreclosures	Rep McIntyre	TAX	Bill Text		3/4/25 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH					486

LD #	Category	Bill Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Notes	Priority	LR #
111	Insurance	An Act to Increase the State's Share of Retired Teacher Health Insurance (Emergency)	Rep Dodge	LBR	Bill Text	Support	2/12/25 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB					176
83	Licenses	An Act Concerning the Filing of Marriage Licenses and the Recording of Intentions as Part of the Electronic Vital Records System	Rep Kuhn	JUD	Bill Text		2/5/25 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH					255
123	Licenses	An Act Regarding Licensure of Emergency Medical Services Persons	Sen Cyrway	HCIFS	Bill Text		1/28/25 1:00 PM Rm 220 COB	2/5/25 2:00 PM Rm 220 COB	Reported out MAJ: OTP MIN: ONTP 2/14/25			300
35	MaineCare	An Act to Strengthen Local Emergency Medical Services by Increasing the MaineCare Reimbursement Rate for Ambulance Services	Sen Curry	HHS	Bill Text							241
110	Municipal	An Act to Require Reporting on the Expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds by Certain Municipalities and County Governments	Rep Brennan	HHS	Bill Text							33
1	Other	An Act to Increase Storm Preparedness for Maine's Communities, Homes and Infrastructure(Emergency)(Governor's bill)	President Daughtry	HED	Bill Text		2/27/25 1:00 PM Rm 206 COB		1/21/25 Referred to HED			939
30	Other	Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Implement the Recommendations of the Portland to Auburn Rail Use Advisory Council Regarding the Rail Line from Portland to Yarmouth	President Daughtry	TRAN	Bill Text		3/4/25 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH			Jill Duson has a similar bill [LD 511]		133
34	Other	An Act to Increase the Minimum Salary for Teachers	Sen Pierce	EDU	Bill Text		2/26/25 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB					233
115	Other	An Act to Assess Impact Fees on Megayachts	Sen Bennett	TRAN	Bill Text							61
138	Other	An Act to Exempt Airports from Certain State Endangered and Threatened Species Habitat Protections	Sen Bennett	ENR	Bill Text		1/27/25 12:00 PM Rm 216 COB	2/26/25 1:00 PM Rm 216 COB	Tabled 2/12/25			370
146	Other	An Act to Increase the Maximum Amount of the Historic Property Rehabilitation Tax Credit That May be Taken in a Year	Sen Rotundo	TAX	Bill Text		2/5/25 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH					525
159	Other	An Act to Require Vehicle Registrations to Include the Next of Kin of the Vehicle Owner	Rep Perkins	TRAN	Bill Text		2/27/25 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	3/6/25 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH				524
184	Other	Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Study the Foreclosure Process	Rep Ducharme	JUD	Bill Text		2/12/25 9:30 AM Rm 438 SH					386

LD #	Category	Bill Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Notes	Priority	LR #
245	Other	An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Emergency Medical Services in the State (Emergency)	Sen Ross	CJPS	Bill Text		2/10/25 10:30 AM Rm 436 SH					202
286	Other	An Act to Allow County Commissioners Greater Flexibility When Establishing a Payment Schedule for Municipalities to Pay County Tax Bills	Rep Bridgeo	SLG	Bill Text		2/24/25 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB					662
290	Other	An Act to Remit 15 Percent of the Fine for a Violation of the Motor Vehicle Laws to the Municipality in Which the Violation Occurred	Rep Blier	TRAN	Bill Text							1270
422	Other	An Act to Require the State to Obtain Municipal Approval Before Placing Noncitizens in the Municipality	Rep Swallow	SLG	Bill Text		2/26/25 1:00 PM Rm 214 COB					1017
427	Other	An Act to Prohibit Mandatory Parking Space Minimums in State and Municipal Building Codes	Rep Roeder	HED	Bill Text		3/6/25 10:00 AM Rm 206 COB					1088
294	Property Tax	An Act to Expand Municipal Volunteer Program Eligibility Requirements in the Municipal Property Tax Assistance Laws	Rep Bunker	TAX	Bill Text		3/5/25 10:00 AM Rm 127 SH					286
438	Property Tax	An Act to Allow Municipalities to Limit Nonprofit Property Tax Exemptions	Rep Hymes	TAX	Bill Text							1411
70	Public Health	An Act to Fund Free Health Clinics	Rep Brennan	HHS	Bill Text							17
174	Public Health	An Act to Restore Religious Exemptions to Immunization Requirements	Rep Drinkwater	EDU	Bill Text							88
215	Public Health	An Act to Establish a Program to Assist Residents of Large Recovery Residences	Rep Hasenfus	HHS	Bill Text	Support						70
219	Public Health	An Act to Limit Hypodermic Apparatus Exchange Programs to a One-for-one Exchange	Rep Mastraccio	HHS	Bill Text							567
119	Public Safety	An Act to Include the Declaration of an Emergency by the President of the United States as a Basis to Allow the Governor to Provide Disaster Relief to Local Governments	Sen Beebe-Center	SLG	Bill Text		2/26/25 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB					135
639	Public Safety	An Act to Improve Training Opportunities for Law Enforcement Officers	Rep Crockett	CJPS	Bill Text							1249
237	Revenue Sharing	An Act to Increase the Percentage of Funds Provided to Municipalities Through State-Municipal Revenue Sharing	Sen Baldacci	TAX	Bill Text		2/5/25 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	2/27/25 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH				355

LD #	Category	Bill Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Notes	Priority	LR #
283	Revenue Sharing	An Act to Expand Local Revenues by Including Meals and Lodging Sales Tax Revenue Under the State-Municipal Revenue Sharing Program	Rep Hepler	TAX	Bill Text		2/27/25 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH					611
225	Sales Tax	An Act to Reduce Property Taxes and Finance Public School Construction and Education Through a 3 Percent Sales Tax on Hotel and Lodging Place Rentals	Rep Brennan	TAX	Bill Text							34
193	School	An Act to Fund Students in Maine Schools Who Are Experiencing Homelessness	Rep Archer	EDU	Bill Text		2/26/25 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB					745
220	School	An Act to Establish the Hope and Inclusion Scholarship Program in Order to Provide Funding for Students Attending Certain Private Schools and Students Receiving Home Instruction	Rep Bagshaw	EDU	Bill Text							548
318	School Funding	An Act Regarding School Funding and General Purpose Aid for Local Schools	Rep Brennan	EDU	Bill Text							1718
178	Step Therapy	An Act Regarding Coverage for Step Therapy for Advanced Metastatic Cancer	Rep Mathieson	HCIFS	Bill Text		2/5/25 10:00 AM Rm 220 COB	2/12/25 1:00 PM Rm 220 COB	Voted 2/12/25 OTP-AM Not rpt out			578
185	TIF	An Act to Expand Opportunities to Invest Municipal Tax Increment Financing Revenues	Rep Mastraccio	TAX	Bill Text		2/5/25 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	2/27/25 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH				589
154	Transportation	An Act to Amend the Transportation Laws	Rep Crafts	TRAN	Bill Text							132

Memorandum

To: Portland, City of

From: Bernstein Shur

Date: February 12, 2025

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.

Thank you.

LD 506 (SP224)
An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Research and Development and Commercialization

LD 507 (SP225)
An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Fund LifeFlight of Maine

LD 511 (SP229)
Resolve, to Direct the Department of Transportation to Implement the Recommendations of the Portland to Auburn Rail Use Advisory Council

LD 515 (HP333)
An Act to Reverse Recent Changes Made to the Law Governing Net Energy Billing and Distributed Generation

LD 523 (HP342)
An Act to Change How the Office of the Attorney General Investigates Officer-involved Shootings

<u>LD 525</u>	(HP344)
An Act to Strengthen Maine Citizens' Second Amendment Rights by Allowing the Discharge of Firearms on Private Property That Is Within 500 Feet of School Property in Certain Circumstances	
<u>LD 526</u>	(HP345)
An Act to Reduce the Time Period for Challenging the Validity of a Property Tax Lien on Commercial Real Estate	
<u>LD 532</u>	(HP351)
An Act to Protect Health Care Workers by Addressing Assaults in Health Care Settings	
<u>LD 542</u>	(HP361)
An Act Regarding Municipal Property Tax Levy Limits	
<u>LD 545</u>	(HP364)
An Act to Exempt a Person Making Electrical Installations in the Person's Existing Bona Fide Personal Abode from Licensing and Permitting Requirements	
<u>LD 553</u>	(SP208)
An Act to Assert State Sovereignty over Ocean Waters and Marine Resources up to 12 Nautical Miles off the State's Coast	
<u>LD 556</u>	(SP218)
An Act to Preserve Heating and Energy Choice by Prohibiting a Municipality from Prohibiting a Particular Energy System or Energy Distributor	
<u>LD 557</u>	(SP231)
An Act to Allow All-terrain Vehicles to Be Used on a Public Way	



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Memorandum

To: Portland, City of
From: Bernstein Shur
Date: February 19, 2025
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.

Thank you.

There were no new bills printed that are of concern this week.