

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Meeting - March 11,
2025 Agenda**
March 11, 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/84019629821?pwd=W0oDmSl9Qgcf4IidGMnKOU8qPcRxIp.1>

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Meeting minutes

- a. Legislative/Nominating Committee Meeting - February 25, 2025
- b. Legislative/Nominating Committee Meeting - February 28, 2025

III. Legislative Update

- a. New Bills Report Review (Bernstein Shur)
- b. Upcoming Hearings to Plan For (Bernstein Shur)
- c. Update on Priority Bills (Bernstein Shur)

IV. Other Business

- a. LD 659 An Act to Reduce Housing Costs by Not Requiring Fire Sprinkler Systems for Single-family Homes and Duplexes
- b. LD 110 An Act to Require Reporting on the Expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds by Certain Municipalities and County Governments

V. Adjournment

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



MEMBERS

Mayor Mark Dion, Chair
Councilor Ben Grant
Councilor Kate Sykes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:06 am. In attendance were Mayor Mark Dion, Councilor Kate Sykes, Councilor Sarah Michniewicz, Councilor April Fournier, Councilor Regina Phillips, Councilor Ben Grant, Councilor Wesley Pelletier, City Manager Danielle P. West, Special Assistant to the City Manager Max Wilder, Kate Knox (Bernstein Shur), Lisa Prosienski (Bernstein Shur).

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. Legislative/Nominating Committee Meeting – February 11, 2025

Councilor Sykes made a motion to approve the minutes of February 11., seconded by Mayor Dion, vote (2-0).

III. Legislative Update

a. LD List and Tracker (Bernstein Shur)

i. New Bills Report – February 12, 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).

ii. New Bills Report – February 19, 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).

iii. LD 257 An Act to Eliminate the Practice of Net Energy Billing and LD 32 An Act to Repeal the Laws Regarding Net Energy Billing

Councilor Sykes made a motion to oppose, seconded by Councilor Grant, vote (3-0).

iv. LD 1 An Act to Increase Storm Preparedness for Maine's Communities, Homes and Infrastructure

Mayor Dion made a motion to support, moved by Councilor Sykes, vote (3-0).

Local option tax – motion to support councilor sykes seconded by grant (3-0)

v. LD 34 An Act to Increase the Minimum Salary for Teachers

Councilor Grant made a motion to support, seconded by Councilor Sykes (3-0).

vi. LD 283 An Act to Expand Local Revenues by Including Meals and Lodging Sales Tax Revenue Under the State-Municipal Revenue Sharing Program

Councilor Sykes made a motion to support, seconded by Councilor Grant (3-0).

vii. LD 193 An Act to Fund Students in Maine Who Are Experiencing Homelessness

Councilor Grant made a motion to support, seconded by Councilor Sykes (3-0).

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

Mayor Dion made a motion to oppose, moved by Councilor Grant, seconded by Councilor Sykes (3-0).

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.

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Meeting**
February 28, 2025



MEMBERS

Mayor Mark Dion, Chair
Councilor Ben Grant
Councilor Kate Sykes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 am. In attendance were Senator Jill C. Duson, Senator Rachel Talbot Ross, Rep. Dylan Pugh, Mayor Mark Dion, Councilor Kate Sykes, Councilor April Fournier, Councilor Sarah Michniewicz, Assistant City Manager Greg Jordan, Special Assistant to the City Manager Max Wilder, Kate Knox (Bernstein Shur), Lisa Prosienski (Bernstein Shur), Alysia Melnick (Bernstein Shur).

II. Legislative Update

III. Other Business

- a. LD 511 Resolve, to Direct the Department of Transportation to Implement the Recommendations of the Portland to Auburn Rail Use Advisory Council

Mayor Dion made a motion to support, moved by Councilor Sykes, seconded by Councilor Grant, (3-0).

Mayor Dion made a motion to adjourn the meeting, moved by Councilor Grant, seconded by Councilor Sykes, (3-0). The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 am.



**Bernstein, Shur,
Sawyer & Nelson, P.A.**
45 Memorial Circle
PO Box 5057
Augusta, ME 04332-5057

T (207) 623 - 1596
F (207) 626 - 0200

Memorandum

To: Portland, City of
From: Bernstein Shur
Date: February 26, 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 559 (SP238)
An Act to Provide Property Tax Stabilization for Older Maine Residents

LD 560 (SP239)
An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Improve Coastal Climate Resiliency

LD 570 (SP250)
An Act to Provide an Additional Maine Resident Homestead Property Tax Exemption Based on Income

LD 572 (SP253)
An Act to Improve Maine's Workers' Compensation Laws

LD 573 (SP254)
An Act to Improve Penalty Collection for Labor Protection Violations

LD 574 (SP255)
An Act to Improve Labor Conditions for Workers in the State

LD 605 (HP373)
An Act to Provide Solutions for Sustainable Management of Municipal Solid Waste

<u>LD 611</u>	(HP379)
An Act to Allow the Secretary of State to Collect Excise Taxes on Motor Vehicles Owned by Residents Who Are Unhoused	
<u>LD 632</u>	(HP400)
An Act to Allow a Local Option Sales Tax on Short-term Lodging to Fund Affordable Housing	
<u>LD 634</u>	(HP402)
Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Reduction of Unfunded and Outdated Municipal and County Mandates	
<u>LD 637</u>	(HP405)
Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Evaluate the Municipal General Assistance Program Database	
<u>LD 641</u>	(HP409)
An Act to Support Diversion Efforts to Address Homelessness in Maine	
<u>LD 646</u>	(HP414)
Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Study Unregulated Storm Water Pollution	
<u>LD 650</u>	(HP418)
An Act to Support Municipal Public Health	
<u>LD 651</u>	(HP419)
An Act to Fund the Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program	
<u>LD 652</u>	(HP420)
An Act to Provide Qualifying Downtown Businesses and Developments with Assistance Paying Flood Insurance Premiums	
<u>LD 653</u>	(HP421)
An Act to Allow Teachers to Qualify for Overtime Pay	
<u>LD 657</u>	(HP425)
An Act to Modify the Law Governing Municipal General Assistance by Designating Broadband Internet Access Service and Wireless Access Point Technology as Basic Necessities	
<u>LD 658</u>	(HP426)
An Act to Lower Property Taxes by Increasing the Homestead Property Tax Exemption	
<u>LD 679</u>	(SP294)
An Act to Increase the Funding to the Live Fire Service Training Facilities Fund	
<u>LD 687</u>	(SP304)
An Act to Assert State Ownership over Ocean Waters up to 12 Nautical Miles and Submerged Lands and Marine Resources up to 24 Nautical Miles off the State's Coast and to Direct the Attorney General to Study That Ownership	
<u>LD 690</u>	(SP307)

An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Provide Funding for
Affordable and Low-income Housing Programs

LD 698 (SP315)

An Act to Sustain Emergency Homeless Shelters in Maine



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Augusta, ME 04332-5057

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Memorandum

To: Portland, City of
From: Bernstein Shur
Date: March 5, 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 799 (HP506)
An Act to Report Gender Wage Gaps

LD 801 (HP508)
An Act to Prevent Consumer-generated Electricity from Being Used by Anyone Other than That Consumer

LD 807 (HP514)
An Act to Limit the Number of Free Motor Vehicle Registrations That May Be Provided to a Disabled Veteran and Reimburse Municipalities for the Loss of Excise Taxes

LD 811 (HP518)
An Act to Require a Municipal Public Hearing and Vote Before a Sports Wagering Facility May Be Established

LD 826 (SP349)
An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Establish the School Energy Savings Revolving Loan Fund

LD 833 (SP365)
An Act to Expand the Earned Paid Leave Exception

LD 836 (SP369)

An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Upgrade Municipal Culverts at Stream Crossings

LD 841 (SP374)

Resolve, to Study the Delivery of Emergency Medical Services to and Ferry Service Effects on Island Communities in the State

LD 842 (SP375)

An Act to Improve the Health of Maine Residents by Amending the Laws Governing the MaineCare, Maine Rx Plus and Emergency MaineCare Programs

LD 848 (HP534)

An Act Regarding the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program

LD 873 (HP559)

An Act to Expand Municipal Authority over Utility Pole Permits