



Remote Legislative & Nominating Committee Meeting

February 23, 2021
8:00 AM

AGENDA

I. ZOOM Information:

- a. The Legislative and Nominating Committee will hold a meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 8:00 AM. This meeting will take place remotely using Zoom. Virtual meetings are allowed using emergency legislation approved by LD 2167; 1 M.R.S. §403A, that authorizes cities and towns to conduct meetings online. Allow your computer to install the free Zoom app to get the best meeting experience. If you are not able to attend live, a recording will be uploaded to portlandmaine.gov/livestream the next day. For public comment, 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.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85278572531?pwd=VIBNUGp2bjlKNmxoWG9OOFhadDY3QT09>

Passcode: 492341

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +13126266799,,85278572531#,,, *492341# or +19292056099,,85278572531#,,, *492341#

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II. Call to Order

III. Approval of February 16, 2021 Meeting minutes

- a. February 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

IV. Staff feedback on new bills

- a. New bills list

V. Legislative Update

- a. Legislative Tracker
- b. Staff testimony re: LD 340 (An Act To Allow for the Establishment of Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs)

VI. Adjournment



**Legislative Committee
February 16, 2021
Meeting Minutes**

The February 16, 2021 remote Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Pious Ali at 8:00 AM on Zoom.

Councilor Pious Ali (Chair), Councilor April Fournier, Mayor Kate Snyder, Councilor Nick Mavodones, Jon Jennings (City Manager), Dena Libner (Chief of Staff), Kathy Jones (City Clerk), Kate Knox (Bernstein Shur), Alysia Melnick (Bernstein Shur), Chris Feeney (Bernstein Shur), and Roberto Rodriguez (School Board) were present.

Councilor Fournier made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 9, 2021, seconded by Councilor Mavodones, no amendments, vote 4-0.

Mayor Snyder shared that the Mayor Coalition is tracking LD 211 (An Act To Support Emergency Shelter Access for Persons Experiencing Homelessness) and there will be a hearing on this this coming Wednesday. The Coalition will be providing testimony on that. There are also separate budget meetings on General Assistance and revenue sharing, and they are tracking that work as well.

Alysia asked the Committee to give clarification as to if whether they would like to move forward with LR 1847 (An Act To Allow the Bureau of Motor Vehicles To Assist in the Critical Incident Contact Chain). Councilor Ali confirmed that the committee agreed not to move forward at a prior meeting. Regarding LD 474 (Resolve, To Ensure the Health and Wellness of Older Residents of the State), staff agreed to collect additional information to inform the Committee's decision at its next meeting.

Dena provided a list of new bills that staff had shared concerns with:

- LD 343 (An Act To Set Aside Funds from Federal Block Grants for Certain Communities)

- LD 395 (An Act To Remove the Authorization for Temporary Signs To Be Placed in the Public Right-of-Way)
- LD 311 (An Act To Require Third-party Certification for Persons Undertaking Corrosion Prevention and Mitigation Projects for Public Water Supply and Wastewater Infrastructure and Bridges)

Kate Knox reviewed the rest of the new bills' list and asked for Committee and staff feedback.

- LD 328 (An Act To Fully Fund and Restore State-Municipal Revenue Sharing): Mr. Jennings recommended that the Committee testify in support but recognizing the potential budget limitations at the state level. Members of the Committee agreed. Kate proposed to have testimony ready for LD 403 (An Act To Assist Service Center Communities by Adjusting State-Municipal Revenue Sharing) and LD 409 (An Act To Provide Funding To Restore Fully State-Municipal Revenue Sharing) as they all amendments to municipal revenue sharing.
- LD 340 (An Act To Allow for the Establishment of Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs): Dena expressed that the committee strongly supported this last year and the Sustainability Director drafted and gave testimony on it. Chair, Councilor Ali agreed.
- LD 412 (An Act To Authorize the Use of Tax Increment Financing Funds for Constructing or Renovating Municipal Offices and Other Buildings): Mr. Jennings expressed staff support for this bill.
- LD 419 (An Act Regarding Participation in Public Works Projects by Pretrial Inmates): Mr. Jennings stated that it is potentially a good opportunity for the City. Councilor Ali asked if this will provide skills to the inmates and if they would be paid. Mr. Jennings said that this will help provide/ develop skills for them, it offers a lot of opportunities not only for the City but for the individuals as well.

Chairman Councilor Ali made a motion to adjourn the meeting, moved by Mayor Snyder, seconded by Councilor Fournier vote 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 AM.



**Bernstein, Shur,
Sawyer & Nelson, P.A.**
146 Capitol Street
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 19, 2021
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.

COP-GENERAL

LD 502 (HP365)
An Act To Broaden the Definition of "Working Waterfront" with Respect to Land Use Planning

LD 519 (HP382)
An Act To Protect Children from Exposure to Toxic Chemicals

COP-SCHOOL

LD 509 (HP372)
An Act To Protect Teachers from a Decrease in Retirement Benefits Arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic

LD 516 (HP379)
Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Review Career and Technical Education Courses and Provide Guidance on High School Credit Equivalencies

LD 518

(HP381)

Resolve, Directing the Department of Education To Review and Assess Existing Educational Mandates

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>32</u>	325	An Act Regarding Remote Participation in Public Proceedings	Stewart	JUD	Bill Text	Support				Public meetings	
<u>37</u>	336	An Act To Amend the Laws Concerning the Retired County and Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Municipal Firefighters Health Insurance Program (Emergency)	Libby	LH	Bill Text	Support	2/3/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	2/17/21 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 2/17/21 OTP Not rpt out	Insurance	Monitor - City staff to check
<u>39</u>	539	An Act To Remove the Plastic Bag Ban	Guerin	ENR	Bill Text	Monitor	2/22/21 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB			Plastic bags	
<u>44</u>	428	An Act To Establish the Summer Success Pilot Program Fund	Pierce	ECA	Bill Text		2/8/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	2/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 2/17/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	School	
<u>47</u>	269	An Act To Fund the State's Free Health Clinics	Brennan	HHS	Bill Text		2/10/21 1:00 PM RM 209 COB	2/23/21 1:00 PM RM 209 COB		Health	
<u>48</u>	270	Resolve, To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Request a Waiver Relating to Support Services and To Provide Funds To Prevent Homelessness	Brennan	HHS	Bill Text					Support services	
<u>49</u>	271	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Infrastructure To Address Sea Level Rise (Bond)	Brennan	AFA	Bill Text					Bond	
<u>50</u>	272	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Housing for Persons Who Are Homeless (Bond)	Brennan	AFA	Bill Text					Bond	
<u>52</u>	278	An Act Regarding Collective Bargaining Negotiations by Public Employers of Teachers	Brennan	LH	Bill Text					School	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>55</u>	261	An Act To Protect Minority Religious Groups by Eliminating the Prior Approval Requirement for a School Absence for a Recognized Religious Holiday	Fecteau	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>		2/8/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	2/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 2/17/21 OTP Not rpt out	School	
<u>57</u>	279	An Act To Reduce the Landfilling of Municipal Solid Waste	Tucker	ENR	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor				Landfill	
<u>58</u>	105	An Act To Improve Information Sharing by Criminal Justice Agencies with Government Agencies Responsible for Investigating Child or Adult Abuse	Harnett	CJPS	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/10/21 10:00 AM RM 436 SH	2/17/21 10:00 AM RM 436 SH	Tabled 2/17/21	Information sharing	
<u>68</u>	724	An Act To Introduce a Career and Fiscal Management Elective Course at the High School Level	Crockett	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>					School	
<u>69</u>	136	An Act To Reduce Duplicative Permitting Review for Projects under the Site Location of Development Laws	Tucker	ENR	<u>Bill Text</u>		3/1/21 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB			Permitting	
<u>70</u>	309	An Act To Allow a Parent or Guardian of a Student Who Has Been Affected by COVID-19 To Keep the Student in the Student's Current Grade Level (Emergency)	Fecteau	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>		2/24/21 1:00 PM RM 208 COB			School	
<u>81</u>	70	An Act To Ensure the Safety of Children Experiencing Homelessness by Extending Shelter Placement Periods	Meyer	HHS	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor				Shelter	
<u>84</u>	322	An Act To Increase the State Share of the Cost of Health Insurance for Retired Teachers (Emergency)	Faulkingham	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>		2/17/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB		Insurance	
<u>87</u>	1961	An Act To Implement the State Climate Action Plan, Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Enhance Maine's Economy	Tucker	ENR	<u>Bill Text</u>					Environment	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>94</u>	253	An Act To Allow Municipalities To Exempt Volunteer Firefighters from Paying Excise Tax on Their Vehicles Used To Respond to Fire Calls	Doudera	TAX	Bill Text					Tax	
<u>96</u>	22	An Act To Create Fairness in the Treatment of Students by Retaining Students with Certain Vaccine Exemptions	Faulkingham	ECA	Bill Text					School	
<u>97</u>	219	An Act To Ensure the Right To Work without Payment of Dues or Fees to a Labor Union	Faulkingham	LH	Bill Text		2/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB			Union	
<u>100</u>	468	An Act To Establish the General Election Date in United States Presidential Election Years as a State Holiday	Moriarty	SLG	Bill Text	Monitor	2/3/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB		Holiday	
<u>102</u>	467	An Act To Extend the Time Frame for Processing Absentee Ballots	Moriarty	VLA	Bill Text	Testify in support	2/1/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH	2/10/21 11:00 AM Rm 437 SH	Voted 2/10/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Ballots	
<u>107</u>	212	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Specify the Qualifications of Electors	Faulkingham	VLA	Bill Text	Monitor/ Oppose	2/10/21 10:00 AM RM 437 SH			Electors	
<u>111</u>	474	An Act To Allow Career Educators To Retire without Penalty	Tuell	LH	Bill Text		2/3/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	2/22/21 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB		School	
<u>112</u>	657	An Act To Facilitate the Timely and Accurate Counting of Absentee Ballots By Extending the Processing Period	Roberts	VLA	Bill Text	Testify in support	2/1/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH	2/10/21 11:00 AM Rm 437 SH	Voted 2/10/21 ONTP Not rpt out	Ballots	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
129	405	Resolve, To Protect Consumers of Public Drinking Water by Establishing Maximum Contaminant Levels for Certain Substances and Contaminants	Stewart	HHS	Bill Text		2/9/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB			Water	Bernstein Shur to reach out to Water District.
132	151	An Act To Implement the Attorney General's Recommendations on Data Collection in Order To Eliminate Profiling in Maine	Talbot Ross	JUD	Bill Text	Monitor	2/11/21 10:00 AM Rm 438 SH			Profiling	
133	930	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Fire Stations (Bond)	Crockett	AFA	Bill Text	Support				Bond	
135	1063	An Act To Address Issues in Funding Prekindergarten Programs	Brennan	ECA	Bill Text	Monitor				School funding	
137	837	An Act Regarding Absence from Work for Emergency Response	Grohoski	LH	Bill Text	Staff to review	2/22/21 10:00 AM RM 202 COB			Employment	No concerns
148	354	An Act To Establish Ongoing Absentee Voting	Fecteau	VLA	Bill Text	Monitor	2/8/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH	2/22/21 1:00 PM Rm 437 SH		Voting	
150	140	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Hazardous Substance Site Cleanups (Bond)	Fay	AFA	Bill Text	Staff to review				Bond	This is in line with the City's own regulations. No issues.
155	838	Resolve, Directing the Board of Pesticides Control To Prohibit the Use of Certain Neonicotinoids for Outdoor Residential Use	Grohoski	ACF	Bill Text	Monitor	2/18/21 9:30 AM Rm 214 COB			Pesticides	
163	701	An Act To Revise Maine's Environmental Laws	Tucker	ENR	Bill Text	Monitor				Environment	
175	1096	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Create and Enhance Regional Homeless Shelters (Bond)	Cloutier	AFA	Bill Text	Support				Bond	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>179</u>	30	An Act To Exclude Energy Efficiency Improvements from Property Tax	Kessler	TAX	Bill Text	Monitor	2/23/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH			Tax	
<u>181</u>	955	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Complete the Renovation of a Wharf and Bulkhead in Portland for Marine Research (Bond)	Sylester	AFA	Bill Text	Staff to review				Bond	
<u>183</u>	15	An Act To Establish Juneteenth as a Paid State Holiday	Talbot Ross	SLG	Bill Text	Monitor	2/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB		Holiday	
<u>187</u>	202	An Act To Require Education about African-American History and the History of Genocide	Luchini	ECA	Bill Text	Monitor				School	
<u>189</u>	572	An Act To Permit All Public Employers To Implement Payroll Deductions for Disability and Life Insurance Policies	Jackson	LH	Bill Text	Monitor	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB			Insurance	
<u>191</u>	395	An Act To Permit Municipalities To Provide Assistance to Veterans in Paying Property Taxes	Bailey	TAX	Bill Text	Monitor				Tax	
<u>192</u>	396	An Act To Define the Responsibilities of Residential Property Owners for the Maintenance and Repair of Private Roads	Bailey	JUD	Bill Text	Monitor	2/18/21 11:00 AM Rm 438 SH	2/25/21 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH		Private roads	
<u>197</u>	666	Resolve, To Ensure That Community Mental Health Service Providers Can Access Pandemic Stimulus Funds	Breen	HHS	Bill Text	Support				Stimulus	City staff to review Staff supports

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>198</u>	717	An Act To Improve Maine's Tax Laws by Providing a Property Tax Exemption for Central Labor Councils	Chipman	TAX	Bill Text	Monitor	2/23/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH			Labor	Do not support - may submit testimony
<u>202</u>	758	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Implement Ranked-choice Voting	Miramant	VLA	Bill Text	Monitor	2/10/21 10:00 AM Rm 437 SH			Ranked choice	
<u>205</u>	451	An Act To Extend the Ability of Restaurants and Bars To Serve Alcohol To Go (Emergency)	Luchini	VLA	Bill Text	Testify	2/8/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH	2/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 437 SH	Voted 2/17/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Alcohol	Plan to testify. Supportive until emergency order.
<u>206</u>	1712	Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 234: Lead Testing in School Drinking Water Rule, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Emergency)	Meyer	HHS	Bill Text	Monitor	2/9/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB			Lead testing	
<u>208</u>	1124	An Act To Expand Access to Absentee Ballots	Brooks	VLA	Bill Text	Monitor				Ballots	
<u>211</u>	1094	An Act To Support Emergency Shelter Access for Persons Experiencing Homelessness	Cloutier	LH	Bill Text	Monitor	2/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB			Shelter	Monitor/most likely support. Staff to look into GA/shelter bills; Staff supports (carryover from 129th - LD 1909)
<u>242</u>	519	An Act To Support the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission	Cyrway	CJPS	Bill Text	Support	2/22/21 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH			Fire protection	Dena to reach out to the fire chief

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>244</u>	360	An Act To Repeal Maine's Single-use Plastic Bag Law	Davis	ENR	Bill Text	Monitor	2/22/21 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB			Plastic bags	The Council repealed the City's bag fee because the statute preempted municipalities from regulating bags. Assuming this completely repeals the existing state bag ban the Council would need to "unrepeal" our ordinance if they wanted to have some sort of bag program. We would like to make sure there is language in the bill that allows municipalities to have their own programs.
<u>250</u>	1098	An Act To Assist Nursing Homes in the Management of Facility Beds	Perry	HHS	Bill Text	City staff to check				Nursing homes	No issue (will not affect BC unless we reduced bed size and then increased bed size).
<u>253</u>	311	An Act To Strengthen Maine's Election Laws by Requiring Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting	Cebra	VLA	Bill Text	Monitor/ Oppose				Photo ID	
<u>256</u>		An Act To Adjust Sewer and Wastewater Lien Fees	Doudera	EUT	Bill Text	City staff to check	2/18/21 9:45 AM Rm 211 COB			Lien fees	
<u>259</u>	886	An Act To Improve Solid Waste Management	McDonald	ENR	Bill Text	Monitor				Solid waste	
<u>264</u>	583	An Act To Prohibit Aerial Application of Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances	Pluecker	ENR	Bill Text	Support				PFAS	Support - have city staff check if it aligns with city ordinance. Not relevant in Portland; primarily relevant to northern Maine where aerial spraying is used in large timber tracts.
<u>269</u>	634	An Act To Prohibit Smoking in Bus Shelters	Sanborn	HHS	Bill Text	Monitor	3/4/21 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB			Smoking	Metro?

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>270</u>	352	An Act To Amend the Regional Adjustment Index To Ensure School Districts Do Not Receive Less than the State Average for Teacher Salaries	Stewart	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor				School	Check with Superintendent
<u>278</u>	582	An Act To Establish a Process for the Consideration and Implementation of Changes to Mandated Instruction or Training for Students	Brennan	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/17/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB		School	
<u>281</u>	297	An Act To Address Student Achievement Gaps	Brennan	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor				School	
<u>286</u>	1460	An Act To Make Election Day a State Holiday	Collings	SLG	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB		Election	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>290</u>	346	An Act To Stabilize Property Taxes for Individuals 65 Years of Age or Older Who Own a Homestead for at Least 10 Years	Stewart	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	Oppose				Tax	The property tax amount is not a number that can just be frozen in our internal systems. The property tax for each individual parcel is a computation derived of two parts - the assessed value of the property multiplied by the tax rate for the corresponding fiscal year. In order to keep a tax amount "stabilized" there would need to be an adjustment made to one of these parts or at the very least, an abatement done to subtract the overall difference to arrive at the same "stabilized" tax amount each year. I object to the provision that someone eligible for a "stabilized" tax could move it with them to another municipality. Imagine someone living in Machias in a 1500 sq. ft., 3 bed, 1.5 bath home assessed at \$200,000 and paying \$4,000 in taxes downsizes and moves to a condo in Portland where the taxes may be \$6,000 otherwise. Let's say instead of downsizing, the eligible individual upsizes to create a larger home for extended family. Who wouldn't want to move their grandmother to an Eastern or Western Promenade property to take advantage of her "stabilized" eligibility to pay only \$4,000 in taxes on a property that would otherwise be taxed at \$8,000, \$10,000 or \$12,000 with the State picking up the difference?
<u>311</u>	1007	An Act To Require Third-party Certification for Persons Undertaking Corrosion Prevention and Mitigation Projects for Public Water Supply and Wastewater Infrastructure and Bridges	Chipman	TRAN	<u>Bill Text</u>	Strong opposition	2/25/21 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH				Another layer of expense and bureaucracy. Bernstein Shur to check with Senator Chipman. Public works director out – need to find backup person to check with.

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>328</u>	711	An Act To Fully Fund and Restore State-Municipal Revenue Sharing (Emergency)	Harnett	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support/ Testify					Mayor will testify
<u>340</u>	<u>611</u>	An Act To Allow for the Establishment of Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs	Sanborn	EUT	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support	2/25/21 9:00 AM Rm 211 COB				Testified last session
<u>343</u>	1804	An Act To Set Aside Funds from Federal Block Grants for Certain Communities	Talbot Ross	HHS	<u>Bill Text</u>	Concerns/ Monitor					Ask for language from Rep. Talbot Ross
<u>353</u>	1276	An Act To Establish Medical Marijuana Cooperatives	Warren	VLA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	3/1/21 10:00 AM Rm 437 SH				
<u>359</u>	1142	An Act To Promote Energy Production from Recyclable Plastics	Faulkingham	ENR	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor					
<u>382</u>	1835	An Act Regarding the Department of Transportation and Electric Vehicle Charging Stations	Warren	TRAN	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/25/21 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH				
<u>395</u>	696	An Act To Remove the Authorization for Temporary Signs To Be Placed in the Public Right-of-way	Ordway	TRAN	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/25/21 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH				Staff is concerned
<u>403</u>	622	An Act To Assist Service Center Communities by Adjusting State-Municipal Revenue Sharing (Emergency)	Madigan	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support					Potentially testify
<u>409</u>	1054	An Act To Provide Funding To Restore Fully State-Municipal Revenue Sharing (Emergency)	Riseman	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support/ Monitor					
<u>412</u>	606	An Act To Authorize the Use of Tax Increment Financing Funds for Constructing or Renovating Municipal Offices and Other Buildings	Carlow	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	3/2/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH				

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes
<u>419</u>	501	An Act Regarding Participation in Public Works Projects by Pretrial Inmates	Costain	CJPS	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH				Need more information
<u>426</u>	1566	An Act Relating to Solar Energy Installation	Lawrence	EUT	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor					
	1258	An Act To Clarify That Municipal Officers May Accept a Proposed, Unaccepted Way for Pedestrian, Bicycle and Other Nonmotorized Use	Carney			Monitor closely					Track closely. Staff believes this may have some complicated legal implications. MMA shares our concerns and is looking into it as well.
	1847	An Act To Allow the Bureau of Motor Vehicles To Assist in the Critical Incident Contact Chain	Sanborn			Need language				Contact chain	
	1848	An Act To Allow Tax Abatements for Catastrophic Loss	Sanborn			Need language				Tax	
	1849	An Act To Assist Maine's Working Waterfront	Sanborn			Need language				Waterfront	



City of Portland, Maine

To: Senator Lawrence, Representative Berry, and members of the Energy, Utilities, and Technology Committee

From: Troy Moon, Sustainability Director

Date: January 22, 2020

Regarding: City of Portland, Maine testimony to the State of Maine 129th Legislature's JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES, AND TECHNOLOGY in support of L.D. 1748, *"An Act To Allow for the Establishment of Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs."*

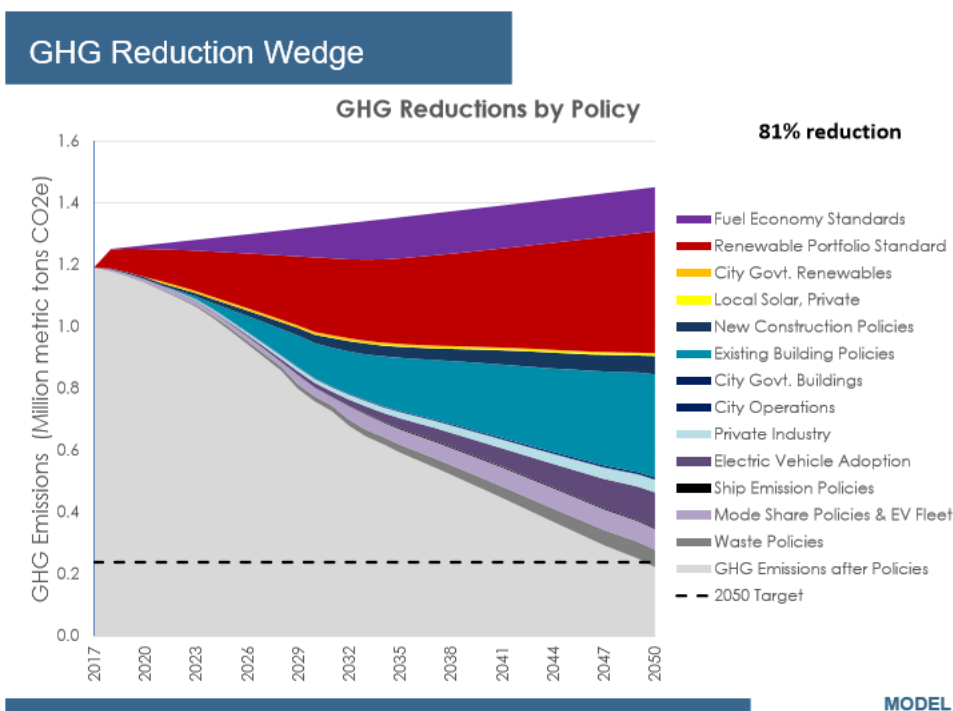
Senator Lawrence, Representative Berry, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the City of Portland in support of LD 1748 *"An Act To Allow for the Establishment of Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs."*

In 2017, the Cities of Portland and South Portland each pledged to reduce their community wide greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050. In order to achieve this we are collaborating on a joint climate action and adaptation plan called One Climate Future. When complete later this summer, our plan will recommend strategies our residents, businesses, and municipal governments should take to radically reduce or eliminate carbon emissions.

As part of our work, we completed a comprehensive inventory of the greenhouse gas emissions generated in both cities. We discovered that over 60% of our emissions come from heating, cooling, and operating buildings. In order to achieve the reduction targets set by our City Councils and the similarly ambitious climate goals set by Governor Mills we must develop policies to guide building owners toward energy efficiency and clean energy retrofits. We must also provide them with affordable financial tools to help them pay for such improvements.

A wedge analysis created by our One Climate Future consulting team illustrates the importance of intervention in the building sector. After the 100% renewable portfolio standard enacted by Governor Mills and the Legislature in 2019 interventions in building policy are the most important way to reduce carbon emissions in our cities.



For this reason, the City of Portland fully supports enactment of LD 1748 and the establishment of a Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) program. It will provide a much-needed way to leverage private funding in support of our climate goals.

For example, the Cities of Portland and South Portland have enacted energy benchmarking and disclosure ordinances that require certain commercial property owners to calculate the amount of energy they use to operate their buildings. They must also disclose this information to our Sustainability Offices. This information will allow us to identify buildings that use more energy than other buildings with similar uses. We will then be able to recommend opportunities for energy efficiency that will save the owner money while reducing the greenhouse gas emissions in our cities. Incentive and rebate programs offered by Efficiency Maine will play important roles in our efforts to promote energy efficiency but large-scale building retrofits will require property owners to seek financing. This is where a C-PACE program becomes a powerful tool. By harnessing the security of a municipal lien, we can help building owners unlock opportunities for low cost, long-term private financing. The building owner can benefit immediately by reducing energy costs. These savings provide the funds to repay the C-PACE loan. For new construction, building owners will be able to use the C-PACE program to finance energy systems and weatherization that significantly exceed the standards set by the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code. The public benefits from these measures because they improve the local buildings stock and reduce greenhouse gas emissions without the use of limited municipal funds.

We believe that Maine should join the 33 states across the nation that have adopted C-PACE programs and we look forward to working with the Legislature and other stakeholders to make this a reality.