



Remote Legislative & Nominating Committee

April 13, 2021

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AGENDA

ZOOM INFORMATION:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84844190587?pwd=NUNUekZGYWRhWUdqR25SdGdZVIZ6dz09>

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II. Call to Order

III. Approval of Meeting minutes

- a. April 6, 2021 Meeting Minutes

IV. Legislative Update by Bernstein Shur

- a. New Bills Memo
- b. Legislative Tracker

V. Upcoming Public Hearings / Testimony

- a. Testimony for LD 953 (Submitted by Greg Mitchell, Economic Director)
- b. Testimony for LD 1995 (Submitted by Jessica Hanscombe, Acting Director of Permitting & Inspections)

VI. Adjournment



**Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes
April 6, 2021**

The April 6, 2021 Legislative Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Pious Ali at 8:02 AM on Zoom.

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

Councilor Mavodones made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from March 30, 2021, seconded by Mayor Snyder, no amendments, vote 3-0.

Kate Knox provided the committee with an update of upcoming hearings, printing of bills and legislative meetings related to the budget. The following courses of action were approved:

LD 1322 (*Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Allow Rental Housing Owners To Apply for Emergency Rental Relief Assistance*) - Councilor Mavodones expressed that generally he is in support of it and that is worth to keep an eye on it as it offers benefits to those in Portland. Councilor Ali said he agrees and as the time gets closer the Committee can support it.

LD 1333 (*An Act Concerning the Dispensation of Naloxone Hydrochloride by Emergency Medical Services Providers*) - Mayor Snyder said that we should have staff testify in support to this bill. Mr. Jennings agreed that Chief Gautreau would testify.

LD 1337 (*An Act To Increase Affordable Housing and Reduce Property Taxes through an Impact Fee on Vacant Residences*) - Mr. Jennings asked Kate to schedule a briefing with the bill sponsor, Councilor Ali agreed.

LD 1340 (*An Act To Ensure Municipal Compliance with Federal Immigration Laws*) - Mr. Jennings recommended that the Committee testify in opposition to the bill. Councilor Mavodones said that it is an important issue that the City of Portland has been dealing with for a long time and agreed testimony is needed. Councilor Ali said that the bill has a big impact not only on the current city citizens but anyone moving to Portland.

LD 1342 (*An Act To Authorize a Local Option Sales Tax on Lodging and Other Goods and Provide Funding for Tax Abatement and Rental Relief*) - Mr. Jennings asked for Kate Knox to have a conversation with Representative Sylvester to obtain clarification about the bill.

The Committee discussed support of **LD 1115 (*An Act To Improve Access to HIV Prevention Medications*)**, which seeks to improve access to HIV medication. They agreed that the Mayor should sign a letter of support recently provided by advocates of the bill.

Kate Knox followed up with the Committee about upcoming hearings and the Committee decisions.

LD 1195 (*An Act To Increase Funding to Qualifying Municipalities by Sharing Adult Use Marijuana Sales and Excise Tax Revenue*) - Mr. Jennings recommended that written testimony highlighting the cost that Portland is experiencing due to the roll out of marijuana licensing and it justify why some of the resulting revenue should be allocated to municipalities.

LD 1171 (*An Act To Curtail No-knock Warrants*) - Mr. Jennings suggested having Chief Clark to come to a future meeting and discuss what is specifically in the body of the memo and the impact it will have. Committee agreed to have Chief Clark participate in the meeting scheduled for April 20.

Councilor Mavodones made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mayor Snyder, vote 3-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Memorandum

To: Portland, City of
From: Bernstein Shur
Date: April 9, 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 1278

An Act To End the Maine Information and Analysis Center

Staff indicate that MIAC is a key resource when it comes to information sharing, providing bulletins in areas including wanted or missing people and current trends or techniques used elsewhere in the country that may impact office safety strategies. MIAC also provides a mechanism for law enforcement officers throughout the State to share information broadly regarding reported or unsolved crimes.

LD 1354

(SP440)

Resolve, To Study the Establishment of a System of Voting by Mail

This would not significantly impact City operations.

LD 1355

(SP441)

An Act To Amend the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Exemption for Veterans Who Are Disabled

This would have a minimal impact on City revenue.

LD 1356

(SP442)

An Act Regarding the Placement of Temporary Signs

This would not impact City operations.

LD 1363

(SP450)

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Elections

This would not impact City operations.

LD 1364

(HP998)

Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Study and Recommend Incentives for Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems

Staff support.

LD 1365

(HP999)

An Act To Prohibit Municipalities from Prohibiting Short-term Rentals

Staff oppose this degree of restriction on local rule.

LD 1367

(HP1001)

An Act To Create a Grant Program To Promote Innovation in Municipal Carbon Reduction Initiatives

Staff support.

LD 1370

(HP1004)

An Act To Establish Trail until Rail Corridors

This would not impact City operations.

LD 1375

(HP1009)

An Act To Permit Online Absentee Voting

This would not impact City operations.

LD 1378

(HP1012)

An Act To Facilitate Compliance with Federal Immigration Law by State and Local Government Entities

Staff strongly oppose this bill, which is similar to but even more aggressive than LD 1340. (It includes penalties, but does not make municipalities in violation of the statute ineligible for GA, as LD 1340 does.)

LD 1386

(HP1020)

Resolve, To Improve Access to Bariatric Care

This will not directly affect City operations, but staff is supportive from a policy perspective.

LD 1388

(HP1022)

An Act To Require Testing of Public Drinking Water Supplies for Toxic Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances and To Establish Maximum Contaminant Levels

This would impact PWD, not City operations.

LD 1395

(HP1029)

An Act To Suspend Meals and Lodging Taxes until 12 Months after the COVID-19 Civil Emergency

This would not impact City operations.

LD 1396

(HP1030)

Resolve, To Ensure Proper Funding for Recreational Trails and Transportation Alternatives

This would not affect City operations.

LD 1399

(HP1033)

An Act To Provide for Remote Notarization

City staff support.

LD 1400

(HP1034)

An Act To Protect Towing Operators Providing Emergency Assistance by Allowing the Use of a Flashing Red Light

This would not impact City operations.

LD 1401

(HP1035)

An Act To Prohibit Biological Males from Participating in School Athletic Programs and Activities Designated for Females at Schools That Receive Federal Funding

This does not impact City operations.

LD 1402

(HP1036)

An Act To Remove a Requirement Regarding Payment of Union Fees

This would not impact City operations.

LD 1403

(HP1037)

An Act To Protect Maine Businesses, Nonprofits,
Educational Institutions and Municipalities during the
COVID-19 Pandemic

*This is currently under review by staff. Feedback will be
provided as soon as it is available.*

COP-SCHOOL

LD 1383

(HP1017)

An Act To Limit Homework in Public Schools

LD 1393

(HP1027)

An Act To Protect a Parent's and Guardian's Right to
Educational Information Regarding a Juvenile Student

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<u>17</u>	373	Resolve, To Provide Rural Nonmedical Transportation Services to the Elderly and Adults with Disabilities Receiving Home and Community Benefits under the MaineCare Program	Maxmin	HHS	<u>Bill Text</u>	High Priority	2/10/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	2/23/21 1:30 PM Rm 209 COB	Tabled 2/23/21	MaineCare		High
<u>133</u>	930	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Fire Stations (Bond)	Crockett	AFA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support				Bond		High
<u>340</u>	611	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	3/23/21 10:30 AM Rm 211 COB	Voted 3/23/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Energy	Testified last session	High
<u>534</u>	1848	An Act To Allow Tax Abatements for Catastrophic Loss	Chipman	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support/ Testify	3/18/21 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	3/25/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH		Tax	Tax assessor will testify	High
<u>609</u>	384	Resolve, To Establish a Commission To Increase Housing Opportunities in Maine by Studying Zoning and Land Use Restrictions (Emergency)	Fecteau	LH	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support/ Written testimony	3/22/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	3/26/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	Voted 3/26/21 OTP Not rpt out	Housing		High
<u>910</u>	284	An Act To Amend the General Assistance Laws Governing Reimbursement	Brennan	HHS	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support/ Testify	4/1/21 12:00 PM Rm 209 COB			General Assistance	Written testimony submitted	High
<u>1448</u>	1597	An Act To Increase State Reimbursement to Municipalities for Revenue Lost Due to the Homestead Property Tax Exemption	Talbot Ross	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>					Homestead Exemption		High
	547	An Act Regarding Paid Family Medical Leave								FML		High

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	1095	An Act To Expand and Strengthen Maine's Workforce by Awarding Grants To Create Industry-specific English Language Acquisition and Workforce Training Programs and To Expand English Language Acquisition Instruction	Cloutier							Grants		High
	1310	An Act To Improve Access to Property Tax Exemptions for New Homeowners	Grohoski							Property tax		High
	1594	An Act To Create the Cabinet on Aging	Fay							Aging		High
	1630	An Act To Increase Access To Transportation for Workforce and Other Essential Transportation Needs								Transportation		High
	1847	An Act To Allow the Bureau of Motor Vehicles To Assist in the Critical Incident Contact Chain	Sanborn			Need language				Contact chain		High
	1849	An Act To Assist Maine's Working Waterfront	Sanborn			Need language				Waterfront		High
<u>32</u>	325	An Act Regarding Remote Participation in Public Proceedings	Stewart	JUD	<u>Bill Text</u>	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	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support	2/3/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	2/17/21 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB	<u>3/17/21</u> <u>Public Law</u> <u>Ch. 19</u>	Insurance	Monitor - City staff to check	
<u>39</u>	539	An Act To Remove the Plastic Bag Ban	Guerin	ENR	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/22/21 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB	3/3/21 11:00 AM Rm 216 COB	MAJ: ONTP MIN: OTP-AM Reported out 3/30/21	Plastic bags		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
44	428	An Act To Require the Department of Education To Report Annually on Summer Educational Programs (Title change)	Pierce	ECA	Bill Text		2/8/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	2/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	4/7/21 Public Law Ch. 32	School	Xavier Botana_ doing a careful review.	
47	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	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/26/21	Health		
48	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		3/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	4/9/21 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB		Support services		
49	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		
50	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		
52	278	An Act Regarding Collective Bargaining Negotiations by Public Employers of Teachers	Brennan	ECA	Bill Text		3/29/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/7/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/7/21 Anticipated Divided Report Not rpt out	School		
55	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	Bill Text		2/8/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	2/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	3/17/21 Public Law Ch. 25	School		
57	279	An Act To Reduce the Landfilling of Municipal Solid Waste	Tucker	ENR	Bill Text	Monitor				Landfill		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
58	105	An Act To Improve Information Sharing by Criminal Justice Agencies with Government Agencies Responsible for Investigating Child or Adult Abuse	Harnett	CJPS	Bill Text	Monitor	2/10/21 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	3/29/21 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	Tabled 3/29/21	Information sharing		
68	724	An Act To Introduce a Career and Fiscal Management Elective Course at the High School Level	Crockett	ECA	Bill Text					School		
69	136	An Act To Reduce Duplicative Permitting Review for Projects under the Site Location of Development Laws	Tucker	ENR	Bill Text		3/1/21 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB	3/8/21 11:00 AM Rm 216 COB	OTP Reported out 3/18/21	Permitting		
70	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	Bill Text		2/24/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	3/3/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	MAJ: ONTP MIN: OTP-AM Reported out 3/30/21	School	Xavier Botana_monitor; follow MSMA's lead	
81	70	An Act To Ensure the Safety of Children Experiencing Homelessness by Extending Shelter Placement Periods	Meyer	HHS	Bill Text	Monitor	4/8/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB			Shelter		
84	322	An Act To Increase the State Share of the Cost of Health Insurance for Retired Teachers (Emergency)	Faulkingham	ECA	Bill Text		2/17/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 2/24/21	Insurance		
87	1961	An Act To Implement the State Climate Action Plan, Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Enhance Maine's Economy	Tucker	ENR	Bill Text					Environment		
94	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		4/2/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	4/8/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 4/8/21 ONTP Not rpt out	Tax		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
96	22	An Act To Create Fairness in the Treatment of Students by Retaining Students with Certain Vaccine Exemptions	Faulkingham	ECA	Bill Text					School	Xavier Botana_opposes	
97	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	3/26/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	Voted 3/26/21 Anticipated Divided Report Not rpt out	Union		
100	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	DEAD	Holiday		
102	467	An Act To Extend the Time Frame for Processing Absentee Ballots	Moriarty	VLA	Bill Text	Support/ Testify	2/1/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH	2/10/21 11:00 AM Rm 437 SH	3/17/21 Public Law Ch. 11	Ballots		
107	212	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Specify the Qualifications of Electors	Faulkingham	VLA	Bill Text	Oppose/ Monitor	2/10/21 10:00 AM Rm 437 SH	3/3/21 11:00 AM RM 437 SH	DEAD	Electors		
111	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	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/8/21	School		
112	657	An Act To Facilitate the Timely and Accurate Counting of Absentee Ballots By Extending the Processing Period	Roberts	VLA	Bill Text	Support/ Testify	2/1/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH	2/10/21 11:00 AM Rm 437 SH	DEAD	Ballots		
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.	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	3/25/21 10:00 AM Rm 438 SH		Profiling		
135	1063	An Act To Address Issues in Funding Prekindergarten Programs	Brennan	ECA	Bill Text	Monitor				School funding	Xavier Botana_supports	
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	3/17/21 10:00 AM RM 202 COB	OTP-AM Reported out 3/30/21	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	Tabled 2/22/21	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	3/9/21 9:00 AM Rm 214 COB	A. OTP-AM B. OTP-AM C. ONTP Reported out 4/5/21	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		
179	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	4/1/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 4/1/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	Tax		

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<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)	Sylvester	AFA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Staff to review				Bond		
<u>183</u>	15	An Act To Establish Juneteenth as a Paid State Holiday	Talbot Ross	SLG	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	MAJ: OTP MIN: OTP-AM Reported out 4/8/21	Holiday		
<u>187</u>	202	An Act To Require Education about African-American History and the History of Genocide	Luchini	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor				School	Xavier Botana_supports	
<u>189</u>	572	An Act To Permit All Public Employers To Implement Payroll Deductions for Disability and Life Insurance Policies	Jackson	LH	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	3/26/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	Voted 3/26/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Insurance		
<u>191</u>	395	An Act To Permit Municipalities To Provide Assistance to Veterans in Paying Property Taxes	Bailey	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	3/18/21 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	3/25/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 3/25/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/18/21 11:00 AM Rm 438 SH	3/4/21 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH	<u>3/17/21</u> <u>Public Law</u> <u>Ch. 13</u>	Private roads		
<u>197</u>	666	Resolve, To Ensure That Community Mental Health Service Providers Can Access Pandemic Stimulus Funds	Breen	HHS	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support	4/15/21 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB			Stimulus	City staff to review Staff supports	
<u>198</u>	717	An Act To Improve Maine's Tax Laws by Providing a Property Tax Exemption for Central Labor Councils	Chipman	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/23/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH	3/4/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/26/21	Labor	Do not support - may submit testimony	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
202	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	3/26/21 11:30 AM Rm 437 SH	Voted 3/26/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Ranked choice		
205	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	3/17/21 Public Law Ch. 3	Alcohol	Plan to testify. Supportive until emergency order.	
206	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	3/18/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	Voted 3/18/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Lead testing		
208	1124	An Act To Expand Access to Absentee Ballots	Brooks	VLA	Bill Text	Monitor	3/8/21 10:30 AM Rm 437 SH			Ballots		
211	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	3/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	Voted 3/17/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Shelter	Monitor/most likely support. Staff to look into GA/shelter bills; Staff supports (carryover from 129th - LD 1909)	
242	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	3/1/21 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	OTP-AM Reported out 3/8/21	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	Priority
244	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	3/3/21 11:00 AM Rm 216 COB	MAJ: ONTP MIN: OTP Reported out 3/30/21	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.	
250	1098	An Act To Assist Nursing Homes in the Management of Facility Beds	Perry	HHS	Bill Text	City staff to check	3/17/21 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB	4/6/21 2:00 PM Rm 209 COB	Voted 4/6/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	Nursing homes	No issue (will not affect BC unless we reduced bed size and then increased bed size).	
253	311	An Act To Strengthen Maine's Election Laws by Requiring Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting	Cebra	VLA	Bill Text	Oppose/ Monitor	4/7/21 10:00 AM Rm 437 SH	4/14/21 1:00 PM Rm 437 SH		Photo ID		
256	480	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	3/4/21 9:30 AM Rm 211 COB	Voted 3/4/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	Lien fees		
259	886	An Act To Improve Solid Waste Management	McDonald	ENR	Bill Text	Monitor				Solid waste		
264	583	An Act To Prohibit Aerial Application of Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances	Pluecker	ACF	Bill Text	Support	4/1/21 9:00 AM Rm 214 COB			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.	
269	634	An Act To Prohibit Smoking in Bus Shelters	Sanborn	HHS	Bill Text	Monitor	3/4/21 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB	3/18/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	OTP Reported out 3/26/21	Smoking	Metro?	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<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	Bill Text	Monitor	3/8/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	4/6/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 4/6/21	School	Check with Superintendent Xavier Botana_defer to Rep. Brennan	
<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	Bill Text	Monitor	2/17/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 2/24/21	School	Xavier Botana_supports	
<u>281</u>	297	An Act To Address Student Achievement Gaps	Brennan	ECA	Bill Text	Monitor	3/8/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	3/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 3/17/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	School	Xavier Botana_supports	
<u>286</u>	1460	An Act To Make Election Day a State Holiday	Collings	SLG	Bill Text	Monitor	2/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	MAJ: ONTP MIN: OTP-AM Reported out 3/11/21	Elections		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<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	3/4/21 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/29/21	Water supply/ Wastewater	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	Priority
328	711	An Act To Fully Fund and Restore State-Municipal Revenue Sharing (Emergency)	Harnett	TAX	Bill Text	Support/ Testify	3/9/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH	3/18/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 3/18/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Revenue sharing	Mayor will testify	
343	1804	An Act To Set Aside Funds from Federal Block Grants for Certain Communities	Talbot Ross	HHS	Bill Text	Monitor	3/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB			Grants	Concerns Ask for language from Rep. Talbot Ross	
353	1276	An Act To Establish Medical Marijuana Cooperatives	Warren	VLA	Bill Text	Monitor	3/1/21 10:00 AM Rm 437 SH			Marijuana		
359	1142	An Act To Promote Energy Production from Recyclable Plastics	Faulkingham	ENR	Bill Text	Monitor				Energy		
382	1835	An Act Regarding the Department of Transportation and Electric Vehicle Charging Stations	Warren	TRAN	Bill Text	Monitor	2/25/21 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH			Vehicles		
395	696	An Act To Remove the Authorization for Temporary Signs To Be Placed in the Public Right-of-way	Ordway	TRAN	Bill Text	Monitor	2/25/21 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	3/4/21 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	MAJ: ONTP MIN: OTP-AM Reported out 3/17/21	Signs	Staff is concerned	
403	622	An Act To Assist Service Center Communities by Adjusting State-Municipal Revenue Sharing (Emergency)	Madigan	TAX	Bill Text	Support	3/9/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH	3/18/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 3/18/21 ONTP Not rpt out	Revenue sharing	Potentially testify	
409	1054	An Act To Provide Funding To Restore Fully State-Municipal Revenue Sharing (Emergency)	Riseman	TAX	Bill Text	Support/ Monitor	3/9/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH	3/18/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 3/18/21 ONTP Not rpt out	Revenue sharing		
412	606	An Act To Authorize the Use of Tax Increment Financing Funds for Constructing or Renovating Municipal Offices and Other Buildings	Carlow	TAX	Bill Text	Monitor	3/2/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH	3/16/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 3/16/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	TIF		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
419	501	An Act Regarding Participation in Public Works Projects by Pretrial Inmates	Costain	CJPS	Bill Text	Monitor	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	3/3/21 10:10 AM Rm 436 SH	Voted 3/29/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Public works	Need more information	
426	1566	An Act Relating to Solar Energy Installation	Lawrence	EUT	Bill Text	Monitor				Energy		
521	1173	An Act To Modify the Rule-making Process for Establishing County and Municipal Jail Standards	Baldacci	CJPS	Bill Text	Monitor	3/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	4/16/21 1:00 PM Rm 436 SH		Jails	Concerned about costs	
525	995	An Act To Allow Medical and Adult Use Marijuana Stores To Share a Common Space	Miramant	VLA	Bill Text	Oppose/ Monitor	3/29/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH			Marijuana		
555	906	An Act To Expand the Rights of Public Sector Employees	Sylvester	LH	Bill Text	Oppose/ Monitor				Employment		
557	276	An Act To Require Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting	Johansen	VLA	Bill Text	Monitor	4/7/21 10:00 AM Rm 437 SH	4/14/21 1:00 PM Rm 437 SH		Voting		
580	1525	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Regarding Early Voting	Moriarty	VLA	Bill Text	Monitor	3/8/21 10:30 AM Rm 437 SH	3/17/21 11:00 AM Rm 437 SH	Voted 3/17/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Voting	Clerks likely to support	
596	1115	An Act To Improve the Law Regarding Abandoned Roads	Claxton	SLG	Bill Text	Monitor	3/22/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB			Roads		
605	644	An Act To Amend the Marijuana Legalization Act	Pierce	VLA	Bill Text	Monitor	3/29/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH			Marijuana		
613	255	An Act To Amend the Adult Use Marijuana Program Rules and Make Other Technical Changes	Pierce	VLA	Bill Text	Monitor	3/29/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH			Marijuana		
638	475	An Act To Ensure the Timely and Transparent Delivery of Unofficial Election Results in Maine	Tuell	VLA	Bill Text	Monitor	3/19/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH	3/26/21 11:30 AM Rm 437 SH	ONTP Reported out 4/2/21	Elections		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
646	1865	An Act To Improve the Administration of Elections by Ensuring an Adequate Number of Poll Workers	Bennett	SLG	Bill Text	Monitor	3/22/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	4/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB		Elections		
647	517	An Act To Expand Eligibility for the Veterans' Property Tax Exemption	Keim	TAX	Bill Text	Monitor	4/7/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH			Tax	Staff to get additional information	
650	1941	An Act To Increase Funding for School Construction Projects	Bailey	ECA	Bill Text		3/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	4/6/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/6/21 ONTP Not rpt out	School funding	School board to check	
651	1881	An Act To Stabilize Student Count in Maine's School Funding Formula (Emergency)	Millett		Bill Text	Monitor	4/13/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB			School funding		
654	1665	An Act To Create a 24-hour Shelter Capital Project Funding Program	Arford	LH	Bill Text	Monitor	3/22/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	3/26/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	Tabled 3/26/21	Shelter	Concerned as meant to only cover hotel purchases.	
659	1016	An Act To Ease the Property Tax Burden by Authorizing Municipalities To Require Payments in Lieu of Taxes from Certain Exempt Organizations	Tuell	TAX	Bill Text	Support/ Monitor	4/14/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH			Property tax	Concerned about lack of time to negotiate with property owners.	
660	1044	An Act Regarding Protection from Power Outages for Tenants 65 Years of Age and Older in Subsidized Housing	Head	JUD	Bill Text	Monitor	3/24/21 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH	4/1/21 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH	Voted 4/2/21 ONTP Not rpt out	Housing		
668	1348	An Act To Ensure Public Accountability While Implementing a Practical Approach to Remote Participation	Babbidge	JUD	Bill Text	Oppose/ Testify				Remote participation	Have concerns	
677	641	An Act To Improve Public Sector Labor Relations by Amending the Laws Governing Arbitration under Certain Public Employees Labor Relations Laws	Jackson	LH	Bill Text	Monitor				Labor	Strong concerns	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
684	953	Resolve, To Amend MaineCare Reimbursement Provisions Governing Supplemental Payments to Nursing Facilities with High MaineCare Use (Emergency)	Timberlake	HHS	Bill Text		3/17/21 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB	4/6/21 2:00 PM Rm 209 COB	Voted 4/6/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	MaineCare	Staff to check	
708	221	An Act To Increase the Homestead Exemption to \$50,000	Faulkingham	TAX	Bill Text	Oppose/ Testify				Homestead Exemption		
740	459	An Act To Provide Municipalities a Percentage of the Revenue Generated from the Taxes Imposed on the Sale of Recreational Marijuana in Those Municipalities	O'Connell	TAX	Bill Text	Support/ Testify	4/7/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH			Tax	Staff strongly support this bill and suggest closely monitoring and providing testimony	
746	11	An Act Regarding Remote Participation in Municipal Meetings	Dillingham	JUD	Bill Text	Oppose/ Monitor				Municipal	Staff strongly opposes due to the new constraints this bill proposes. Staff recommends monitoring closely.	
773	295	An Act To Assist Public School Students and Families Who Are Homeless	Brennan	LH	Bill Text		4/2/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB			School	Review further	
805	737	An Act To Allow Municipalities To Prohibit Firearms at Voting Places	Breen	SLG	Bill Text		4/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB			Firearms		
806	1258	An Act To Clarify That Municipal Officers May Accept a Proposed, Unaccepted Way for Pedestrian, Bicycle and Other Nonmotorized Use	Carney	SLG	Bill Text	Monitor closely	4/7/21 10:15 AM Rm 214 COB			Bicycle	Track closely. Staff believes this may have some complicated legal implications. MMA shares our concerns and is looking into it as well.	
816	1038	An Act To Improve Communication between School Boards and Educators by Requiring Notice of Discussion of Labor Matters	Rafferty	ECA	Bill Text	Oppose	3/29/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/12/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB		Labor	Subverts the role of the Superintendent as the school district's chief executive officer	
833	414	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Vaccines by Reinstating Religious Exemptions	Kinney	ECA	Bill Text	Oppose				Religion	Vaccine exemptions	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
838	1037	An Act To Exempt Substitutes, Coaches and Temporary Employees in the Education System from Paid Sick Leave Requirements	Poirier	LH	Bill Text	Support	4/2/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB			Sick leave	Exempting certain employees from the paid leave requirements in the current law	
864	1302	An Act To Protect Teachers' Privacy While Delivering Remote Instruction	Dodge	ECA	Bill Text	Support				Privacy	Teacher privacy during remote instruction	
920	463	An Act To Promote Oversight of and Competitive Parity among Video Service Providers	Kessler	EUT	Bill Text		4/6/21 9:00 AM Rm 211 COB			Video service providers		
925	1619	Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Develop a Plan To Redevelop Exit 5 of Interstate 295 in Portland	Lookner	TRAN	Bill Text	Support/ Monitor				Transportation	Staff is supportive, and recommends monitoring.	
926	1672	An Act To Ban Biological Males from Participating in Women's Sports	O'Connor	JUD	Bill Text	Oppose				Gender		
953	1463	An Act To Improve Affordable Housing Options and Services To Address Homelessness	Deschambault	TAX	Bill Text	Support/ Monitor	4/14/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH			Housing	Staff are supportive of this bill and recommend that it be monitored. Housing & Economic Development staff plan to testify.	
959	1576	An Act To Protect Small Businesses by Ensuring That a Prevailing Wage Is Paid on Public Works Construction Projects	Miramant	LH	Bill Text	Oppose/ Monitor				Prevailing wage	Staff oppose this bill. It would lower the threshold at which prevailing wages are required from \$50K to \$15K projects and most likely reduce the competitive bidding process. They recommend monitoring it closely	
968	908	Resolve, To Expand Mental Health Crisis Intervention Mobile Response Services	Supica	HHS	Bill Text	Support	4/12/21 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB			Mental Health		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
969	1496	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Construction of a Convention Center in Portland, Improvements to the Augusta Civic Center and a Competitive Grant Program for Capital Improvements to Public Venues across the State (Bond)	Bailey	AFA	Bill Text					Bond	Staff to provide a memo.	
975	460	An Act To Create an Additional Pathway To Certify Industrial Arts Teachers To Foster Career and Technical Subjects in Maine Schools	Fecteau	ECA	Bill Text	Support	4/9/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	4/16/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB		Teacher certification	Licensing Industrial Arts Teachers	
987	1638	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Portland Harbor Commercial Revitalization Project's Confined Aquatic Disposal Cell and Dredging Projects (Bond)	Chipman	AFA	Bill Text	Support/ Testify				Bond	Staff strongly support and recommend direct lobbying, close monitoring and testimony.	
991	1628	Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Complete a Feasibility Analysis To Initiate a Commuter and Passenger Train Service between Portland and the Lewiston and Auburn Area	Chipman	TRAN	Bill Text	Support/ Testify				Transportation	Staff to provide information on impact to City – Study should have community input, how will it impact environment and communities in Portland?	
993	1907	An Act To Prevent the Spread of Infectious Disease in Schools (Emergency)	White	ECA	Bill Text		4/2/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB			Infectious disease	Reviewing against our current provisions	
994	914	An Act To Promote Public Health by Eliminating Criminal Penalties for Possession of Hypodermic Apparatuses	McDonald	CJPS	Bill Text	Support/ Testify				Public health	Submit testimony on behalf of legislative committee	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
1050	841	An Act Regarding the Duties of School Boards Pursuant to the Laws Governing Attendance at Elementary and Secondary Schools	Cuddy	ECA	Bill Text		3/29/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/7/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/7/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	School	OK with it. We have policies in place already	
1082	1229	An Act To Improve Educational Opportunities by Exempting Children Who Attend Virtual Public Charter Schools from Immunization Requirements and Expanding Enrollment at Virtual Public Charter Schools	Sampson	ECA	Bill Text	Oppose				Charter schools	It is a way of getting around the vaccination provisions	
1086	1440	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Upgrade Customs Facilities at the Portland International Jetport and the Bangor International Airport To Promote International Tourism and Commerce (Bond)	Bailey	AFA	Bill Text	Support/ Testify				Bond	Paul Bradbury to testify, watch for ICE detention facility integration	
1089	983	An Act To Increase Municipal Oversight in the Site Location of Development Laws	Keim	ENR	Bill Text	Support	4/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB			Site location	Staff supports this change as it would make for a more streamlined and efficient site plan review process. Very similar to LD 69, introduced earlier this session.	
1094	1816	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Reduce Homeowner and Municipal Energy Bills through Increased Efficiency and Weatherization Projects (Bond)	Pouliot	AFA	Bill Text	Support				Bond		
1115	1215	An Act To Improve Access to HIV Prevention Medications	Sanborn	HCIFS	Bill Text	Support	4/8/21 10:00 AM Rm 220 COB			Medications	City will support by signing on to letter of support	

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1132	1418	An Act To Encourage the Renovation of Available Housing Stock	Morales	TAX	Bill Text	Support	4/14/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH			Housing		
1139	1588	An Act To Authorize and Regulate Visitation of Essential Caregivers at Long-term Care Facilities (Emergency)	Libby	HHS	Bill Text	Oppose/ Monitor closely	4/5/21 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB			Long-term care	Staff has concerns, as this bill directly conflicts with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance issued in March 2021. Staff recommend monitoring closely.	
1142	1912	An Act To Prohibit the Unequal Restriction of Essential Businesses during a State of Civil Emergency	Fecteau	SLG	Bill Text	Oppose	3/29/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB			Emergency	Staff oppose this bill as they believe flexibility was an essential part of navigating the recent/current pandemic.	
1166	1844	An Act To Increase the Property Tax Exemption for Veterans by 50 Percent	Dodge	TAX	Bill Text	Oppose	4/7/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH			Property tax	This bill would increase the exemption amount by \$3,000 for Veterans (from \$6,000 to \$9,000). In FY21, Portland had 719 approved Veteran exemptions. Passage of this bill would increase the total exempted amount by \$2,157,000. As the State reimburses us for 50% of the lost tax revenue, this would result in an additional loss of \$25,140. This bill lacks language increasing the reimbursement rate from the State.	
1185	675	An Act To Distribute Tax Revenue To Offset Costs Incurred by Adult Use Marijuana Host Municipalities	Perry	TAX	Bill Text	Strong support/ Testify	4/7/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH			Marijuana		
1195	800	An Act To Increase Funding to Qualifying Municipalities by Sharing Adult Use Marijuana Sales and Excise Tax Revenue	Roberts	TAX	Bill Text	Strong support/ Testify	4/7/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH			Marijuana	Staff will submit written testimony	
1211	593	Resolve, To Create the Study Group To Research Balancing Development and Conservation in Maine's Coastal Waters and Submerged Lands (Emergency)	Williams	ACF	Bill Text	Monitor				Conservation	Staff has concerns regarding moves toward what would essentially be a regional zoning board for the larger bays in Maine. It would minimize local control.	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
1222	246	An Act To Reduce Property Taxes of Seniors in an Amount Equal to the Cost of Education	Black	TAX	Bill Text	Oppose				Property tax	Possibly testify. Staff indicate that this bill would add to the property tax burden in an amount equal to the exemption for all other taxpayers. It would also add significant administrative burden. The City of Portland already has additional tax incentives for seniors.	
1226	1700	Resolve, Directing the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations To Examine Restorative Justice	Talbot Ross	JUD	Bill Text	Monitor				Restorative justice	Staff do not foresee any impact on City operations. The City Manager and staff are supportive of this important effort to examine restorative justice	
1230	753	An Act To Enhance Traffic Safety with Regard to the Operation of Bicycles on Public Ways	Hepler	TRAN	Bill Text	Monitor	4/8/21 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH			Bicycle	Staff support, but acknowledge this would be challenging to enforce.	
1238	1651	An Act To Protect Women's Single-sex Shelters	Keim	JUD	Bill Text	Oppose/ Potentially				Shelter	COP does not operate a single-sex shelter. Staff is supportive of this change from a public safety perspective. Councilor Fournier willing to testify.	
1241	1774	An Act To Establish More Transparency, Due Process, Education and Understanding between the Department of Health and Human Services and Certain Maine Businesses	Fecteau	HHS	Bill Text	Oppose/ Testify	4/7/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB			DHHS	Staff have significant concerns related to the administrative burden this would place on business licensing and enforcement operations. This bill would mandate a less efficient and more complicated enforcement process; the Department already implements the sections of this bill considered to be best practices. Testimony submitted.	
1246	1616	Resolve, To Study Best Practices and Different Area Needs for Development of Affordable Homes and Expanding Home Ownership in Maine Communities	Gere	LH	Bill Text	Monitor	4/16/21 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB			Housing	Staff support. Similar goal to LD 48.	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
1247	755	An Act To Place a Moratorium on Property Revaluations for Tax Purposes during a State of Emergency	Dill	TAX	Bill Text	Strong opposition	4/14/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH			Tax	Staff oppose this bill. They indicate this would negatively impact the City. As an example, if this had been in place during the COVID pandemic, this would have delayed our current revaluation program for 2 years, putting us further below the minimum assessment standards required by law. (Both the 4/1/20 and 4/1/21 annual assessment dates fall under our current state of emergency). As the assessment ratio drops, multiple property tax exemptions have to be adjusted by this ratio which reduces the amount of tax reductions these eligible property owners receive.	
1250	1693	An Act To Allow Law Enforcement Officers with Federal Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act Clearance To Carry a Concealed Weapon	Morris	CJPS	Bill Text	Oppose				Weapon		
1254	1658	An Act Shielding Fire Departments That Install Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors from Liability	Pebworth	JUD	Bill Text	Strong support	4/14/21 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH			Liability	Amendments/possible testimony. Staff support, and recommend minor amendments including its application to code enforcement officers as well as language that nothing in the section is intended to impact any protections that a FD or municipality would have under the Maine Tort Claims Act. Staff ask that this be monitored closely so testimony can be considered once a hearing is scheduled.	
1256	375	An Act Requiring Climate Impact Notes on Proposed Legislation and Agency Rules	Lookner	SLG	Bill Text	Support				Climate impact		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
1257	752	An Act To Encourage Inclusionary Zoning in Municipalities by Increasing Revenue Sharing	Lookner	TAX	Bill Text	Support	4/15/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH			Revenue sharing	Staff support and believe the City would be able to qualify, but have some technical concerns with how the bill is written.	
1322	1540	Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority To Allow Rental Housing Owners To Apply for Emergency Rental Relief Assistance (Emergency)	Drinkwater	LH	Bill Text	Monitor				Housing	May testify if needed	
1333	1889	An Act Concerning the Dispensation of Naloxone Hydrochloride by Emergency Medical Services Providers	Zager	HHS	Bill Text	Support				Naloxone	Staff support the bill - Fire Chief will testify and suggest amendments	
1337	103	An Act To Increase Affordable Housing and Reduce Property Taxes through an Impact Fee on Vacant Residences	Kessler	TAX	Bill Text	Support w/ changes	4/14/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH			Housing	Bernstein to contact sponsor to discuss. Staff strongly support vacancy fees, but believe program should be local with revenue staying in the municipality to further affordable housing goals and/or reducing the tax burden	
1338	810	An Act To Protect Employees' Exercise of Workplace Rights	Millett	LH	Bill Text	Monitor				Workplace rights	No testimony	
1340	1796	An Act To Ensure Municipal Compliance with Federal Immigration Laws	Greenwood	SLG	Bill Text	Oppose/ Testify				Immigration laws	Staff strongly oppose, and will testify	
1342	559	An Act To Authorize a Local Option Sales Tax on Lodging and Other Goods and Provide Funding for Tax Abatement and Rental Relief	Sylvester	TAX	Bill Text	Support w/ changes				Local option sales tax	Bernstein to call sponsor to sort out details of bill. Staff supports, but would prefer revenue not be directed to specific program	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<u>44</u>	428	An Act To Require the Department of Education To Report Annually on Summer Educational Programs (Title change)	Pierce	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>		2/8/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	2/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	<u>4/7/21</u> <u>Public Law</u> <u>Ch. 32</u>	School	Xavier Botana_doing a careful review.	
<u>52</u>	278	An Act Regarding Collective Bargaining Negotiations by Public Employers of Teachers	Brennan	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>		3/29/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/7/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/7/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	School		
<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	<u>3/17/21</u> <u>Public Law</u> <u>Ch. 25</u>	School		
<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>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	3/3/21 10:00 AM RM 208 COB	MAJ: ONTP MIN: OTP-AM Reported out 3/30/21	School	Xavier Botana_monitor; follow MSMA's lead	
<u>96</u>	22	An Act To Create Fairness in the Treatment of Students by Retaining Students with Certain Vaccine Exemptions	Faulkingham	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>					School	Xavier Botana_opposes	
<u>111</u>	474	An Act To Allow Career Educators To Retire without Penalty	Tuell	LH	<u>Bill Text</u>		2/3/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	2/22/21 1:00 PM Rm 202 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 3/8/21	School		
<u>135</u>	1063	An Act To Address Issues in Funding Prekindergarten Programs	Brennan	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor				School funding	Xavier Botana_supports	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
187	202	An Act To Require Education about African-American History and the History of Genocide	Luchini	ECA	Bill Text	Monitor				School	Xavier Botana_supports	
270	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	Bill Text	Monitor	3/8/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	4/6/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 4/6/21	School	Check with Superintendent Xavier Botana_defer to Rep. Brennan	
278	582	An Act To Establish a Process for the Consideration and Implementation of Changes to Mandated Instruction or Training for Students	Brennan	ECA	Bill Text	Monitor	2/17/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 2/24/21	School	Xavier Botana_supports	
281	297	An Act To Address Student Achievement Gaps	Brennan	ECA	Bill Text	Monitor	3/8/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	3/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 3/17/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	School	Xavier Botana_supports	
650	1941	An Act To Increase Funding for School Construction Projects	Bailey	ECA	Bill Text		3/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	4/6/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/6/21 ONTP Not rpt out	School funding	Support - Xavier Botana Shifting capital projects funding out of the formula	
651	1881	An Act To Stabilize Student Count in Maine's School Funding Formula (Emergency)	Millett		Bill Text	Monitor	4/13/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB			School funding		
773	295	An Act To Assist Public School Students and Families Who Are Homeless	Brennan	LH	Bill Text		4/2/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB			School	Review further	
816	1038	An Act To Improve Communication between School Boards and Educators by Requiring Notice of Discussion of Labor Matters	Rafferty	ECA	Bill Text	Oppose	3/29/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/12/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB		School - Labor	Subverts the role of the Superintendent as the school district's chief executive officer	
833	414	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Vaccines by Reinstating Religious Exemptions	Kinney	ECA	Bill Text	Oppose				School - Religion	Vaccine exemptions	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
838	1037	An Act To Exempt Substitutes, Coaches and Temporary Employees in the Education System from Paid Sick Leave Requirements	Poirier	LH	Bill Text	Support	4/2/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB			School - Sick leave	Exempting certain employees from the paid leave requirements in the current law	
864	1302	An Act To Protect Teachers' Privacy While Delivering Remote Instruction	Dodge	ECA	Bill Text	Support				School - Privacy	Teacher privacy during remote instruction	
975	460	An Act To Create an Additional Pathway To Certify Industrial Arts Teachers To Foster Career and Technical Subjects in Maine Schools	Fecteau	ECA	Bill Text	Support	4/9/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	4/16/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB		School - Teacher certification	Licensing Industrial Arts Teachers	
993	1907	An Act To Prevent the Spread of Infectious Disease in Schools (Emergency)	White	ECA	Bill Text		4/2/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB			School - Infectious disease	Reviewing against our current provisions	
1050	841	An Act Regarding the Duties of School Boards Pursuant to the Laws Governing Attendance at Elementary and Secondary Schools	Cuddy	ECA	Bill Text		3/29/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/7/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/7/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	School	OK with it. We have policies in place already	
1082	1229	An Act To Improve Educational Opportunities by Exempting Children Who Attend Virtual Public Charter Schools from Immunization Requirements and Expanding Enrollment at Virtual Public Charter Schools	Sampson	ECA	Bill Text	Oppose				School - Charter schools	It is a way of getting around the vaccination provisions	
1149	268	An Act To Provide Exemptions from Certain Teacher Certification Examination Requirements	Fecteau	ECA	Bill Text		4/7/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/14/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB		School	Support - Xavier Botana Certification Exemptions. Would like to add the same provision for individuals who have a degree from a foreign university	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<u>1169</u>	821	An Act To Improve Teacher Certification during Staffing Shortages	Sampson	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>		4/7/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/14/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB		School	Support - Xavier Botana Certification during shortages	
<u>1172</u>	1002	An Act To Delay State-mandated Teacher and Principal Evaluation	McCrea	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>		4/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB			School	Support - Xavier Botana Delay evaluation during COVID	
<u>1186</u>	1443	An Act To Require a Course Regarding the United States Constitution and the Constitution of Maine To Be Taught to High School Seniors	Cebra	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>					School	NFNA - Xavier Botana Course on the Constitution	
<u>1188</u>	602	An Act To Include Librarians and Career and Technical Education Teachers in the Minimum \$40,000 Salary Initiative (Emergency)	Millett	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>		4/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB			School	Support - Xavier Botana Including Librarian and CTE instructors in 40K minimum salary	
<u>1189</u>	1315	An Act To Amend the Teacher Certification Statutes	Brennan	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>		4/7/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/14/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB		School	Support - Xavier Botana Certification Changes (sent separate suggestions to Rep. Brennan)	
<u>1198</u>	605	An Act Authorizing an Increase to the Maximum Annual Fund Balance for Public School Districts	Carlow	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>		4/13/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB			School	Support - Xavier Botana Fund balance	

LD 953

An Act to Improve Affordable Housing Options and Services to Address Homelessness

TESTIMONY

My name is Greg Mitchell and I am the City of Portland, Maine Director of Housing and Economic Development. I am testifying, on behalf of the city of Portland, in support of LD 953.

Tax increment financing, through the State of Maine enabling legislation, provides a flexible economic development tool for municipalities to support new private sector investment and associated job creation. This bill, if enacted, will enable municipalities through commercial tax increment financing (TIF) districts to utilize TIF revenue, in or outside development districts, to invest in affordable housing development for persons who are homeless. A comprehensive approach to economic development should include addressing the needs of the homeless population.

The city of Portland, as Maine's largest community shoulders a disproportionate share of providing services to the homeless population. Due to the increased need of the Greater Portland Maine homeless population, the city of Portland has advanced plans to construct a new two hundred bed homeless service center located at 653 Riverside Street on city owned property along with expanding services, in downtown Portland, to triage homeless population needs. It is the goal of the City of Portland to operate a new state-of-the-art, one story, adult Homeless Service Center Project to replace the Oxford Street Shelter. It will be open 24-hours and 7-days a week with on-site meals and a wide range of services including: health and mental health care, substance use treatment, housing assistance, peer support, case management, employment, and more.

Expanding the uses of TIF district revenue to support the city's new Homeless Service Center and associated services will assist the city of Portland to improve delivery of services to the homeless population. The city of Portland supports approval of LD 953 to expand funding options to support investment in the new City Homeless Services along with other associated services to better serve this population.



CITY OF PORTLAND

To: Committee on Taxation
From: Jessica Hanscombe, Acting Director of Permitting and Inspections
Date: April 8, 2021
RE: Testimony in support of LD [1195](#) (*An Act To Increase Funding to Qualifying Municipalities by Sharing Adult Use Marijuana Sales and Excise Tax Revenue*)

Good morning, Senator Chipman, Representative Terry and distinguished members of the Committee on Taxation:

My name is Jessica Hanscombe, Acting Director of Permitting and Inspections, and I am here on behalf of the City of Portland in support of LD 1195, *An Act To Increase Funding to Qualifying Municipalities by Sharing Adult Use Marijuana Sales and Excise Tax Revenue*.

The implementation of business licensing for marijuana retailers has been a time-consuming and costly exercise for the City of Portland. Between September 2020 and April 2021, City staff have received and reviewed 65 applications for marijuana-type businesses. Realistically, we expect to issue a few hundred licenses. To manage this new workload, the City of Portland's Department of Permitting & Inspections has had to hire three new staff members at a time when, due to the economic impact of COVID-19, public revenue was down significantly. We are currently unable to hire the number of additional enforcement officers needed for this new industry and businesses, and so are typically enforcing ordinances reactively, as they are identified via complaints received.

Conducting inspections of the businesses participating in this new industry has been a challenge. Much of the equipment used is unique to this industry, and not something we have safety details on or experience in. In addition, this industry uses odorless chemicals as part of the extraction process, which is a hazard if there are any leaks. Enforcing the State rules for Adult Use and Medical Use has also been an enforcement challenge, particularly when they differ from local rules: one example is the different ages of customers permitted inside a facility. We regularly receive complaints with issues related to odor mitigation and waste disposal; managing those issues correctly requires very specific training that is not readily available in the State of Maine.

Among other things, LD 1195 would help ensure our inspectors get the training they need to help run a safe, effective marijuana licensing program, as mandated by the Portland City Council. We ask that the State ensure that this funding is made available to help support the programs responsible for its generation.

In summary, I ask that you vote in support of LD 1195. Thank you for your time and consideration.