



Remote Legislative & Nominating Committee

May 4, 2021

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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.

AGENDA

ZOOM INFORMATION:

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: May 4, 2021 08:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Legislative Committee

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84894797306?pwd=TFRrMllhTVhURUpDQytWQUdqa3FGQT09>

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II. Call to Order

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. Minutes from meeting of April 27, 2021

IV. Legislative Update

- a. New Bills Memo
- b. Legislative Tracker
- c. Discussion re: LDs **926** (*An Act To Ban Biological Males from Participating in Women's Sports*), **1401** (*An Act To Prohibit Biological Males from Participating in School Athletic Programs and Activities Designated for Females at Schools That Receive Federal Funding*), and **1238** (*An Act To Protect Women's Single-sex Shelters*)
- d. Testimony from MPA re: LD 214 (*An Act To Eliminate Qualified Immunity for Police Officers*)

V. Public Hearings / Testimony

- a. Testimony in Support of LD 1086 (*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*)

- b. Testimony in support of LD 1448 (*An Act To Increase State Reimbursement to Municipalities for Revenue Lost Due to the Homestead Property Tax Exemption*)
- c. Testimony in Support of LD 1454 (*An Act To Prohibit Untraceable and Undetectable Firearms*)

VI. Adjournment



**Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2021**

The April 27, 2021, remote Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Pious Ali at 8:02 AM on Zoom.

Councilor Pious Ali (Chair), Mayor Kate Snyder, Councilor Fournier, Jon Jennings (City Manager), Dena Libner (Chief of Staff), Kathy Jones (City Clerk), Frank Clark (Police Chief), Kristen Dow (Director, HHS), Kate Knox (Bernstein Shur), Alysia Melnick (Bernstein Shur), and Chris Feeney (Bernstein Shur) were present.

Councilor Fournier made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from April 13, 2021, seconded by Mayor Snyder, vote 3-0.

Committee members discussed LD 1468 with Chief Clark and Kristen Dow. Chief Clark advised that he was in opposition to the bill because while many of the measures contemplated are already used by the Department, allowing for local discretion in law enforcement is important. He and Ms. Dow discussed their collaborative approach to addressing behavioral health issues and offering services before, during, and after officer interactions.

Councilor Fournier asked if Chief Clark had had an opportunity to review the Racial Equity Steering Committee's recommendations to see where they might intersect with LD 1468. She added that she shares his concerns about giving up local control. Chief Clark said he had not yet reviewed the RESC recommendations. He discussed the partnerships PPD has with various community social service providers to ensure they're talking about needs and making sure the right people or organization is addressing specific challenges.

Mayor Snyder asked Ms. Dow to discuss social services. Ms. Dow echoed Chief Clark's statement that Portland already actively has a partnership between HHS and PPD to address homelessness. She said that maintaining local control over how local issues are addressed is important.

Kate Knox confirmed that no public hearing for LD 1468 has been scheduled yet. Councilor Ali said he did not want to vote on the Committee's position on this bill at this meeting and asked Chief Clark to prepare a memo on the RESC report and how it compares to LD 1468 prior to the Committee taking a position.

Kate Knox said the public hearing was unlikely to get scheduled before next week and that the Committee's decision could wait until then. Councilor Ali asked Ms. Dow to work with PPD on the memo.

Councilor Mavodones said that he would be included to vote in opposition to the bill or to monitor it.

City Manager Jennings voiced concerns about staff being directed to put together a memo regarding the RESC report and how it relates to the bill because the Council has not yet reviewed it. Mayor Snyder said she was not inclined to support the bill and was also fine with just monitoring it. Given the work Portland does and the feedback from staff, she feels that this bill wasn't designed with Portland and its current connectivity in mind.

Councilor Ali said he was comfortable monitoring it and was not sure whether he would support or oppose it. He agreed with Jon that a staff review of the RESC report would be premature.

Kate Knox addressed two bills that addressed qualified immunity for police officers: LD 214, which would eliminate it entirely, and LD 1416, which would limit it to certain circumstances. Chief Clark advised that the Maine Chiefs of Police Association and Department of Public Safety were opposed to both these bills because of the broad elimination of qualified immunity, and that he shared their perspective. He explained that the narrow form of immunity granted to police officers takes two things into account: whether the employee knowingly violated an established law, and whether there was a constitutional violation. He added that egregious actions like what occurred last summer in Minneapolis are not protected by qualified immunity. He also said that, operationally, such bills would result in officers being reluctant to make important split-second decisions that are vital to preserving public safety.

Councilor Mavodones said the issue was very complicated, and that he appreciates the Chief's expertise and explanation. There are a variety of factors and legal ramifications associated with this that he doesn't fully understand, and at this point he would be inclined to monitor the bill or collect a lot more information to support or not. He said that he would probably not support it if a decision needed to be made at this meeting.

Councilor Fournier agreed with Councilor Mavodones about how complicated this topic is. She mentioned federal and local work to address these issues, including the RESC report. She said there is so much packed into the two bills at hand that she was not yet comfortable supporting

these bills, but that more oversight of law enforcement was needed. She said she would support monitoring these bills.

Councilor Ali confirmed that written testimony could be submitted after public hearings.

Committee members discussed LD 1171 (*An Act To Curtail No-knock Warrants*) and LD 1127 (*An Act To Prohibit the Use of "No-knock" Warrants*), as well as LD 1043 (related to the execution of search warrants). Mayor Snyder asked Kate to monitor them and discuss as new information becomes available. Councilor Ali said it seemed the majority of Committee members wanted to monitor the bills and that he would go along with that, although his personal position had not changed.

Kate Knox raised two bills addressed at the last meeting: LD 1507 and LD 1508. Staff were supportive of both bills. Kate asked if the Committee wanted to take any action on either. Councilor Ali recommended monitoring both.

Kate Knox raised LD 1540, and noted staff's concerns about the bill's impact on City operations and budget. Councilor Ali and Councilor Fournier both voiced support for staff recommendations.

Councilor Fournier asked Kate if there had been any movement on hearings for LDs 926, 1401 and 1238 related to anti-trans bills and the single-sex shelter. She recommended a Committee discussion take place next week. Kate confirmed that public hearings on all were scheduled for May 6.

Councilor Fournier made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mayor Snyder, vote 3-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 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: April 30, 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.

There were no recent new bills printed that are of concern.

COP-GENERAL

COP-SCHOOL

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
17	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	Bill Text	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
133	930	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Fire Stations (Bond)	Crockett	AFA	Bill Text	Support	4/27/21 10:00 AM Rm 228 SH			Bond		High
340	611	An Act To Allow for the Establishment of Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Programs	Sanborn	EUT	Bill Text	Support	2/25/21 9:00 AM Rm 211 COB	3/23/21 10:30 AM Rm 211 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: OTP-AM Reported out 4/28/21	Energy	Testified last session	High
534	1848	An Act To Allow Tax Abatements for Catastrophic Loss	Chipman	TAX	Bill Text	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
609	384	Resolve, To Establish a Commission To Increase Housing Opportunities in Maine by Studying Zoning and Land Use Restrictions (Emergency)	Fecteau	LH	Bill Text	Support/ Written testimony	3/22/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	3/26/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	OTP-AM Reported out 4/16/21	Housing		High
910	284	An Act To Amend the General Assistance Laws Governing Reimbursement	Brennan	HHS	Bill Text	Support/ Testify	4/1/21 12:00 PM Rm 209 COB	4/22/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	Voted 4/22/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	General Assistance	Written testimony submitted	High
1448	1597	An Act To Increase State Reimbursement to Municipalities for Revenue Lost Due to the Homestead Property Tax Exemption	Talbot Ross	TAX	Bill Text		5/4/21 11:00 AM Rm 127 SH			Homestead Exemption		High
1482	1310	An Act To Improve Access to Property Tax Exemptions for New Homeowners	Grohoski	TAX	Bill Text		5/4/21 11:00 AM Rm 127 SH			Property tax		High

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<u>1547</u>	1594	An Act To Promote Intergovernmental Coordination Regarding Age-friendly State Initiatives	Fay	HHS	Bill Text		4/27/21 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB	5/6/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB		Aging		High
<u>1559</u>	547	Resolve, To Create the Commission To Develop a Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program (Emergency)	Daughtry	LH	Bill Text		5/7/21 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB			FML		High
	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
	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	Bill Text	Support	4/23/21 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH	5/5/21 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH		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	3/17/21 Public Law Ch. 19	Insurance	Monitor - City staff to check	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<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	DEAD	Plastic bags		
<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>47</u>	269	An Act To Fund the State's Free Health Clinics	Brennan	HHS	<u>Bill Text</u>		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		
<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	<u>Bill Text</u>		3/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	4/9/21 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB	DEAD	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	<u>Bill Text</u>		4/26/21 10:00 AM Rm 228 SH			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	<u>Bill Text</u>		4/21/21 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH			Bond		
<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	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 4/7/21	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		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
57	279	An Act To Reduce the Landfilling of Municipal Solid Waste	Tucker	ENR	Bill Text	Monitor	5/10/21 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB			Landfill		
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	5/6/21 9:00 AM Rm 436 SH	Tabled 4/23/21	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	DEAD	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	4/16/21 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB	Voted 4/16/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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			LTW by Chairs Reported out 4/14/21	DEAD	Environment		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<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	<u>Bill Text</u>		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		
<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>		5/6/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB			School	Xavier Botana_opposes	
<u>97</u>	219	An Act To Ensure the Right To Work without Payment of Dues or Fees to a Labor Union	Faulkingham	LH	<u>Bill Text</u>		2/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	3/26/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	DEAD	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	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/3/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	DEAD	Holiday		
<u>102</u>	467	An Act To Extend the Time Frame for Processing Absentee Ballots	Moriarty	VLA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support/ Testify	2/1/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH	2/10/21 11:00 AM Rm 437 SH	<u>3/17/21</u> <u>Public Law</u> <u>Ch. 11</u>	Ballots		
<u>107</u>	212	RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Specify the Qualifications of Electors	Faulkingham	VLA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Oppose/ Monitor	2/10/21 10:00 AM Rm 437 SH	3/3/21 11:00 AM RM 437 SH	DEAD	Electors		
<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>112</u>	657	An Act To Facilitate the Timely and Accurate Counting of Absentee Ballots By Extending the Processing Period	Roberts	VLA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support/ Testify	2/1/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH	2/10/21 11:00 AM Rm 437 SH	DEAD	Ballots		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	4/30/21 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB	Voted 4/30/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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	4/21/21 1:30 PM Rm 438 SH	Voted 4/21/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	4/30/21 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	4/26/21 10:00 AM Rm 228 SH			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	4/21/21 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH			Bond		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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		
181	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	Bill Text	Staff to review	4/20/21 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH			Bond		
183	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	MAJ: OTP MIN: OTP-AM Reported out 4/8/21	Holiday		
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	
189	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	3/26/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	MAJ: OTP MIN: ONTP Reported out 4/15/21	Insurance		
191	395	An Act To Permit Municipalities To Provide Assistance to Veterans in Paying Property Taxes	Bailey	TAX	Bill Text	Monitor	3/18/21 1:00 PM Rm 127 SH	3/25/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	OTP-AM Reported out 4/15/21	Tax		
192	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	3/4/21 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH	3/17/21 Public Law Ch. 13	Private roads		
197	666	Resolve, To Ensure That Community Mental Health Service Providers Can Access Pandemic Stimulus Funds	Breen	HHS	Bill Text	Support	4/15/21 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB	4/21/21 2:00 PM Rm 209 COB	Tabled 4/21/21	Stimulus	City staff to review Staff supports	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
198	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	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	
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	4/30/21 1:00 PM 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	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 4/15/21	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	DEAD	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	Voted 4/14/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	OTP-AM Reported out 4/23/21	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	4/29/21 9:00 AM Rm 214 COB	Tabled 4/15/21	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	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 4/20/21	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	5/3/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH		Marijuana		
359	1142	An Act To Promote Energy Production from Recyclable Plastics	Faulkingham	ENR	Bill Text	Monitor	5/10/21 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB			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	DEAD	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	DEAD	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	DEAD	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	DEAD	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	Voted 4/16/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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	Voted 4/14/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 4/26/21	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	5/3/21 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	5/3/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH		Marijuana		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	DEAD	Elections		
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	Voted 4/12/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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	4/20/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 4/20/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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	ECA	Bill Text	Monitor	4/13/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	4/21/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/21/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	4/21/21 12:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/21/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	4/21/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 4/21/21 ONTP Not rpt out	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		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<u>668</u>	1348	An Act To Ensure Public Accountability While Implementing a Practical Approach to Remote Participation	Babbidge	JUD	Bill Text	Oppose/ Testify	4/23/21 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH	5/5/21 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH		Remote participation	Have concerns	
<u>677</u>	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	
<u>684</u>	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	
<u>708</u>	221	An Act To Increase the Homestead Exemption to \$50,000	Faulkingham	TAX	Bill Text	Oppose/ Testify	5/4/21 11:00 AM Rm 127 SH			Homestead Exemption		
<u>740</u>	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	4/22/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 4/22/21 ONTP Not rpt out	Tax	Staff strongly support this bill and suggest closely monitoring and providing testimony	
<u>746</u>	11	An Act Regarding Remote Participation in Municipal Meetings	Dillingham	JUD	Bill Text	Oppose/ Monitor	4/23/21 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH	5/5/21 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH		Municipal	Staff strongly opposes due to the new constraints this bill proposes. Staff recommends monitoring closely.	
<u>773</u>	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	4/21/21 12:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/21/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	School	Review further	

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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	4/21/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	Voted 4/21/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 4/29/21	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	5/6/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB			Religion	Vaccine exemptions	
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	4/23/21 12:30 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/23/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	JUD	Bill Text	Support	4/21/21 10:00 AM Rm 438 SH	5/5/21 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH		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	4/29/21 10:25 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	4/27/21 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	5/6/21 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH		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	5/6/21 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH			Gender		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	4/21/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 4/21/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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	4/30/21 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB			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		
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		4/27/21 10:00 AM Rm 228 SH			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	5/3/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 4/16/21	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	4/29/21 10:00 AM Rm 228 SH			Bond	Staff strongly support and recommend direct lobbying, close monitoring and testimony.	

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<u>991</u>	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	<u>Bill Text</u>	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?	
<u>993</u>	1907	An Act To Prevent the Spread of Infectious Disease in Schools (Emergency)	White	LH	<u>Bill Text</u>		4/2/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	5/5/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	Ref to LH Reported out 4/12/21	Infectious disease	Reviewing against our current provisions	
<u>994</u>	914	An Act To Promote Public Health by Eliminating Criminal Penalties for Possession of Hypodermic Apparatuses	McDonald	CJPS	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support/ Testify	4/21/21 2:00 PM Rm 436 COB	4/30/21 1:00 PM Rm 436 COB		Public health	Submit testimony on behalf of legislative committee	
<u>1050</u>	841	An Act Regarding the Duties of School Boards Pursuant to the Laws Governing Attendance at Elementary and Secondary Schools	Cuddy	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>		3/29/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/7/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 4/29/21	School	OK with it. We have policies in place already	
<u>1082</u>	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	<u>Bill Text</u>	Oppose	5/6/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB			Charter schools	It is a way of getting around the vaccination provisions	
<u>1086</u>	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	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support/ Testify	4/29/21 10:00 AM Rm 228 SH			Bond	Paul Bradbury to testify, watch for ICE detention facility integration	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	4/21/21 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB	DEAD	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	4/21/21 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH			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	4/15/21 2:00 PM Rm 220 COB	Voted 4/15/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Medications	City will support by signing on to letter of support	
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	4/21/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 4/21/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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	4/26/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	Voted 4/26/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	4/26/21 10:30 AM Rm 214 COB	Voted 4/26/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Emergency	Staff oppose this bill as they believe flexibility was an essential part of navigating the recent/current pandemic.	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	4/20/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 4/20/21 ONTP Not rpt out	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	4/22/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 4/22/21 ONTP Not rpt out	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	4/22/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 4/22/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	MAR	Bill Text	Monitor	5/4/21 9:00 AM Rm 206 COB		Ref to MAR Reported out 4/12/21	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.	
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.	

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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	4/22/21 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH			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	4/30/21 9:00 AM Rm 126 SH	Voted 4/30/21 ONTP Not rpt out	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	5/6/21 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH			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	4/22/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	Tabled 4/22/21	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	4/30/21 12:30 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/30/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	4/21/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 4/21/21 ONTP Not rpt out	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	5/5/21 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	5/6/21 9:00 AM Rm 436 SH		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	4/21/21 1:30 PM Rm 438 SH	Voted 4/21/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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	4/21/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	5/3/21 9:00 AM Rm 214 COB		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	4/29/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 4/29/21 ONTP Not rpt out	Revenue sharing	Staff support and believe the City would be able to qualify, but have some technical concerns with how the bill is written.	
1278	1274	An Act To End the Maine Information and Analysis Center Program	Warren	CJPS	Bill Text		4/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	4/26/21 1:00 PM Rm 436 SH	Voted 4/26/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Information sharing	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. Council is split. Mayor is going to submit written testimony	
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	4/26/21 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB	4/30/21 12:30 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/30/21 ONTP Not rpt out	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	4/23/21 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB	5/4/21 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB		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	4/21/21 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	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
1338	810	An Act To Protect Employees' Exercise of Workplace Rights	Millett	LH	Bill Text	Monitor	4/23/21 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB	4/26/21 12:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/26/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Workplace rights	No testimony	
1340	1796	An Act To Ensure Municipal Compliance with Federal Immigration Laws	Greenwood	SLG	Bill Text	Oppose/ Testify	5/3/21 9:00 AM Rm 214 COB			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	5/5/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH			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	
1364	861	Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Study and Recommend Incentives for Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems	Bailey	CJPS	Bill Text	Monitor				Fire protection	Staff support	
1365	213	An Act To Prohibit Municipalities from Prohibiting Short-term Rentals	Faulkingham	SLG	Bill Text	Monitor/ MMA	4/23/21 9:00 AM Rm 214 COB	5/5/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB		Short-term rentals	Staff oppose this degree of restriction on local rule.	
1367	1825	An Act To Create a Grant Program To Promote Innovation in Municipal Carbon Reduction Initiatives	Bailey	ENR	Bill Text	Support/ Testify	4/26/21 9:00 AM Rm 216 COB	5/5/21 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB		Grants	Staff support.	
1378	1768	An Act To Facilitate Compliance with Federal Immigration Law by State and Local Government Entities	Lyford	JUD	Bill Text	Oppose/ Testify	4/13/21 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH	Work session held 4/13/21 Referred to SLG	Voted 4/13/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Immigration laws	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 statue ineligible for GA, as LD 1340 does.)	
1386	923	Resolve, To Improve Access to Bariatric Care (Emergency)	Perry	HHS	Bill Text	Monitor	4/14/21 2:00 PM Rm 209 COB	4/26/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	Voted 4/26/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	Bariatric care	This will not directly affect City operations, but staff is supportive from a policy perspective.	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
1388	905	An Act To Require Testing of Public Drinking Water Supplies for Toxic Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances and To Establish Maximum Contaminant Levels	Pluecker	HHS	Bill Text	Monitor	4/13/21 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB	4/30/21 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB	Voted 4/30/21 ONTP Not rpt out	Water	This would impact PWD, not City operations.	
1399	1710	An Act To Provide for Remote Notarization	Doudera	JUD	Bill Text	Monitor/ MMA	4/30/21 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH			Notarization	City staff support.	
1401	1367	An Act To Prohibit Biological Males from Participating in School Athletic Programs and Activities Designated for Females at Schools That Receive Federal Funding (Emergency)	Kinney	JUD	Bill Text		5/6/21 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH			School funding	This does not impact City operations. Dena to contact the school board to see if they are going to testify. Other bill is LD 926.	
1402	1386	An Act To Remove a Requirement Regarding Payment of Union Fees	Stetkis	LH	Bill Text		4/23/21 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB	4/26/21 12:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/26/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Union	This would not impact City operations.	
1416	1709	An Act To Limit Qualified Immunity of Law Enforcement Officers in Maine Civil Rights Act Claims	Carney	JUD	Bill Text		4/29/21 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH				According to staff, this could have a chilling effect on police officers and deter their responsiveness in critical situations or willingness to make split-second decisions while protecting the public and themselves. Additionally, this would impact recruitment and retention, further impacting community and officer safety. Police Chief to follow up with committee	
1418	1464	An Act To Allow a Local Option Sales Tax on Meals and Lodging	Luchini	TAX	Bill Text	Monitor	5/5/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH				Staff support	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
1428	1626	An Act To Increase the Availability of Nasal Naloxone in Community Settings	Dodge	HHS	Bill Text	Monitor	4/23/21 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB				Staff support	
1432	1883	An Act To Update the Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access Fund	Berry	EUT	Bill Text		4/27/21 9:00 AM Rm 211 COB				This does not impact City operations.	
1436	1573	An Act To Protect Certain Essential Workers from Infectious Disease	O'Connell	LH	Bill Text	Monitor	4/30/21 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB				Staff have concerns about this bill based on the significant impact it would have on the budget and the lack of differentiation for different agencies' requirements when it comes to supplies. Its mandates impact too broad an employee population, and its requirements do not take into account the different needs, methods, and best practices of various agencies. Staff question the requirement of supplying admin support with the required PPE despite their not being in contact with an infected individual. Staff recommend monitoring.	
1440	1401	An Act To Provide Safe Gear for Female Firefighters	Roeder	CJPS	Bill Text	Support	4/21/21 2:00 PM Rm 436 SH	4/30/21 1:00 PM Rm 436 SH			Staff support, City of Portland already does this.	
1447	1867	An Act To Require Training in Racial Issues, Racial Justice and Social Issues at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy and To Establish Additional Requirements for Law Enforcement Officers and Candidates	Gramlich	CJPS	Bill Text	Support	5/7/21 9:00 AM Rm 436 SH				Staff support	
1449	1521	An Act To Provide for Education Funding Reform for More Equitable State Support to Communities	Geiger	ECA	Bill Text	Monitor	4/27/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB				Staff review TBD. Wait for hearing / Monitor Bernstein to reach out to sponsor	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
1453	990	An Act To Protect Small Employers by Prohibiting Municipalities from Adopting Ordinances Regarding Employee Work Benefits Other Than Ordinances Regarding Minimum Wage Rates	Bradstreet	LH	Bill Text	Monitor	4/30/21 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB				Staff do not support such a significant curtailing of local authority.	
1475	1621	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Targeted Food Processing Infrastructure (Bond)	Talbot Ross	AFA	Bill Text	Monitor	4/20/21 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH				Staff support	
1478	1680	An Act To Decriminalize Homelessness	Morales	CJPS	Bill Text						City of Portland PD and HHS currently work closely in diversion efforts, offering access to shelter and other resources to any member of the public as appropriate. This bill assumes that offering services and maintaining public safety are mutually exclusive, which is not the case. Consistently and fairly enforcing ordinances that help ensure the safety and security of all Portland residents is essential to a safe and liveable City. Staff oppose this bill. Councilor Fournier wants the police chief to discuss	
1536	987	An Act Regarding Municipal Public Hearings on Citizen-initiated Municipal Referenda	Bradstreet	SLG	Bill Text	Monitor	5/7/21 9:00 AM Rm 214 COB				Concept draft	
1540	1411	An Act To Reduce Hunger and Use Food Scraps in Farming and Energy Production	Zeigler	ENR	Bill Text	Monitor	5/3/21 11:00 AM Rm 216 COB				Staff are concerned re: the requirement that municipalities provide food scrap containers wherever public trash cans are located. This would result in significant costs, including both the initial purchase of food scrap containers and ongoing removal by staff or a contractor.	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
1548	55	An Act To Alleviate the Disproportionate Impact of COVID-19 and Public Health Outcomes (Emergency)	Talbot Ross	HHS	Bill Text						Will not impact City operations.	
1555	1863	An Act To Fund Broadband Internet Infrastructure for Marginalized Groups in the State	Talbot Ross	EUT	Bill Text		4/27/21 9:00 AM Rm 211 COB				Will not impact City operations.	

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	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 4/28/21	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	DEAD	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>		5/6/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB			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	
<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	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	
552	857	An Act To Strengthen the Individualized Education Program Process	Millett	ECA	Bill Text	Oppose	3/22/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	4/5/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/5/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out		From Xavier Botana: It is a special ed bill that has significant potential costs associated with it. MSMA is strongly opposed and has prepared a fact sheet. I have personally spoken to Rep. Millett about the bill and it's better than it started, but still fundamentally problematic. Anything the team can do to help get it stopped would be appreciated.	
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	4/21/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/21/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	School funding		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	4/21/21 12:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/21/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	Voted 4/12/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	5/6/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB			School - Religion	Vaccine exemptions	
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	4/23/21 12:30 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/23/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	4/21/21 10:00 AM Rm 438 SH			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	5/3/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 4/16/21	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		4/12/21 Referred to LBHS	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	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	5/6/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB			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	Support	4/7/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	5/3/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 4/14/21	School	Support - Xavier Botana Certification Exemptions. Would like to add the same provision for individuals who have a degree from a foreign university	
1169	821	An Act To Improve Teacher Certification during Staffing Shortages	Sampson	ECA	Bill Text	Support	4/7/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	5/3/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 4/14/21	School	Support - Xavier Botana Certification during shortages	
1172	1002	An Act To Delay State-mandated Teacher and Principal Evaluation	McCrea	ECA	Bill Text	Support	4/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	4/20/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/20/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	School	Support - Xavier Botana Delay evaluation during COVID	
1186	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	Bill Text	NFNA	5/5/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB			School	NFNA - Xavier Botana Course on the Constitution	
1188	602	An Act To Include Librarians and Career and Technical Education Teachers in the Minimum \$40,000 Salary Initiative (Emergency)	Millett	ECA	Bill Text	Support	4/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	4/20/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 4/20/21	School	Support - Xavier Botana Including Librarian and CTE instructors in 40K minimum salary	
1189	1315	An Act To Amend the Teacher Certification Statutes	Brennan	ECA	Bill Text	Support	4/7/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	5/3/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 4/14/21	School	Support - Xavier Botana Certification Changes (sent separate suggestions to Rep. Brennan)	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<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>	Support	4/13/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	4/21/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Voted 4/21/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	School	Support - Xavier Botana Fund balance	
<u>1383</u>	1758	An Act To Limit Homework in Public Schools	Collings	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Oppose	4/22/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	5/4/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB			From Xavier Botana: We oppose the portion of the bill that prohibits homework be assigned to students in PK-5. While it allows a school Board to adopt a policy to allow homework, it is overly broad to say that homework is not allowed at all unless that specific action is taken. School districts should retain the ability to empower administrators and teachers to assign homework. We support the aspect of the bill that calls for a study of homework, but would like to see it extended throughout all grades and focus in particular on ways in which homework can be used to support what students are learning but not be used as a punishment or negatively impact a student's performance.	
<u>1393</u>	1699	An Act To Protect a Parent's and Guardian's Right to Educational Information Regarding a Juvenile Student	Skolfield	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>		4/22/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	5/4/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB			From Xavier Botana: Let's follow the lead of MSMA on this. I have not been able to discuss with our legal counsel, but it appears duplicative of FERPA protections currently in place. There are instances (i.e., a transitioning student who does not want their parents to know that they are transitioning) where our district policies protect a students right to keep some school records from being divulged to a parent	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
1426	1902	An Act To Provide for the Equitable Funding of Education Chosen by Maine Families	Greenwood	ECA	Bill Text	Oppose Strongly	4/27/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB				From Xavier Botana: This is a school voucher bill. It would be devastating to public education and we strongly oppose it.	
1444	1951	An Act To Prohibit Cyberbullying of School Employees by Students	Stover	ECA	Bill Text	Support	5/4/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB				From Xavier Botana: Support in principle. Would like to have language that makes it clear that a student is not precluded from bringing forth complaints on behalf of other students who wish to remain anonymous even if after investigation it is determined that the allegations were unfounded.	
1451	825	An Act To Align the Expulsion Process with School Disciplinary Policies	Cuddy	ECA	Bill Text	Support	4/26/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	5/5/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB			From Xavier Botana: Support in general. Am concerned with the aspect that allows administrators discretion to fashion discipline. I would want to have safeguards that under no circumstance could a student be excluded from school with appropriate peers for more than 10 days without invoking the expulsion provisions. I wouldn't want this discretion to be used to circumvent the current prohibition from suspending beyond 10 days.	

KATHRYN SLATTERY
DISTRICT I

JONATHAN SAHRBECK
DISTRICT II

ANDREW ROBINSON
DISTRICT III

MAEGHAN MALONEY
DISTRICT IV

STATE OF MAINE



MARIANNE LYNCH
DISTRICT V

NATASHA IRVING
DISTRICT VI

MATTHEW J. FOSTER
DISTRICT VII

TODD R. COLLINS
DISTRICT VIII

MAINE PROSECUTORS ASSOCIATION

AARON FREY
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Maine Prosecutors Association Testimony in Opposition to LD 214

The Maine Prosecutors Association is opposed to LD 214. Qualified immunity gives government officials breathing room to make reasonable but mistaken judgments about open legal questions without the fear of facing civil litigation for each decision. There are four public policy purposes supporting qualified immunity for government employees. They are: 1. The government employee may be reluctant to make difficult time-sensitive decisions with no clear correct answer; 2. Government employees are not required to spend time and energy on litigation instead of addressing public issues; 3. Constant exposure to possible litigation would have a chilling effect on a person's willingness to accept public office; and 4. It allows government entities to avoid the expenses of litigation brought when the government employee makes decisions adverse to a person who eventually brings a lawsuit.

Removing qualified immunity from police officers in Maine will touch on all these factors. Law enforcement officers are often put in incredibly difficult time-sensitive situations where a quick decision needs to be made. Knowing that he or she could be sued for every decision will put the officer in an impossible position. The officer could be sued for acting too quickly or for failing to act quickly enough. Ultimately, qualified immunity allows the officer to perform her or his duty without fear of a lawsuit for every decision that adversely affects another person. Removing the protection will also require municipalities, counties, and the State to divert additional resources to defending and resolving lawsuits against police officers. Ultimately, law enforcement officers will need to be made available for litigation proceedings, including discovery preparation, depositions, and trials. The possible exposure to constant litigation will likely have a chilling effect on the number of people willing to pursue a law enforcement career in a field that is already experiencing great challenges finding qualified candidates. The actual ramifications of removing qualified immunity are difficult to predict but it will certainly impact the resources of the government entities who employ law enforcement officers.

Finally, one logical question is why the proposed legislation is limited solely to law enforcement officers. If the theory is that government officials should be held accountable for their decisions and mistakes, then why would we limit it to police officers? Wouldn't we further the goal of official accountability by removing immunity from all government officials? We know decisions are regularly made by public officials at all levels of government that can have adverse effects on others. Should teachers, town managers, legislators, and even the Governor be held civilly liable under the same standard we want to apply to law enforcement officers? If the answer is "no," then the same answer should apply to all government employees, including law enforcement officers.



CITY OF PORTLAND

To: Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs
From: Paul Bradbury, Airport Director - Portland International Jetport
Date: April 26, 2021
RE: Testimony in support of LD 1086: 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

Good morning, Senator Breen, Representative Pierce and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

My name is Paul Bradbury and I am the Airport Director for the Portland International Jetport. I am here on behalf of the City of Portland in support of LD 1086, 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.

The Portland International Jetport provides the state of Maine with a robust connection to the national air transportation system with 9 airlines providing nonstop air service this summer to 25 cities on 117 daily flights. This is exceptional air service from an airport in a small metropolitan statistical area with a population of less than 540,000; but it could be even better. The Jetport currently lacks a Federal Inspection Services (FIS) facility to support Customs and Border Protection, which is needed to accept and process international commercial flights. An FIS facility was included in the Jetport's most recent master plan and scheduled for construction in 2020, but this was unfortunately impossible to commence due to the pandemic and its impact on Jetport passenger volumes and associated revenues.

The ability to process commercial international flights will allow the Jetport to provide the best possible connection for Maine to the world's air transportation system for our residents and visitors. The FIS facility could provide many new air service opportunities including:

- Scheduled service to Canadian destinations such as Quebec City and Toronto City Airports.
- Seasonal service and possible future scheduled service to Canada maritime airports that are looking for new connectivity in the post pandemic world.
- Seasonal and Charter Service to a number of leisure destinations including: Cancun, Montego Bay, Puerto Vallarta, and Punta Cana.
- Seasonal European service to destinations such as Iceland and the United Kingdom.
- The opportunity to process diversions for our current carriers that now go

through Boston.

The opportunity for servicing international markets from the Jetport is timely. Recent advancement in aircraft engine technology allows service to international Caribbean and transatlantic markets with the narrow body twin engine aircraft carrying from 140 to 190 passengers that currently serve the Jetport. These aircraft are 15% more fuel efficient, 50% quieter, and have a range of up to 3,800 nautical miles, providing an opportunity for international service that didn't exist just five years ago. Interestingly, many parts for these new generation engines are made right here in Maine at Pratt & Whitney's North Berwick plant.

The movement of air passengers and cargo to Maine is critical to the economic well-being of the state. The 2018 Portland International Jetport master plan found the Jetport provides a total annual economic output of \$1.043 billion supporting 8,261 jobs. LD 1086 is an investment in Maine's air transportation system that will provide economic benefits for decades into the future. A 2013 study by Sixel Consulting forecast that a Portland FIS facility would generate 60,000 new international passengers by its fifth year in service. This passenger level is estimated to provide a direct economic benefit of \$10.2 million annually supporting 47 jobs. When combined with the proposed International Warehouse at Bangor International Airport we could expect direct economic impact within five years of nearly \$11 million annually supporting 82 jobs.

The Bangor International Airport and Portland International Jetport like the entire aviation industry have been hard hit by the pandemic. March of this year saw the nation and local Portland and Bangor traffic still down 50% from 2019 levels. Although a 50% drop is unprecedented, it remains a significant improvement over the 90% reductions we saw at the outset of the pandemic. During normal pre-pandemic operations the \$14 million cost for constructing these facilities would be funded through a mix of local airport operating funds and airport issued debt, but due to the pandemic it will be years before this is possible. LD 1086 provides a unique opportunity for Maine to invest in its two largest airports. This one-time investment will accelerate our post pandemic recovery, open up new international business opportunities for the State, and expand our air transportation system.

Please invest in Maine's aviation infrastructure and economic development by voting in support of Representative Bailey's LD 1086. I appreciate the opportunity to present this testimony and thank you for your consideration.



CITY OF PORTLAND
Assessor's Office
Christopher A. Huff, CMA

April 29, 2021

Senator Ben Chipman, Chair
Representative Maureen Terry, Chair
Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation
State House, Room 127

RE: LD 1448, *An Act to Increase State Reimbursement to Municipalities for Revenue Lost Due to the Homestead Property Tax Exemption*

Senator Chipman, Representative Terry and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation:

My name is Chris Huff. I am the Tax Assessor for the City of Portland and, on behalf of the City of Portland Council Legislative Committee, I am writing in support of LD 1448, *An Act to Increase State Reimbursement to Municipalities for Revenue Lost Due to the Homestead Property Tax Exemption*

Each and every property tax exemption granted under State law reduces the revenue that a municipality needs to provide services to its constituents. When that lost revenue is not reimbursed at a full 100%, millage rates need to be increased to offset that loss. Taxpayers enrolled in the Homestead Exemption program see the benefit of a reduced taxable assessed value, but at the same time, they are penalized with a slightly higher millage rate needed to make up the loss of the unreimbursed portion.

In 2020, the City of Portland had 8,871 eligible properties enrolled in the Homestead Exemption program. After the State reimbursement, the loss of revenue was still \$1,194,172, which would result in an increase of the millage rate of 14.6 cents to offset that difference.

The State should be applauded for coming up with programs to address the high property tax burden that exists throughout municipalities. However, no program should be enacted that doesn't fulfill the obligation of fully reimbursing municipalities at 100% of the lost revenue. This is why I, along with the support of the Legislative Committee of the Portland City Council, am asking that you support this legislation.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Huff

Christopher A. Huff, CMA
City Tax Assessor



CITY OF PORTLAND

To: Members of Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee
From: Frank Clark, *Police Chief*
Date: May 3, 2021
RE: Testimony in regards to LD 1454

Senator Deschambault, Representative Warren and distinguished members of the Committee on Criminal Justice & Public Safety: On behalf of the City of Portland, I am offering our support for LD 1454, *An Act To Prohibit Untraceable and Undetectable Firearms*.

The bill before you seeks to restrict and limit the use, sale and possession of untraceable and undetectable firearms, sometimes referred to as “Ghost Guns.”

These are essentially self-assembled firearms, often built from parts or kits sold online. They are not legally required, under existing laws, to have a serial number or any other form of identification. This, and the concern that some may evade security measures, is what essentially renders them untraceable (and is where they get their nickname). The purchase and sale of these kits and, for example, 3D-printer blueprints, allows anyone, including convicted felons, domestic abusers, and other prohibited persons to get their hands on a firearm, legally. Then, if used in a crime, they are untraceable to the weapon’s past owners.

From a law enforcement perspective, such firearms, when in the hands of those who cannot lawfully possess them, pose an increased risk to public safety. Serial numbers on firearms (and other property) are also often used by law enforcement to help identify the last known owner of firearms found at a crime scene, or used in the commission of a crime. Losing this investigative capacity, given the influx of the use of such firearms in other parts of the country, would be yet another concern that we should consider getting ahead of here in Maine.

While I will support and protect the Constitutional rights of all of our citizens to *lawfully* possess a firearm, these particular firearms do raise safety and law enforcement concerns, both of which should be debated during your consideration of this bill.

In summary, I ask that you vote in support of LD 1454. Thank you for your time and consideration.