



Remote Legislative & Nominating Committee

May 18, 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:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87611741752?pwd=NWJManZHYXNmUUVWQmx3U3IRUVV1UT09>

Passcode: 190531

Or One tap mobile :

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II. Call to Order

III. Approval of meeting minutes

- a. Minutes from May 11, 2021 Meeting

IV. Legislative Update

- a. New Bills Memo & Legislative Tracker
- b. Testimony in opposition to LD 677 (*An Act To Improve Public Sector Labor Relations by Amending the Laws Governing Arbitration under Certain Public Employees Labor Relations Laws*)
- c. Testimony re: LD 1695 (*An Act To Improve Housing Security by Improving Access to General Assistance*)

V. 2021 Committee Work Plan

- a. Committee Work Plan attachment

VI. Adjournment



Legislative Committee May 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The May 11, 2021 remote Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Pious Ali at 8:00 AM on Zoom.

Councilor Pious Ali (Chair), Councilor Nick Mavodones, Mayor Kate Snyder, 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 May 4, 2021, seconded by Mayor Snyder, no amendments, vote 3-0.

Kate Knox provided an update on the status of the legislative session in Augusta. She discussed the Governor's recent release of her federal funding spending plan and initial bond package plan. She indicated a change package was expected later that week.

She indicated that there was a lot of money at the State level, which was likely to have some impact on local operations. Mayor Snyder asked what information would be likely to be able to be reviewed next week; Kate indicated that the change package would probably be able to be reviewed in the next 48 hours. She added that the expectation is that there would be an increase in funding in a lot of different areas.

Mayor Snyder asked that if the additional funding represented in the change package indicated any more permanent changes in future fiscal years, or if it should be viewed more as a one-time windfall. Kate said the Governor had implied in public statements that the funding was going to focus on one-time funding needs, versus new programs that would require ongoing funding.

Councilor April Fournier joined the meeting.

Kate provided an overview of hearings/work sessions coming up, as well as Committee action taken on bills the Legislative Committee had asked to monitor.

Dena Libner said staff had concerns and recommended testimony on LD 1611, but that the work session was scheduled for 9:15am that morning and testimony would need to be

submitted in the next hour. Kate said her understanding was that there is a lot of support for the bill. Mayor Snyder clarified that this bill would pave the way for off-track betting in Portland, and asked why there was such strong support for it. Kate explained that it set up a scenario by which Cumberland Fairgrounds could set up a simul-cast location in a more populous area for people who didn't want to travel to the fairgrounds. Licensing is done by the Harness Racing Commission, and Portland does not currently have a local licensing component. Other off-track betting facilities have objected to it because they all have a territory that they are attempting to draw from.

Mayor Snyder asked if the delegation to Augusta was taking a stand; Kate said she had not flagged it with them since it had not been made a priority by the Legislative Committee.

Mayor Snyder asked what changed between staff not having concerns last week to having concerns this week. Dena answered that staff was unable to determine last week whether it would affect Portland or not; upon closer review this week, they decided to err on the side of caution and assume that the bill sponsor's intent was that it would impact Portland.

Mr. Jennings said he was not concerned about LD 1611, as it was for a single site and did not see it as something that would radically change the City of Portland.

Councilor Ali asked if there was anything Portland could do to slow it down if passed as an emergency by the State Legislature. Kate

Councilor Mavodones said he is not overly concerned that it would be detrimental to Portland, but that he was troubled by the fact that City currently has a prohibition of this activity and no one had checked with the City. He is also concerned that it could take away local regulatory rights.

Councilor Ali asked if the bill's passage would result in the Commission's authority preempting local authority. Kate said that that was a question for Corporation Counsel, but that her understanding was that it would. She also said that for the bill to be passed as an emergency, two-thirds of the legislative body must vote in favor.

Mayor Snyder recommended that the Committee pursue submitting some informal feedback prior to the work session at 9:15am that morning, and for Bernstein Shur to monitor the session. She also asked that the Committee reconvene in some way to make sure they stay on top of any developments.

Councilor Mavodones, Councilor Fournier, and Councilor Ali supported Mayor Snyder's recommendations.

The Committee discussed LD 1478, which was scheduled for a public hearing on Friday, May 14.

Mayor Snyder said that while the Committee had decided to monitor this bill at their last meeting, upon her review of staff concerns and feedback she has received from members of the public she maintains her opposition to the bill because it creates multiple scenarios and consequences in the City, including confusion with regard to the threshold of enforcement for local ordinances and the creation of a two-tier enforcement mechanism. She also voiced concern for the impact to public spaces, including allowing activities that prevent members of the public from safely accessing public spaces.

Councilor Mavodones said he believes the bill is well intentioned, but said the activities it seeks to permit exist in various areas throughout the City right now and the negative consequences of those activities are observable and concerning. He said he believes many of the guests at City shelters would probably prefer that these activities are addressed as needed by law enforcement as well. He said the written comments the Committee has received from members of the public have been very convincing, and he believes that this bill is a move in the wrong direction.

Councilor Fournier said she discussed the bill with Rep. Lookner, and that there are philosophical differences between Committee members as to how we address the people who are most marginalized in a community. She said that she sees the offenses listed in the bill as symptoms of a different issue, and that in addressing behaviors she tries to think about what that behavior tells her about that core problem, and that in this case the core problem is homelessness. The lack of having a home leads to these offenses, so she would rather look at how to get people housed or how to address mental health needs or substance abuse needs. She said she's conflicted because the Racial Equity Steering Committee just created a comprehensive report on this issue and she's concerned about how this bill intersects with the work the City is doing locally. She said that just because the Committee receives letters from community members doesn't necessarily sway her in one way or another, and that she has received just as many that are in support of this bill. She said she would support continuing to monitor it but would not support opposing it.

Councilor Ali asked Kate if the Committee did not vote today, would it be too late to take a position at the following meeting. Kate said it would be less impactful since it would be after the scheduled public hearing. Participating in the public hearing indicates a strong stance. In between the public hearing and work session the City could still submit written testimony, but it would be less impactful.

Mr. Jennings said this bill would be extremely detrimental to the quality of life in Portland, and staff have strong opposition to this bill.

Mayor Snyder said the crisis protocol outlined in the legislation doesn't take into account the City's existing protocol, which is not about criminalizing homelessness but getting people the services they need to address the underlying issues that result in negative behaviors. She said opposing the legislation doesn't mean we're not recognizing how important the issues it seeks to address are, but that we should lead on the issue and work with the legislative delegation to make sure they are mindful of the work already taking place in Portland.

Councilor Ali recommended that Bernstein Shur reach out to Rep. Lookner to discuss the City's position on the bill to discuss negotiations and partnership on the bill in lieu of opposition. Mayor Snyder said her preference was to oppose this in advance of the public hearing Friday while simultaneously reaching out to the bill's sponsor and Rep. Lookner. Councilor Ali said he did not want to do that, and would not support opposing the bill now out of courtesy to Rep. Lookner.

Kristen Dow, Director of Health and Human Services, said the bill takes away local controls for services the City is already providing, especially crisis response. The model in Portland is something we can work to develop, but taking away the local control to arrest when absolutely necessary goes too far. HHS works closely with PPD on crisis response strategies, but arrest as a last resort is important for safety and security.

Councilor Mavodones said he hoped the Committee would oppose it for a variety of reasons. He was happy to speak with the sponsor, but he saw this as a preemption issue with the State telling the City how to do things. The Committee agreed on concerns related to preemption on the previous bill, LD 1611, and the same concerns exist here.

Mayor Snyder said that, with LD 1611, the Committee wanted to make sure that local authority wasn't diminished, and that the same principle applies here. The Committee has the opportunity to focus on the local response, which is strong, and she is not aware of the Committee having absolutes when it comes to working with members of the delegation who have co-sponsored a bill, or that they have done it consistently. She said she would be happy to work with Bernstein Shur to reach out to Rep. Lookner.

Ethan Hipple, Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities, said he opposes the bill. He said we see the suffering of individuals in public parks every day, and his staff provide medical care to people who are overdosing or having other crises. People are in crisis. He said he feels lucky to work with PPD and HHS to collaborate with social service agencies to reach and help people in crisis, and there is a lot of work being done. The problem he sees with the bill is that it takes away a tool, which is normally a final solution, which can be useful in making parks safer for everybody. He wants parks to be safe and clean and welcoming for everyone, including homeless people who have every right to use a park and take a nap or rest under a tree on a hot day. He wants parks to be welcoming to new Americans trying to enjoy the City, or families trying to enjoy the outdoors. If this tool is taken away, it will make these spaces less safe and more unwelcoming for all these people.

Councilor Fournier asked if social service agencies have talked about this bill, and if our local crisis response is greater or equal to this bill would LD 1478 even have an impact locally?

Chief Frank Clark echoed the concerns and opposition to this bill. He recommended support for LD 1301 as an alternative. He said that in developing the protocols, the Attorney General may work with PPD. He said his Department uses a lot of discretion

and aversions when it comes to crisis response. In terms of crisis protocol, 100% of PPD officers are trained in crisis prevention compared to the 20% rate mandated by the State. He said that Bayside accounts for 2% of the City's land mass, 4% of its population and 20% of its violent crime. Allowing the behaviors to go unchecked sends the wrong message in this context. He also expressed concerns about how PPD would be expected to confirm someone is homeless under LD 1478. He said it could be used effectively by people who may intend to target an already vulnerable population.

Councilor Ali said he is willing to take a vote but would still vote to monitor, not oppose. He said he wanted to offer the same courtesy to Rep. Lookner that has been offered to other bill sponsors, even when bills would not negatively impact Portland like LD 1487. If we could reach out to the sponsor he would be willing to take a vote and would consider opposing it. He asked if it would be possible to amend after the public hearing, which Kate confirmed.

Mayor Snyder clarified that she would reach out to Rep. Lookner with Bernstein Shur to discuss concerns and possible amendments, and that she would try to get in touch with the Committee before Friday to attempt to weigh in prior to the work session.

Councilor Ali said he would rather wait until the next meeting on Tuesday.

Mayor Snyder suggested that the Committee reconvene in a special meeting before Friday.

Mayor Snyder made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Fournier, vote 3-0 (Councilor Mavodones had left the meeting).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00am.



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Memorandum

To: Portland, City of
From: Bernstein Shur
Date: May 12, 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 1695

(HP1261)

An Act To Improve Housing Security by Improving Access to General Assistance

Staff are reviewing the bill in detail to determine financial impact but plan to submit testimony neither for nor against (similar to testimony submitted by MMA and Bangor).

LD 1702

(HP1265)

An Act To Authorize General Fund Bond Issues To Improve Transportation and National Guard Infrastructure and To

Promote the Conservation of Land, Working Waterfronts,
Water Access and Outdoor Recreation

This will not impact City operations.

LD 1704

(HP1267)

An Act To Change the Exclusion Amount under the Estate
Tax and Provide Additional Funding for the Housing
Opportunities for Maine Fund

This has no direct impact on local taxation or City revenue.

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	5/13/21 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB	Voted 5/13/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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	5/10/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 5/10/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	5/10/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 5/10/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	Property tax		High

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
1547	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	ONTP Reported out 5/11/21	Aging		High
1559	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	5/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	Voted 5/12/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	FML		High
1684	1095	An Act To Strengthen Maine's Workforce by Expanding English Language Acquisition and Workforce Training Programs	Cloutier	ECA	Bill Text		5/13/21 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB			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
32	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	Tabled 5/6/21	Public meetings		
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		
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		4/26/21 10:00 AM Rm 228 SH			Bond		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<u>50</u>	272	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Housing for Persons Who Are Homeless (Bond)	Brennan	AFA	Bill Text		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	Bill Text		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>57</u>	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		
<u>58</u>	105	An Act To Improve Information Sharing by Criminal Justice Agencies with Government Agencies Responsible for Investigating Child or Adult Abuse	Harnett	CJPS	Bill Text	Monitor	2/10/21 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	5/6/21 9:00 AM Rm 436 SH	Voted 5/6/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Information sharing		
<u>68</u>	724	An Act To Introduce a Career and Fiscal Management Elective Course at the High School Level	Crockett	ECA	Bill Text		5/10/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	5/17/21 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB		School		
<u>81</u>	70	An Act To Ensure the Safety of Children Experiencing Homelessness by Extending Shelter Placement Periods	Meyer	HHS	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		
<u>84</u>	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		
<u>94</u>	253	An Act To Allow Municipalities To Exempt Volunteer Firefighters from Paying Excise Tax on Their Vehicles Used To Respond to Fire Calls	Doudera	TAX	Bill Text		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
<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	5/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 5/12/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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>129</u>	405	Resolve, To Protect Consumers of Public Drinking Water by Establishing Maximum Contaminant Levels for Certain Substances and Contaminants	Stewart	HHS	<u>Bill Text</u>		2/9/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	5/4/21 9:00 AM Rm 209 COB	Voted 5/4/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	Water	Bernstein Shur to reach out to Water District.	
<u>132</u>	151	An Act To Implement the Attorney General's Recommendations on Data Collection in Order To Eliminate Profiling in Maine	Talbot Ross	JUD	<u>Bill Text</u>	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		
<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>137</u>	837	An Act Regarding Absence from Work for Emergency Response	Grohoski	LH	<u>Bill Text</u>	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	
<u>148</u>	354	An Act To Establish Ongoing Absentee Voting	Fecteau	VLA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/8/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH	4/30/21 1:00 PM Rm 437 SH	Voted 4/30/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Voting		
<u>150</u>	140	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Fund Hazardous Substance Site Cleanups (Bond)	Fay	AFA	<u>Bill Text</u>	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.	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<u>155</u>	838	Resolve, Directing the Board of Pesticides Control To Prohibit the Use of Certain Neonicotinoids for Outdoor Residential Use	Grohoski	ACF	<u>Bill Text</u>	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		
<u>163</u>	701	An Act To Revise Maine's Environmental Laws	Tucker	ENR	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	5/24/21 9:00 AM Rm 216 COB			Environment		
<u>175</u>	1096	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Create and Enhance Regional Homeless Shelters (Bond)	Cloutier	AFA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support/ Testify	4/21/21 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH			Bond	Provided testimony.	
<u>179</u>	30	An Act To Exclude Energy Efficiency Improvements from Property Tax	Kessler	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	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		
<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	4/20/21 1:00 PM Rm 228 SH			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	5/10/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	5/17/21 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB		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	MAJ: OTP MIN: ONTP Reported out 4/15/21	Insurance		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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		
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	5/13/21 10:30 AM Rm 209 COB	Voted 5/13/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	Stimulus	City staff to review Staff supports	
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		
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	ONTP Reported out 5/12/21	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
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	5/11/21 9:15 AM Rm 214 COB	Voted 5/11/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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.	
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	5/18/21 9:00 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	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 5/10/21	School	Xavier Botana_supports	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<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		
<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	Bill Text	Oppose	5/12/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH			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?	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<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.	
<u>328</u>	711	An Act To Fully Fund and Restore State-Municipal Revenue Sharing (Emergency)	Harnett	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	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	
<u>343</u>	1804	An Act To Set Aside Funds from Federal Block Grants for Certain Communities	Talbot Ross	HHS	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	3/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB			Grants	Concerns Ask for language from Rep. Talbot Ross	
<u>353</u>	1276	An Act To Establish Medical Marijuana Cooperatives	Warren	VLA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	3/1/21 10:00 AM Rm 437 SH	5/3/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH	Voted 5/3/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Marijuana		
<u>359</u>	1142	An Act To Promote Energy Production from Recyclable Plastics	Faulkingham	ENR	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	5/10/21 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB			Energy		
<u>382</u>	1835	An Act Regarding the Department of Transportation and Electric Vehicle Charging Stations	Warren	TRAN	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/25/21 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH			Vehicles		
<u>419</u>	501	An Act Regarding Participation in Public Works Projects by Pretrial Inmates	Costain	CJPS	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	2/24/21 10:00 AM Rm 436 SH	3/3/21 10:10 AM Rm 436 SH	Voted 3/29/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Public works	Need more information	
<u>426</u>	1566	An Act Relating to Solar Energy Installation	Lawrence	EUT	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor		Work session held 5/4/21 10:00 AM Rm 211 COB	ONTP Reported out 5/13/21	Energy		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	5/10/21 9:00 AM Rm 437 SH	ONTP Reported out 5/14/21	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	5/10/21 9:00 AM Rm 214 COB	Voted 5/10/21 OTP Not rpt out	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	Voted 5/3/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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	ONTP Reorted out 5/12/21	Marijuana		
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		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	ONTP Reported out 5/3/21	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	ONTP Reported out 5/13/21	Housing		
668	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	5/13/21 2:00 PM Rm 438 SH		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	5/17/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	5/17/21 12:00 PM Rm 202 COB		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	5/4/21 11:00 AM Rm 127 SH	5/10/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 5/10/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	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	
746	11	An Act Regarding Remote Participation in Municipal Meetings	Dillingham	JUD	Bill Text	Oppose/ Monitor	4/23/21 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH	5/13/21 2:00 PM Rm 438 SH		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	4/21/21 12:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 4/21/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	4/21/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	MAJ: ONTP MIN: OTP-AM Reported out 5/11/21	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	5/10/21 9:00 AM Rm 214 COB	ONTP Reorted out 5/12/21	Bicycle	Track closely. Staff believes this may have some complicated legal implications. MMA shares our concerns and is looking into it as well.	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	5/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 5/12/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	5/13/21 2:00 PM Rm 438 SH	Tabled 5/13/21	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	5/13/21 9:00 AM Rm 211 COB	Tabled 5/13/21	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	ONTP Reported out 5/11/21	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	5/20/21 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH		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	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.	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<u>959</u>	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	5/7/21 12:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 5/7/21 ONTP Not rpt out	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	
<u>968</u>	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	5/11/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB	Voted 5/11/21 ONTP Not rpt out	Mental Health		
<u>969</u>	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.	
<u>975</u>	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	ONTP Reported out 5/7/21	Teacher certification	Licensing Industrial Arts Teachers	
<u>987</u>	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.	
<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	Bill Text	Support/ Testify	5/18/21 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH			Transportation	Staff to provide information on impact to City – Study should have community input, how will it impact environment and communities in Portland?	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
993	1907	An Act To Prevent the Spread of Infectious Disease in Schools (Emergency)	White	LH	Bill Text		5/5/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	5/10/21 12:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 5/10/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	4/21/21 2:00 PM Rm 436 COB	4/30/21 1:00 PM Rm 436 COB	Voted 4/30/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Public health	Submit testimony on behalf of legislative committee	
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	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 4/29/21	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	5/6/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	5/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 5/12/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	4/29/21 10:00 AM Rm 228 SH			Bond	Paul Bradbury to testify, watch for ICE detention facility integration	
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		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<u>1115</u>	1215	An Act To Improve Access to HIV Prevention Medications	Sanborn	HCIFS	<u>Bill Text</u>	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	
<u>1132</u>	1418	An Act To Encourage the Renovation of Available Housing Stock	Morales	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support	4/14/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	4/21/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	OTP-AM Reported out 5/13/21	Housing		
<u>1139</u>	1588	An Act To Authorize and Regulate Visitation of Essential Caregivers at Long-term Care Facilities (Emergency)	Libby	HHS	<u>Bill Text</u>	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.	
<u>1142</u>	1912	An Act To Prohibit the Unequal Restriction of Essential Businesses during a State of Civil Emergency	Fecteau	SLG	<u>Bill Text</u>	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.	
<u>1166</u>	1844	An Act To Increase the Property Tax Exemption for Veterans by 50 Percent	Dodge	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	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.	
<u>1185</u>	675	An Act To Distribute Tax Revenue To Offset Costs Incurred by Adult Use Marijuana Host Municipalities	Perry	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	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		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<u>1195</u>	800	An Act To Increase Funding to Qualifying Municipalities by Sharing Adult Use Marijuana Sales and Excise Tax Revenue	Roberts	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	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	
<u>1211</u>	593	Resolve, To Create the Study Group To Research Balancing Development and Conservation in Maine's Coastal Waters and Submerged Lands (Emergency)	Williams	MAR	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	5/4/21 9:00 AM Rm 206 COB	5/6/21 9:15 AM Rm 206 COB	ONTP Reported out 5/12/21	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.	
<u>1222</u>	246	An Act To Reduce Property Taxes of Seniors in an Amount Equal to the Cost of Education	Black	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	Oppose	5/12/21 9:30 AM Rm 127 SH			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.	
<u>1226</u>	1700	Resolve, Directing the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Maine Tribal Populations To Examine Restorative Justice	Talbot Ross	JUD	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	4/22/21 1:00 PM Rm 438 SH	5/11/21 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH	Voted 5/11/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	
<u>1230</u>	753	An Act To Enhance Traffic Safety with Regard to the Operation of Bicycles on Public Ways	Hepler	TRAN	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	4/8/21 1:00 PM Rm 126 SH	4/30/21 9:00 AM Rm 126 SH	ONTP Reported out 5/7/21	Bicycle	Staff support, but acknowledge this would be challenging to enforce.	
<u>1238</u>	1651	An Act To Protect Women's Single-sex Shelters	Keim	JUD	<u>Bill Text</u>	Oppose/ Potentially	5/6/21 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH	5/20/21 1:00 PM 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.	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	5/13/21 1:00 PM Rm 209 COB	Voted 5/13/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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.	
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	5/11/21 9:00 AM Rm 436 SH	ONTP Reported out 5/14/21	Weapon		

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<u>1254</u>	1658	An Act Shielding Fire Departments That Install Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors from Liability	Pebworth	JUD	<u>Bill Text</u>	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.	
<u>1256</u>	375	An Act Requiring Climate Impact Notes on Proposed Legislation and Agency Rules	Lookner	SLG	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support	4/21/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	5/3/21 9:00 AM Rm 214 COB	Voted 5/3/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	Climate impact		
<u>1257</u>	752	An Act To Encourage Inclusionary Zoning in Municipalities by Increasing Revenue Sharing	Lookner	TAX	<u>Bill Text</u>	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.	
<u>1278</u>	1274	An Act To End the Maine Information and Analysis Center Program	Warren	CJPS	<u>Bill Text</u>		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	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	ONTP Reported out 5/7/21	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	Voted 5/4/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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	5/20/21 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	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	5/10/21 9:00 AM Rm 214 COB	Voted 5/10/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	5/11/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 5/11/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	5/10/21 9:00 AM Rm 436 SH	5/17/21 9:00 AM Rm 436 SH		Fire protection	Staff support	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	Voted 5/5/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	ONTP Reported out 5/11/21	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	MAJ: Referred MIN: ONTP Reported out 5/6/21	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.	
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	ONTP Reported out 5/7/21	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	5/18/21 2:00 PM 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	5/20/21 1:00 PM 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.	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	5/11/21 9:00 AM Rm 438 SH	Tabled 5/11/21		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	5/11/21 9:00 AM Rm 127 SH	Voted 5/11/21 ONTP Not rpt out		Staff support	
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.	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<u>1436</u>	1573	An Act To Protect Certain Essential Workers from Infectious Disease	O'Connell	LH	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	4/30/21 9:00 AM Rm 202 COB	5/17/21 12:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Tabled 5/7/21		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.	
<u>1440</u>	1401	An Act To Provide Safe Gear for Female Firefighters	Roeder	CJPS	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support	4/21/21 2:00 PM Rm 436 SH	4/30/21 1:00 PM Rm 436 SH	Voted 4/30/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out		Staff support, City of Portland already does this.	
<u>1447</u>	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	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support	5/7/21 9:00 AM Rm 436 SH	5/11/21 9:00 AM Rm 436 SH	Tabled 5/11/21		Staff support	
<u>1449</u>	1521	An Act To Provide for Education Funding Reform for More Equitable State Support to Communities	Geiger	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Monitor	4/27/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	5/11/21 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB	ONTP Reported out 5/13/21		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	5/7/21 12:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 5/7/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out		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		5/14/21 9:00 AM Rm 436 SH	5/21/21 9:00 AM Rm 436 SH			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	5/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 214 COB	Voted 5/12/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out		Concept draft	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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	5/5/21 10:00 AM Rm 216 COB	ONTP Reported out 5/11/21		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.	
1548	55	An Act To Alleviate the Disproportionate Impact of COVID-19 and Public Health Outcomes (Emergency)	Talbot Ross	HHS	Bill Text		5/11/21 2:00 PM Rm 209 COB	5/18/21 10:00 AM Rm 209 COB			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>		5/10/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	5/17/21 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB		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	5/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 5/12/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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
<u>187</u>	202	An Act To Require Education about African-American History and the History of Genocide	Luchini	ECA	Bill Text	Monitor	5/10/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	5/17/21 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB		School	Xavier Botana_supports	
<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	5/18/21 9:00 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	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 5/10/21	School	Xavier Botana_supports	
<u>552</u>	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.	
<u>650</u>	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	ONTP Reported out 5/3/21	School funding	Support - Xavier Botana Shifting capital projects funding out of the formula	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
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		
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	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 4/29/21	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	5/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 5/12/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	5/13/21 2:00 PM Rm 438 SH	Tabled 5/13/21	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	ONTP Reported out 5/7/21	School - Teacher certification	Licensing Industrial Arts Teachers	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
993	1907	An Act To Prevent the Spread of Infectious Disease in Schools (Emergency)	White	LH	Bill Text		5/5/21 10:00 AM Rm 202 COB	5/10/21 12:00 PM Rm 202 COB	Voted 5/10/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	MAJ: OTP-AM MIN: ONTP Reported out 4/29/21	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	5/6/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	5/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Voted 5/12/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out	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	ONTP Reported out 5/7/21	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	ONTP Reported out 5/7/21	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	5/17/21 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB		School	NFNA - Xavier Botana Course on the Constitution	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<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>	Support	4/12/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	5/18/21 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB	Tabled 4/20/21	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>	Support	4/7/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	5/3/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Voted 5/3/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out	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>	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	Voted 5/4/21 Anticipated Divided Rpt Not rpt out		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.	

LD #	LR #	Title	Sponsor	Cmte	Bill Information	COP Position	Public Hearing	Work Session	Status	Category	Notes	Priority
<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	ONTP Reported out 5/13/21		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	
<u>1426</u>	1902	An Act To Provide for the Equitable Funding of Education Chosen by Maine Families	Greenwood	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Oppose Strongly	4/27/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	5/11/21 9:00 AM Rm 208 COB	ONTP Reported out 5/13/21		From Xavier Botana: This is a school voucher bill. It would be devastating to public education and we strongly oppose it.	
<u>1444</u>	1951	An Act To Prohibit Cyberbullying of School Employees by Students	Stover	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support	5/4/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	5/11/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Voted 5/11/21 ONTP Not rpt out		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.	
<u>1451</u>	825	An Act To Align the Expulsion Process with School Disciplinary Policies	Cuddy	ECA	<u>Bill Text</u>	Support	4/26/21 10:00 AM Rm 208 COB	5/5/21 1:00 PM Rm 208 COB	Voted 5/5/21 OTP-AM Not rpt out		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.	



CITY OF PORTLAND
Department of Human Resources
Director Gina Tapp, SPHR, SHRM-SCP

To: Committee on Labor and Housing

From: Gina Tapp, City of Portland Director of Human Resources

Date: May 14, 2021

Re: Testimony in Opposition of LD 677 (*An Act To Improve Public Sector Labor Relations by Amending the Laws Governing Arbitration under Certain Public Employees Labor Relations Laws*)

I am writing in opposition to LD 677 (*An Act To Improve Public Sector Labor Relations by Amending the Laws Governing Arbitration under Certain Public Employees Labor Relations Laws*). his bill would remove local control over municipal budgets and potentially lead to a situation where municipalities are forced to carry and administer a jumble of pension and insurance plans at significant cost and administrative burden.

Personnel costs make up the largest percentage of most municipalities' budgets. LD 677 would take fiscal control over a municipality – and the resulting tax rate – out of the hands of voters or municipal officers and put it in the hands of an arbitrator. Under the proposed bill, once an arbitrator decides on a wage or benefit increase for a union, the municipality must adopt that package as part of its next budget. Local governments and voters should have control over something with such a significant financial impact, which is exactly why wages have been carved out of the mandatory arbitration provisions in Maine law for decades.

The bill, as written, would also require arbitration over insurance and pension plans. The City of Portland has eight separate unions and currently negotiates benefits with each of them. However, under the proposed bill, if there was ever an impasse, insurance and pension benefits would be determined by an arbitrator. The City is able to afford to provide excellent benefits because we can administer them efficiently and provide the same plans to all of our employees. Negotiating and administering up to eight separate pension and insurance plans is untenable, unreasonable, and expensive.

Finally, the bill allows municipal employees, other than public safety employees, to strike. Many public employees provide essential public health and safety services, including those who run our long-term care facility and homeless shelter, or those who process individuals' general assistance payments on a daily basis. Allowing those employees to strike puts Portland's most vulnerable residents at risk.

Portland works very hard to provide fair compensation and benefit packages to all of our employees – both union and non-union. Please do not pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration.

Legislative/Nominating Committee 2021 WORK PLAN

Committee Goals

- Review Committee goals in context of Council goals
- Review interview questions and process for nominating activities
- Revise City of Portland website to reflect process and timing regarding all Boards and Committees
- Develop strategy to engage and collaborate with Portland delegation to Augusta
- Finetune work plan / communications / organizational process re: nominating work
- Establishing support and focus of City Clerk, City Manager, and Corporation Counsel
- Connect with policy stakeholders (Portland delegation, school board)

Committee Activity by Quarter

Q1 (January through March)

- Review State legislation
- Staff develop Federal priorities memo for Committee review
- Review/interview applicants to boards/commissions
- Review nominating work scheduling and process
- Ensuring legislative priorities align with Council goals

Q2 (April through June)

- Charter Commission election
- Any open board/commission seats and nominating work
- Committee meets with City Clerk to plan nomination work process
- Immigrant Voting Rights for local elections

Q3 (July through September)

- Committee meets with City Clerk to plan nomination outreach process

Q4 (October through December)

- Staff develop State priorities memo for Committee review (November)
- Committee requests councilors' input on State/Federal priorities (November)