



**Legislative Committee 1-28-2019**  
**Meeting**  
January 28, 2019

**AGENDA**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Approval of Meeting minutes**

- a. Approval of January 14, 2019 Meeting Minutes
- b. Approval of January 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes

**III. Legislative Update**

- a. Review of 1-18-2019 Portland Education Non-Funding LDs
- b. Review of 1-18-2019 LDs Tracking Report and Spreadsheet
- c. Requested Materials - LD 47 Testimony
- d. Requested Materials - LD 48 Testimony

**IV. Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

- a. February 11, 2019 Meeting with Delegation  
9-11 AM  
Portland City Hall, Room 209

**V. Public Comment**

**VI. Adjournment**

**CITY OF PORTLAND  
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE  
January 14, 2019 MEETING MINUTES**

The January 14, 2019 Meeting was called to order by Chair Pious Ali at 9:07 a.m. in Room 209, Portland City Hall, Portland, Maine

**A. Attendance/Introductions:**

Councilor Pious Ali, Chair, Councilor Jill Duson, Mayor Ethan Strimling, Portland Board of Education Member Laurie Davis; Portland Board of Education member Emily Figador; Alysia Melnick, Esq., Bernstein Shur team/lobbyist; Sen.Heather Sanborn, Rep. Michael Brenan, Rep. Rachel Tabot-Ross; Rep. Erik Jorgensen; Sen. Ben Chipman; Rep. Michael Sylvester (by Telephone); Alicia Gardiner, Executive Director of Budget and Finance; PPS, Xavier Boatana, Superintendent PPS;City Manager Jon Jennings; Corporation Counsel Danielle West-Chuhta; Mike Murray(Staff);

**B. Approval of Minutes:**

1. Motion to approve the December 13, 2018 minutes made by Councilor Duson; second by Strimling; minutes approve 3-0.

**D. Review of Printed Bills/Bill Tracker:**

LD 6 – Remove  
LD 19 - Monitor  
LD 29 – No Position  
LD 43 - Remove  
LD 45 - No Position  
LD 46 – Support  
LD 47 – Support  
LD 48 - Support  
LD 53 – Support  
LD55 – Support  
LD 63 – Follow  
LD 65 – Support  
LD 77 – More info requested  
LD 89 – Monitor  
LD 94 – Follow

Following this review, a general discussion between the Legislative Committee and the Delegation about best communication practices during the legislative session.

**E. Next Meeting Date**

January 15, 2019 - Legislative Committee Goal Setting Session Room 209 8-9AM

January 28, 2019 – Legislative Committee Meeting; Room 209 8-9 AM

February 11, 2019 – Legislative Committee Meeting w/ Delegation; Room 209 9-11 AM

**F. Adjournment**

Councilor Duson made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Strimling,; vote 3-0 and the meeting adjourned at 10: 51 AM.

**CITY OF PORTLAND  
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE  
January 15, 2019 MEETING MINUTES**

The January 15, 2019 Meeting was called to order by Chair Pious Ali at 8:00 a.m. in Room 209, Portland City Hall, Portland, Maine

**A. Attendance/Introductions:**

Councilor Pious Ali, Chair, Councilor Jill Duson, Mayor Ethan Strimling, City Clerk Katherine Jones; Mike Murray(Staff)

**B. Legislative Committee Goals for 2019**

**On-Going/Carry Forward**

1. Immigrant Voting Rights for local elections
2. Maintain membership in Mayor's Coalition
3. Evaluate/modify nominations outreach process for open board/committee positions

**Legislative/Electoral Priorities**

1. Rank Choice Voting for all local elections
2. Local Clean Elections initiative
3. Local Lobbyist Disclosure/Registration
4. Develop Federal Legislative Agenda
5. Proposal from City Clerk regarding Portland polling places

**Nominating Priorities**

1. Review of Boards and Committees – length of terms and term limits
2. Review/modify annual District Meetings

**E. Next Meeting Dates**

January 28, 2019 – Legislative Committee Meeting; Room 209 8-9 AM

February 11, 2019 – Legislative Committee Meeting w/ Delegation; Room 209 9-11 AM

**F. Adjournment**

Councilor Duson made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by Mayor Strimling,; vote 3-0 and the meeting adjourned at 9 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 Education - Non Funding Report  
**From:** Bernstein Shur  
**Date:** January 18, 2019  
**Re:** New Legislative Bills Report

---

Please find below the new legislative documents (LD) printed this week that we have flagged to be of possible interest to your organization. Please indicate to us which bills you would like included on your tracking report.

Thank you.

[LD 14, HP0015](#)

An Act To Improve Science and Engineering Education for Maine's Students

[LD 55, HP0052](#)

An Act To Return the Normal Cost of Teacher Retirement to the State

[LD 63, HP0060](#)

An Act To Improve Responsiveness of Elected School Boards to the Public

[LD 92, HP0078](#)

An Act To Amend Teacher Evaluation Requirements

[LD 94, HP0080](#)

An Act To Prohibit the Dissemination of Obscene Material by Public Schools

[LD 97, HP0083](#)

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 38: Suicide Awareness and Prevention in Maine Public Schools, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education

[LD 98, HP0084](#)

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 122: Grant Application and Award Procedure: Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education

[LD 150, SP0037](#)

An Act To Improve Attendance at Public Elementary Schools

[LD 151, SP0038](#)

An Act To Align State Law with Current Practice Regarding Required School Attendance

[LD 152, SP0039](#)

An Act To Prohibit the Possession and Use of Electronic Smoking Devices on School Grounds

[LD 160, SP0047](#)

An Act To Add Instruction in Personal Finance to the Statewide System of Learning Results

[LD 161, SP0048](#)

An Act To Increase Access to Career and Technical Education

[LD 167, HP0130](#)

An Act To Prevent Food Shaming in Maine's Public Schools

[LD 176, HP0139](#)

An Act To Enhance Participation on the State Board of Education

[LD 185, HP0148](#)

An Act To Provide a Method for a Student To Be Excused from Standardized Testing

[LD 210, HP0173](#)

An Act To Increase Technology and Engineering Education for Grades 7 to 12

[LD 225, HP0188](#)

An Act Regarding Transportation Management Software and School Bus Replacement

[LD 236, HP0199](#)

An Act Regarding the Use of Unanticipated State Aid for Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education

[LD 237, HP0200](#)

An Act To Appropriate Funds for Coaching Services for Existing and New Prekindergarten Programs

[LD 240, HP0203](#)

An Act To Allow Public Employers of Teachers to Negotiate Regarding Educational Policies

[LD 247, SP0059](#)

An Act To Increase the Amount of Time School Counselors and Social Workers Spend Providing Students Direct and Indirect Counseling

[LD 259, SP0071](#)

An Act To Require the State To Meet the Mandatory 55 Percent Contribution to Schools

[LD 283, HP0207](#)

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 132: Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education

[LD 296, HP0220](#)

An Act Regarding Student Privacy with Respect to Video Recordings

[LD 299, HP0223](#)

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Assist Schools, Municipalities and Counties in Using Emerging Technologies and Energy Alternatives to Fossil Fuels in Heating, Electrical and Other Utility Systems

[LD 300, HP0224](#)

An Act To Protect Hourly School Personnel Pay During School Days Missed Due to Weather or Emergency Closures

[LD 307, HP0231](#)

An Act To Limit the Number of Charter Schools in Maine

[LD 309, HP0233](#)

An Act To Eliminate the Regional Adjustment for Public School Systems



**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:** January 18, 2019  
**Re:** New Legislative Bills Report

---

Please find below the new legislative documents (LD) printed this week that we have flagged to be of possible interest to your organization. Please indicate to us which bills you would like included on your tracking report.

Thank you.

[LD 101, HP0087](#)

An Act To Reestablish the Pesticide Notification Registry

[LD 118, HP0100](#)

An Act To Direct Vehicle Excise Tax Revenue for Local Transportation Infrastructure

[LD 119, HP0101](#)

An Act To Base the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax on the Sale Price

[LD 124, HP0106](#)

An Act To Exempt from Sales Tax an Island-based Nonprofit Provider of Ambulance Services

[LD 133, HP0115](#)

An Act To Fully Restore State-Municipal Revenue Sharing for Fiscal Year 2018-19

[LD 136, HP0118](#)

An Act To Establish a Special Education Circuit Breaker Reimbursement Program

[LD 137, HP0119](#)

An Act To Make the Maine Learning Technology Initiative More Cost-effective

[LD 146, HP0128](#)

An Act To Make the Assessment and Collection of Personal Property Taxes Optional for Municipalities

[LD 148, SP0035](#)

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Recapitalize the School Revolving Renovation Fund and To Give Priority Status to Certain School Facility Upgrades

[LD 150, SP0037](#)

An Act To Improve Attendance at Public Elementary Schools

[LD 151, SP0038](#)

An Act To Align State Law with Current Practice Regarding Required School Attendance

[LD 152, SP0039](#)

An Act To Prohibit the Possession and Use of Electronic Smoking Devices on School Grounds

[LD 153, SP0040](#)

An Act To Strengthen Testing for Lead in School Drinking Water

[LD 156, SP0043](#)

An Act To Allow Regional Service Center Municipalities To Assess an Additional One Percent Sales Tax for Infrastructure Costs

[LD 164, SP0051](#)

An Act To Reduce Property Taxes for Maine Residents

[LD 166, SP0053](#)

An Act To Protect Schoolchildren by Increasing the Penalty for Unlawful Passing of a School Bus

[LD 167, HP0130](#)

An Act To Prevent Food Shaming in Maine's Public Schools

[LD 170, HP0133](#)

An Act To Prohibit Questions Regarding Criminal History on Certain State Employment Applications

[LD 186, HP0149](#)

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Specify the Qualifications of Electors

[LD 172, HP0135](#)

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Smart City Technology

[LD 176, HP0139](#)

An Act To Enhance Participation on the State Board of Education

[LD 178, HP0141](#)

An Act To Increase the State Share of the Cost of Health Insurance for Retired Teachers

[LD 181, HP0144](#)

An Act To Provide Funding to the Department of Health and Human Services To Support Free Health Clinics in the State

[LD 183, HP0146](#)

An Act To Increase the Number of Teachers in Maine

[LD 185, HP0148](#)

An Act To Provide a Method for a Student To Be Excused from Standardized Testing

[LD 193, HP0156](#)

An Act To Fully Fund and Restore State-Municipal Revenue Sharing

[LD 209, HP0172](#)

An Act To Prohibit Municipalities from Prohibiting Short-term Rentals

[LD 223, HP0186](#)

An Act Regarding Community Service Sentencing

[LD 225, HP0188](#)

An Act Regarding Transportation Management Software and School Bus Replacement

[LD 236, HP0199](#)

An Act Regarding the Use of Unanticipated State Aid for Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education

[LD 237, HP0200](#)

An Act To Appropriate Funds for Coaching Services for Existing and New Prekindergarten Programs

[LD 259, SP0071](#)

An Act To Require the State To Meet the Mandatory 55 Percent Contribution to Schools

[LD 299, HP0223](#)

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Assist Schools, Municipalities and Counties in Using Emerging Technologies and Energy Alternatives to Fossil Fuels in Heating, Electrical and Other Utility Systems

[LD 307, HP0231](#)

An Act To Limit the Number of Charter Schools in Maine

| LD #      | LR # | Title                                                                                                      | Sponsor  | Cmte | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | COP Position | Public Hearing                  | Work Session | Status | Category          |
|-----------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--------|-------------------|
| <u>45</u> | 12   | An Act To Amend the Law Regarding Maine's Background Check Center                                          | Hymanson | HHS  | This bill grants the Department of Health and Human Services the authority to request state and national criminal history records, including fingerprint-based criminal history records, for direct access workers undergoing a background check under the Maine Background Check Center Act. | off          |                                 |              |        | Background checks |
| <u>16</u> | 333  | An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Infrastructure To Address Sea Level Rise (Bond) | Brennan  | AFA  | The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$50,000,000, will be used to improve waterfront and coastal infrastructure in municipalities to address sea level rise.                                                                                                              |              |                                 |              |        | Bonds             |
| <u>47</u> | 332  | An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Fire Stations [Bond]                            | Brennan  | AFA  | The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$25,000,000, will be used for the rehabilitation or new construction of fire stations by municipalities.                                                                                                                             |              | 1/22/19<br>1:00 PM<br>Rm 228 SH |              |        | Bonds             |
| <u>48</u> | 329  | An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Housing for Persons Who Are Homeless [Bond]     | Brennan  | AFA  | The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$15,000,000, will be used for capital construction costs for housing for persons who are homeless.                                                                                                                                   |              | 1/22/19<br>1:00 PM<br>Rm 228 SH |              |        | Bonds             |

| LD #       | LR # | Title                                                                                                                                                                     | Sponsor     | Cmte | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | COP Position | Public Hearing | Work Session | Status | Category  |
|------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------|-----------|
| <u>148</u> | 387  | An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Recapitalize the School Revolving Renovation Fund and To Give Priority Status to Certain School Facility Upgrades (Bond) | Millett     | AFA  | The funds provided by the bond issue in Part A of this bill, in the amount of \$50,000,000, will be used to recapitalize the School Revolving Renovation Fund for the purpose of providing funds to public schools for renovation and capital repairs. Part B of this bill gives upgrades of facilities required to meet prekindergarten facility standards and for prekindergarten capacity building Priority 4 status for loans from the fund to    |              |                |              |        | Bonds     |
| <u>172</u> | 326  | An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Smart City Technology (Bond)                                                                                   | Brennan     | AFA  | The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$15,000,000, will be used to provide funds through the Maine Technology Institute to allow municipalities to invest in smart and connected infrastructure, technology and capacity, including but not limited to information and communications technology such as broadband connectivity, connected sensors and data aggregation platforms: light-emitting diode lighting: adaptive traffic |              |                |              |        | Bonds     |
| <u>53</u>  | 430  | An Act To Clarify Local Referendum Ballots                                                                                                                                | Sanborn     | VLA  | This bill requires that municipal initiative and referendum questions be listed on election ballots using sequential capital letters of the alphabet rather than sequential numbers.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | City Support |                |              |        | Elections |
| <u>186</u> | 1724 | RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Specify the Qualifications of Electors                                                                 | Faulkingham | VLA  | This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to specify that only a person who is a citizen of the United States may vote in a state, county or municipal or other local election.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |              |                |              |        | Elections |

| LD #       | LR # | Title                                                                                                                | Sponsor    | Cmte | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | COP<br>Position | Public Hearing | Work Session | Status | Category   |
|------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|--------|------------|
| <u>170</u> | 104  | An Act To Prohibit Questions Regarding Criminal History on Certain State Employment Applications                     | Sheats     | SLG  | This bill prohibits the State from including questions about criminal history on its employment application forms. The bill provides an exception to that prohibition when, due to the nature and requirements of the position, a person who has a criminal history may be disqualified from eligibility, such as for a law enforcement officer, corrections officer, child protective or adult protective services caseworker or child development services worker position. The bill applies to state employment positions in the legislative, executive or judicial branch of State Government and positions with quasi-independent state entities or public instrumentalities of the State; it does not apply to positions in school administrative units, municipalities, counties or other political subdivisions of the State. |                 |                |              |        | Employment |
| <u>181</u> | 577  | An Act To Provide Funding to the Department of Health and Human Services To Support Free Health Clinics in the State | Farnsworth | HHS  | This bill provides funding to support free health clinics in the State.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                 |                |              |        | Health     |

| LD #      | LR # | Title                                                                                                                        | Sponsor    | Cmte | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | COP Position | Public Hearing | Work Session | Status | Category |
|-----------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------|----------|
| <u>89</u> | 713  | An Act To Impose Requirements on the Rental of Residential Property That Has Been Used in the Manufacture of Methamphetamine | Mastraccio | LH   | This bill requires that landlords and other persons entering into a lease or tenancy at will agreement for residential property ensure that property used in the manufacture of methamphetamine be decontaminated and tested in accordance with the standards established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency's March 2013 revised edition of the Voluntary Guidelines for Methamphetamine Laboratory Cleanup or other standards established in rule by the Department of Economic and Community Development. The bill also requires that landlords and other persons entering into a lease or tenancy at will agreement disclose to the potential tenant or lessee that a property has been used in the manufacture of methamphetamine. The bill makes violation of these provisions a civil violation, punishable by a fine of up to \$500, and also states that failure to decontaminate or disclose constitutes a breach of the implied warranty of fitness for human habitation. The bill gives the Department of Economic and Community Development authority to adopt rules to implement these provisions. | Monitor      |                |              |        | Housing  |

| LD #       | LR # | Title                                                                                                                                           | Sponsor  | Cmte | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | COP Position | Public Hearing | Work Session | Status | Category   |
|------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------|------------|
| <u>178</u> | 575  | An Act To Increase the State Share of the Cost of Health Insurance for Retired Teachers (Emergency)                                             | Collings | ECA  | Current law requires the State to pay 45% of a retired teacher's share of the premium for group accident and sickness or health insurance. This bill raises that percentage to 50% from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020; 55% from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021; 60% from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022; 65% from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023; 70% from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024; 75% from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025; 80% from July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026; 85% from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027; and 90% after June 30, 2027. It also removes some outdated language and the cap on the increase in the State's total cost for retired teachers' health insurance premiums for fiscal years ending after June 30, 2015. |              |                |              |        | Insurance  |
| <u>15</u>  | 470  | An Act To Provide for Municipalities To Allow Grocery Stores up to 10,000 Square Feet To Open on Thanksgiving, Easter and Christmas (Emergency) | Kinney   | IDEA | This bill allows a municipality by ordinance to allow grocery stores with no more than 10,000 square feet of interior customer selling space to be open on Easter Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |              |                |              |        | Municipal  |
| <u>36</u>  | 552  | An Act To Change the Composition of the Board of Pesticides Control                                                                             | Pluecker | ACF  | This bill restores the requirement that the 2 public members of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control have a demonstrated interest in environmental protection. The change does not require the termination of the terms of current members of the board.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |              |                |              |        | Pesticides |

| LD #       | LR # | Title                                                                                       | Sponsor   | Cmte | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | COP Position | Public Hearing | Work Session | Status | Category        |
|------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------|-----------------|
| <u>101</u> | 553  | An Act To Reestablish the Pesticide Notification Registry                                   | Pluecker  | ACF  | This bill reestablishes the law, which was repealed by Public Law 2011, chapter 332, governing the development and maintenance of a registry of the properties of residents, lessees and property owners who request that their properties be placed on a registry in order that they receive advance notification of the outdoor application of pesticides near their properties. |              |                |              |        | Pesticides      |
| <u>133</u> | 542  | An Act To Fully Restore State-Municipal Revenue Sharing for Fiscal Year 2018-19 (Emergency) | Evangelos | TAX  | This bill restores state-municipal revenue sharing to 5% from 2% for the entire fiscal year 2018-19. The law currently requires revenue sharing to revert to 5% beginning July 1, 2019.                                                                                                                                                                                            |              |                |              |        | Revenue Sharing |
| <u>193</u> | 328  | An Act To Fully Fund and Restore State-Municipal Revenue Sharing (Emergency)                | Harnett   | TAX  | This bill restores state-municipal revenue sharing to 5% from 2% 6 months earlier than currently provided in law.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |              |                |              |        | Revenue Sharing |
| <u>19</u>  | 3    | An Act To Require Public School Buses To Be Equipped with School Bus Crossing Arms          | McCreight | TRAN | This bill requires school buses to be equipped with a school bus crossing arm, which is a device requiring students to walk at least 10 feet in front of the school bus to cross the roadway.                                                                                                                                                                                      |              |                |              |        | School          |

| LD #       | LR # | Title                                                                         | Sponsor  | Cmte | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | COP Position | Public Hearing | Work Session | Status | Category |
|------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------|----------|
| <u>136</u> | 721  | An Act To Establish a Special Education Circuit Breaker Reimbursement Program | Rudnicki | ECA  | This bill establishes the special education circuit breaker reimbursement program, in which the Department of Education reimburses school administrative units, for a student whose eligible special education costs exceed 4 times the statewide EPS per-pupil rate, 75% of the amount of the special education costs that are above 4 times the statewide EPS per-pupil rate. The bill requires the department to distribute reimbursements to eligible school administrative units on a quarterly basis, and the reimbursements must be deposited in a separate revolving account that may be spent only on approved special education services. |              |                |              |        | School   |
| <u>137</u> | 720  | An Act To Make the Maine Learning Technology Initiative More Cost-effective   | Rudnicki | ECA  | This bill is a concept draft pursuant to Joint Rule 208. This bill proposes to enact measures designed to make the Department of Education's Maine Learning Technology Initiative, or "MLTI," more cost-effective for schools and for the State, thus allowing participation by increased numbers of students. The cost-saving measures may include, but are not limited to, eliminating the ability of school administrative units to choose higher-cost technology options.                                                                                                                                                                       |              |                |              |        | School   |

| LD #       | LR # | Title                                                                                           | Sponsor  | Cmte | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | COP Position | Public Hearing | Work Session | Status | Category |
|------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------|----------|
| <u>153</u> | 151  | An Act To Strengthen Testing for Lead in School Drinking Water                                  | Millett  | HHS  | This bill requires all schools to test water used for drinking or culinary purposes for lead using water testing kits or by submitting samples of water to an approved laboratory for lead testing. It directs the Department of Health and Human Services to establish by major substantive rule water lead levels, testing protocols, appropriate abatement and mitigation methods and public notification requirements. It directs the department to provisionally adopt major substantive rules and submit them to the Legislature no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 10, 2020. It provides that the department has the authority to issue an order reducing exposure to lead until the elevated water lead levels are abated or mitigated. It provides that water lead abatement or mitigation efforts will receive Priority 1 status for receipt of funds from the School Revolving Renovation Fund in the custody of the Maine Municipal Bond Bank. |              |                |              |        | School   |
| <u>166</u> | 1408 | An Act To Protect Schoolchildren by Increasing the Penalty for Unlawful Passing of a School Bus | Woodsome | TRAN | This bill increases the penalty for overtaking a school bus when the bus has stopped with its red lights flashing from a \$250 minimum fine to a \$500 minimum fine for the first offense and increases the driver's license suspension from 30 days to 60 days for a 2nd offense.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |              |                |              |        | School   |

| LD #       | LR # | Title                                                                             | Sponsor | Cmte | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | COP Position      | Public Hearing                   | Work Session | Status | Category       |
|------------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------|----------------|
| <u>183</u> | 803  | An Act To Increase the Number of Teachers in Maine                                | Pierce  | ECA  | Currently, under the Educators for Maine Program, an eligible undergraduate may receive a loan of up to \$3,000 per academic year or \$12,000 total. This bill increases those loan amounts to \$9,000 per academic year and \$36,000 total. It also increases from \$20,000 to \$44,000 the total loan amount under the program a student may receive in undergraduate and postbaccalaureate loans.                                                                                                                                                                                    |                   |                                  |              |        | School         |
| <u>55</u>  | 364  | An Act To Return the Normal Cost of Teacher Retirement to the State               | Stearns | ECA  | This bill changes the method for funding teacher retirement costs. It repeals those provisions of law enacted pursuant to Public Law 2013, chapter 368 that require school administrative units and private schools to pay for teacher retirement.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Support / Testify | 1/30/19<br>1:00 PM<br>Rm 208 COB |              |        | School funding |
| <u>4</u>   | 414  | An Act To Encourage Applied Shellfish Research                                    | Alley   | MAR  | This bill amends the law governing municipal shellfish conservation programs. It provides that a municipal shellfish conservation ordinance may allow a research entity to conduct applied research in conjunction with Department of Marine Resources staff or an approved professional entity to support a municipal shellfish conservation program. It also requires a municipality to require a research entity conducting approved research projects in the intertidal zone to issue an annual report on research findings to the Commissioner of Marine Resources by January 1st. |                   | 1/24/19<br>1:00 PM<br>Rm 206 COB |              |        | Shellfish      |
| <u>46</u>  | 578  | An Act To Establish a Substance Use Disorder Clinic at the Cumberland County Jail | Brennan | HHS  | This bill provides funding to create a substance use disorder clinic at the Cumberland County jail.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                   |                                  |              |        | Substance Use  |

| LD #      | LR # | Title                                                                                                                     | Sponsor      | Cmte | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | COP Position      | Public Hearing | Work Session | Status | Category |
|-----------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|--------|----------|
| <u>35</u> | 490  | An Act To Exempt All Disabled Veterans in Maine from All Income Tax and To Increase Their Homestead Exemption to \$50,000 | O'Connor     | TAX  | This bill increases the homestead exemption to \$50,000 for veterans of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard who are receiving disability compensation from the United States Government due to a service-connected disability and provides an income tax deduction for all income of those individuals.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                   |                |              |        | Tax      |
| <u>65</u> | 434  | An Act To Allow Municipalities To Impose a Seasonal or Year-round Local Option Sales Tax                                  | Beebe-Center | TAX  | This bill allows a municipality to impose a local option sales tax, which may be seasonal, if approved by referendum of the voters in that municipality. The referendum question must identify the rate of the local option sales tax, specify the months during which it will be imposed if not year-round and identify the purposes for which the revenue will be used. The local option sales tax would be collected and administered by the State in the same manner as the sales and use tax. Revenue from the local option sales tax is distributed to the municipality imposing the local option sales tax. Revenue received by a municipality may not be used to reduce or eliminate funding otherwise due the municipality under other provisions of law. | Support / Testify |                |              |        | Tax      |
| <u>77</u> | 298  | An Act To Increase the Homestead Property Tax Exemption to \$50,000 for Persons 75 Years of Age and Older                 | O'Connor     | TAX  | This bill increases the property tax exemption for individuals who are 75 years of age or older from \$20,000 to \$50,000 for property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2020.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                   |                |              |        | Tax      |

| LD #       | LR # | Title                                                                               | Sponsor | Cmte | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | COP Position | Public Hearing | Work Session | Status | Category |
|------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------|----------|
| <u>118</u> | 636  | An Act To Direct Vehicle Excise Tax Revenue for Local Transportation Infrastructure | Cebra   | TAX  | This bill provides that revenue received by a municipality from the vehicle excise tax must be used for maintenance or improvement of transportation infrastructure within that municipality.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |              |                |              |        | Tax      |
| <u>119</u> | 181  | An Act To Base the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax on the Sale Price                       | Cebra   | TAX  | This bill changes the method of computing the excise tax that is levied on motor vehicles and camper trailers registered in the State. With the exception of certain commercial motor vehicles and buses and special mobile equipment, current law requires that the excise tax be based upon the maker's list price for the motor vehicle; the excise tax on certain commercial motor vehicles and buses and special mobile equipment is based on the purchase price. This bill requires that the excise tax for all motor vehicles and camper trailers be based upon the purchase price of the vehicle. Either the original bill of sale or the state sales tax document may be used to verify the purchase price. Current law requires the State to reimburse a municipality for the difference in the amount of excise tax that would have been collected by the municipality on each commercial motor vehicle or bus using the manufacturer's suggested retail price instead of the actual purchase price. This bill applies that requirement to all vehicles registered and taxed by the municipality using the actual purchase price. |              |                |              |        | Tax      |

| LD #       | LR # | Title                                                                                                                         | Sponsor  | Cmte | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | COP Position | Public Hearing | Work Session | Status | Category |
|------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------|----------|
| <u>124</u> | 1043 | An Act To Exempt from Sales Tax an Island-based Nonprofit Provider of Ambulance Services (Emergency)                          | Cooper   | TAX  | This bill provides a sales tax exemption for sales of watercraft that will be used to provide ambulance services and sales of ambulance supplies to an incorporated nonprofit transportation company that provides ambulance services from an island not served by a bridge to the mainland pursuant to a written agreement with a municipality to provide ambulance services without charge. An incorporated nonprofit transportation company providing ambulance services using watercraft certified and inspected by the United States Coast Guard is not required to be licensed as an ambulance service in order to be eligible for the exemption. |              |                |              |        | Tax      |
| <u>146</u> | 183  | An Act To Make the Assessment and Collection of Personal Property Taxes Optional for Municipalities                           | Cebra    | TAX  | This bill allows a municipality, by referendum, to exempt all personal property located in that municipality from assessment and collection of tax by that municipality.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |              |                |              |        | Tax      |
| <u>156</u> | 281  | An Act To Allow Regional Service Center Municipalities To Assess an Additional One Percent Sales Tax for Infrastructure Costs | Miramant | TAX  | This bill allows a municipality that is a service center community to impose a local option sales tax of no more than 1% by local referendum for the purpose of funding local infrastructure costs.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |              |                |              |        | Tax      |
| <u>164</u> | 268  | An Act To Reduce Property Taxes for Maine Residents                                                                           | Pouliot  | TAX  | This bill increases the total exemption under the Maine resident homestead property tax exemption program to \$50,000 for property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2020. This bill also increases state reimbursement to municipalities for homestead property tax exemptions from 62.5% to 100% for property tax years beginning on or after April 1, 2020.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |              |                |              |        | Tax      |

| LD #      | LR # | Title                                                  | Sponsor | Cmte | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                            | COP<br>Position | Public Hearing                   | Work Session | Status | Category |
|-----------|------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------|----------|
| <u>62</u> | 1232 | An Act To Enhance the Senior Volunteer Benefit Program | Bailey  | TAX  | This bill increases the maximum benefit that a municipality may provide under a senior volunteer benefit program from \$750 to the greater of \$1,000 and 100 times the state minimum hourly wage. |                 | 1/30/19<br>10:00 AM<br>Rm 127 SH |              |        | Wages    |



Keith N. Gautreau  
Fire Chief, Fire Department

January 22, 2019

Testimony of Keith Gautreau  
Fire Chief, City of Portland, Maine

In favor of LD 47, An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Fire Stations

Good afternoon, Senator Breen, Representative Gattine and distinguished members of the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee, My name is Keith Gautreau and I am the Fire Chief for Portland. I am here today to support LD 47, An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Invest in Fire Stations and to provide some information.

In June of 2017 the City of Portland retained the services of FACETS Consulting, LLC to conduct a Fire Station Functional Assessment on behalf of the Portland Fire Department. The purpose of this 85 page study was to determine the functional conditions of current and future fire department facilities.

This was an in depth report that focused on four (4) areas; Fire Station analysis, Fire Service demand, Facility Repair and Replacement Plan and Funding Sources. Today, I'd like to present the highlights of the report;

- ☐ The study recommends maintaining the current number and location of stations. Analysis indicates the vast majority of the city can be reached by a fire or EMS resource within established travel times.
- ☐ **Age of Stations** Our newest and most modern station (Munjoy Hill) is forty two (42) years old and our oldest (Central Fire Station) is nearly 100 years old.
- ☐ Replacement of several of the seven (7) fire stations studied should be considered. See the attached table in your packet.
- ☐ **East Deering Station** The station should be replaced in the near future due to a significant slab settling problem in the floor.
- ☐ **Central Station** Although a historic structure, Central Station's functionality has become limited providing limited use with modern fire apparatus due to features such as smaller bay door dimension, asbestos and aging building systems and overall condition.
- ☐ **Rosemont, North Deering, Riverton Station** These stations should be replaced due to their cramped quarters, small lot, age and environmental upgrades.



Keith N. Gautreau  
Fire Chief, Fire Department

- ❑ **Handicap requirements** The department, in conjunction with the city's department of public works, just recently conducted an assessment of each station's compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Currently, all seven (7) stations have shortfalls in meeting the requirements of the ADA.
- ❑ **Funding Sources:** As I noted earlier in this testimony one of the areas of focus was funding and this is a quote from the study; *"It is important to note that opportunities for funding fire station improvements or new construction through federal or state grant programs are limited. Most programs focus on small or rural communities with limited abilities due to insufficient local funding sources."*

For the above reasons, we urge you to pass LD 47. Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith N. Gautreau, Fire Chief  
Portland Fire Department  
380 Congress Street  
Portland, ME 04101  
[kng@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:kng@portlandmaine.gov)  
207-874-8400



Keith N. Gautreau  
Fire Chief, Fire Department

Attachment A:

**Table 10. Fire Station Repair and Replacement Plan**

**Table 10. Fire Station Repair and Replacement Plan**

| Station                         | Constructed | Sq. Ft. | Bays | Site   | Description               | Recommendations            | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---------|------|--------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Renovation</b>               |             |         |      |        |                           |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Munjoy Hill<br>134 Congress St. | 1977        | 10,000  | 3    | Medium | 2 story                   | Major Remodel              | Conduct a major remodel of the facility.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Bramhall<br>784 Congress St.    | 1964        | 15,000  | 5    | Large  | 2 Story hillside          | Major Remodel              | Conduct a major remodel of the facility or consider relocating to a larger site nearby that allows for a more functional station and training facility.                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Central<br>380 Congress St.     | 1925        | 14,250  | 5    | Large  | Historic 2 story + Admin. | Major Remodel or Build New | Conduct major renovation or replace with new headquarters station. A replacement station is suggested primarily due to the narrow apparatus bay door configuration which will significantly limit future apparatus selection and placement.                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Replacement</b>              |             |         |      |        |                           |                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| East Deering<br>576 Ocean Ave.  | 1956        | 5,217   | 2    | Small  | 1 story                   | Build New                  | Replace station with a new facility consisting of a minimum of three drive-through bays and quarters spacious enough to accommodate current crew of three with ability to expand to a minimum of 10 personnel (two 4-person fire companies and one 2-person MEDCU ambulance). The station should remain in the vicinity of Ocean and Washington Avenues.                  |
| North Deering<br>380 Allen Ave. | 1966        | 5,217   | 2    | Small  | 1 story                   | Build New                  | Replace station with a new facility consisting of a minimum of three drive-through bays and quarters spacious enough to accommodate current crew of five with ability to expand to a minimum of 10 personnel (two 4-person fire companies and one 2-person MEDCU ambulance). The station should remain in the vicinity of Washington and Allen Avenues and Auburn Street. |
| Riverton<br>1592 Forest Ave.    | 1971        | 5,217   | 2    | Small  | 1 story                   | Build New                  | Replace station with a new facility consisting of a minimum of three drive-through bays and quarters spacious enough to accommodate current crew of three with ability to expand to a minimum of 10 personnel (two 4-person fire companies and one 2-person MEDCU ambulance). The station should remain on or near the current site.                                      |
| Rosemont<br>212 Stevens Ave.    | 1953        | 4,945   | 2    | Small  | 1 story                   | Build New                  | Replace station with a new facility consisting of a minimum of three drive-through bays and quarters spacious enough to accommodate current crew of three with ability to expand to a minimum of 10 personnel (two 4-person fire companies and one 2-person MEDCU ambulance). The station should remain on or near the current site.                                      |

**Health & Human Services Department**

Dawn C. Stiles, Director

**Social Services Division**

David Maclean, Administrator

Testimony for Public Hearing  
Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs  
January 22, 2019

HP0049, LD 48, item 1, An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Housing for Persons Who Are Homeless

Good afternoon Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs members. My name is David MacLean, I am the City of Portland Social Services Division Administrator. Our division oversees the largest low-barrier single adult emergency shelter, the largest family emergency shelter, as well as the General Assistance program and other support services. In 2019, the housing navigators at the Oxford Street shelter and the Family Shelter secured 240 individual adult and 165 family housing placements respectively. These are to the credit of our incredibly talented shelter housing services staff at our shelters, as each person and family experiencing homelessness in Maine faces barriers to ending their homelessness, some of the greatest barriers are ones familiar to many Mainers: there is not enough housing and the rent is too high for what units are available.

I am here today to support the issuance of a bond to fund the State of Maine's endeavor to create housing that ends the homelessness of the people across this state who are experiencing this constant state of emergency.

The largest emergency shelter programs in the state are only sustained through our housing services doing their best to support shelter operations. We operate over our bed capacity using overflows every night. When more people seek shelter due to hazardous weather conditions, like Monday's extreme cold, we can only offer them a warm place safe from the elements and a mat to sleep on because guests who had been staying with us left, freeing space for them to rest overnight. A housing first approach is the best practice where the issues that co-occur and inform someone's homelessness are much more successfully treated and managed after a person is housed: Housing First.

A home to move into needs to be available and attainable. The Funding and demographic designation pave the way for more housing stock without the barriers that block people from exiting the emergency shelter system. For housing first to work, there first needs to be housing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David MacLean  
Administrator  
City of Portland  
Social Services Division